

located in the contiguous counties may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location. All counties contiguous to the above-named primary county have been previously declared.

This declaration is further amended to establish the incident period as beginning on September 25, 1998 and continuing through October 5, 1998.

All other information remains the same, i.e., the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is November 30, 1998 and for economic injury the termination date is July 1, 1999.

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

Dated: October 16, 1998.

**Bernard Kulik,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 98-28560 Filed 10-23-98; 8:45 am]

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## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3132; Amendment # 1]

### State of Texas

In accordance with information received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the above-numbered Declaration is hereby amended to include Jefferson County in the State of Texas as a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms and flooding associated with Tropical Storm Francis.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following contiguous counties may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location: Orange and Hardin in Texas. All other counties contiguous to the above-named primary county have been either previously declared or are already covered under a separate declaration for the same occurrence.

This declaration is further amended to establish the incident period as beginning on September 9, 1998 and continuing through October 5, 1998.

All other information remains the same, i.e., the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is November 22, 1998 and for economic injury the termination date is June 23, 1999.

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

Dated: October 16, 1998.

**Bernard Kulik,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2908]

### Shipping Coordinating Committee Council and Associated Bodies; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, November 4th, in Room 6319, at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001. The purpose of the meeting is to finalize preparations for the 81st session of Council, and the 46th session of Technical Cooperation Committee of The International Maritime Organization (IMO) which is scheduled for 16-20 November 1998, at the IMO Headquarters in London. At the meeting, discussions will focus on papers received and draft U.S. positions. Among other things, the items of particular interest are:

- a. Reports of the IMO committees.
- b. Review of the IMO technical cooperation activities.
- c. Relations with the United Nations.
- d. Reports for World Maritime University and International Maritime Law Institute.
- e. Administrative and financial matters.

Members of the public may attend these meetings up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. Gene F. Hammel, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G-CI), 2100 Second Street, SW; Room 2114, Washington, DC, 20593-0001. By calling: (202) 267-2280, or by faxing: (202) 267-4588.

Dated: October 15, 1998.

**Susan K. Bennett,**

*Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.*

[FR Doc. 98-28571 Filed 10-23-98; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Generalized System of Preferences (GSP); Notice Regarding the 1998 GSP Annual Review and Termination of the IPR Review of Panama

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the petitions that were accepted for the 1998 GSP Annual Review for modifications of GSP product eligibility; lists the schedule for the public hearing on these petitions, for requesting participation in the hearing, and for submitting pre-hearing and post-hearing briefs; and terminates the IPR review of Panama.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Room 518, Washington, D.C. 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395-6971.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Panama IPR Review

In 1995, a review of Panama's protection of intellectual property rights was initiated in response to a petition filed by Nintendo. Since that time, Panama has improved its enforcement of intellectual property rights. On April 30, 1998, USTR removed Panama from the Special 301 "Watch List." In light of Panama's improved enforcement efforts, this review is terminated.

##### II. 1998 GSP Product Review

The GSP program grants duty-free treatment to designated eligible articles that are imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. The GSP program is authorized by Title V the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*), and administered in accordance with GSP regulations (15 CFR Part 2007) which provide for a GSP annual review.

In a notice dated April 16, 1998, USTR initiated the 1998 GSP Annual Review and announced a deadline of June 16, 1998 for the filing of petitions (63 FR 18963). The product petitions that we received requested changes in the eligibility of products by adding or removing products, or the waiver of "competitive need limitations" (CNLs) for eligible articles. Authorization for granting CNL waivers is set forth in section 503(d) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2464(d)).

The GSP Subcommittee on the TPSC has reviewed the 46 product petitions that were received and has decided that 16 of these petitions should be accepted for consideration in the 1998 GSP Annual Review. The annex to this notice sets forth the case number, product identification, the change requested and the petitioner for each product included in the 1998 GSP Annual Review.