

For Economic Injury:

Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere—4.000%

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 312306. For economic injury the numbers are 997600 for Wisconsin and 997700 for Illinois.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: August 21, 1998.

Herbert L. Mitchell,

Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98-23526 Filed 8-31-98; 8:45 am]

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Exemption of Israeli Products From
Certain Customs User Fees; Addition
of Israel to the List of Eligible
Countries Under the Rural
Electrification Act**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In return for reciprocal concessions, the United States Trade Representative is exempting products of Israel from certain Customs user fees, effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of publication of this notice. In addition, the United States Trade Representative is adding Israel to the list of eligible countries under Section 401 of the Rural Electrification Act, as amended.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madelyn Spirnak, Director for the Middle East and Mediterranean, (202) 395-3320, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 112 of the Customs and Trade Act of 1990, Pub. L. 101-382, the U.S. Trade Representative upon determining that the Government of Israel has provided reciprocal concessions, may exempt products of Israel from the fees imposed under 13031(a) (9) and (10) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended (19 U.S.C. 58c(a)(9) and (10)). The U.S. Trade Representative has determined that the Government of Israel has provided reciprocal concessions, which include the following:

The Government of Israel published on July 21, 1998 a notice in its official

gazette *Rashumot* eliminating metric packaging requirements and adopting unit pricing procedures for domestic retail sales, thereby eliminating a significant non-tariff barrier on the import of U.S. goods.

The government of Israel increased the tariff rate quota for U.S. in-shell almonds from 180 to 380 metric tons per annum, and has agreed to reduce substantially the in-quota import fee on U.S. shelled and in-shell almonds.

The Government of Israel has taken or is taking a number of steps to facilitate the importation of U.S.-manufactured automobiles. Those steps include the following: since January 1996, automobile registration fees have been imposed according to the price of the automobile, rather than the volume of the engine; as of April 1996, the basis of valuation for income tax purposes was changed from engine size to automobile value; the limitation on maximum engine size was deleted from government procurement tenders; differentiation of purchase tax rates according to automobile engine size was eliminated; and Israel is in the process of reviewing the system of compulsory insurance fees, with a view toward decreasing differentials based on engine size.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 112 of the Customs and Trade Act of 1990 and 19 U.S.C. 58c(b)(11), any product of Israel that is entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of publication of this notice will not be charged the fees imposed under 19 U.S.C. 58c(a) (9) and (10).

The United States Trade Representative has also determined that, for purposes of Section 401 of the Rural Electrification Act, as amended by Section 342(g) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, Pub. L. 103-465 (7 U.S.C. 903 note), the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Area Agreement ensures reciprocal access for United States products and services and United States suppliers to the markets of Israel in the area of telecommunications products and services. Accordingly, under Section 401 of the Rural Electrification Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 903 note), Israel is hereby added to the list of eligible countries for purchases made by borrowers of funds lent for telecommunications products and services, effective September 1, 1998.

Richard W. Fisher,

Acting United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 98-23387 Filed 8-31-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-1998-4365]

**Chemical Transportation Advisory
Committee**

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) and its Subcommittee on Prevention Through People (PTP) and Proper Cargo Names (PCN) will meet to discuss various issues relating to the marine transportation of hazardous materials in bulk. All meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: CTAC will meet on Friday, September 25, 1998, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Subcommittees will meet on Thursday, September 24, 1998, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. These meetings may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 18, 1998. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee or subcommittee should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 11, 1998.

ADDRESSES: CTAC will meet in room 2415, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC. The Subcommittee on PTP will meet in room 6303 and the Subcommittee on PCN will meet in room 5303 at the same address. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander Robert F. Corbin, Commandant (G-MSO-3), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, contact Commander Robert F. Corbin, Executive Director of CTAC, or Ms. Sara S. Ju, Assistant to the Executive Director, telephone 202-267-1217, fax 202-267-4570. For questions on viewing, or submitting material to the docket, contact Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, 202-366-9329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of these meetings is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Agendas of Meetings

Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). The agenda includes the following: