

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
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 Directorate IV & Decommissioning, Division  
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 Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*  
 [FR Doc. 99-11998 Filed 5-11-99; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## OFFICE OF THE TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Notification of Locations and Times for Public Hearings

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States  
 Trade Representative (USTR).

**ACTION:** Trade Policy Staff Committee  
 (TPSC) notification of locations and  
 times for public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** A notice was published in the  
**Federal Register** on April 14, 1999 (Vol.  
 64, No. 71, page 18469) announcing  
 TPSC public hearings to be held in  
 Washington, DC; Chicago, IL; Atlanta,  
 GA; Los Angeles, CA; and Dallas, TX.  
 That notice invited oral testimony and/  
 or written comments of interested  
 parties to assist the Administration in  
 its efforts to develop proposals and  
 positions concerning the agenda of the  
 third Ministerial Conference of the  
 World Trade Organization (WTO). This  
 notice announces the specific times and  
 locations for the hearings in each city.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For  
 procedural questions concerning public  
 comments and/or public hearings  
 contact Gloria Blue, Executive  
 Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee,  
 Office of the United States Trade  
 Representative at (202) 395-3475. All  
 other questions concerning the WTO  
 negotiations should be addressed to the  
 agency's Office of WTO and Multilateral  
 Affairs at (202) 395-6843.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All  
 hearings will begin at 9:30 a.m.  
 Following receipt of requests to testify,  
 witnesses will be notified directly of  
 their scheduled date and time to appear.  
 The exact locations of the hearings are  
 as follows:

Washington, May 19-20 (and 21, if  
 necessary): White House Conference  
 Center, Truman Room, 726 Jackson  
 Place, NW, Washington, DC 20502

Chicago, June 7 (and 8, if necessary):  
 James R. Thompson Center, Room 9-  
 040, 100 West Randolph Street,  
 Chicago, IL 60601

Atlanta, June 10 (and 11, if necessary):  
 Richard B. Russell Federal Building,  
 Main Auditorium, 75 Spring Street,  
 Southwest, Atlanta, GA 30303

Los Angeles, June 21 (and 22, if  
 necessary): Central Library, Los

Angeles Public Library, Mark Taper  
 Auditorium, 630 West Fifth Street,  
 Los Angeles, California 90071  
 Dallas, June 24 (and 25, if necessary):  
 Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas  
 Auditorium, 2200 North Pearl Street,  
 Dallas, Texas 75210

All deadlines remain the same as  
 stated in the previous notice.

**Frederick L. Montgomery**,  
*Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*  
 [FR Doc. 99-11931 Filed 5-11-99; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 3901-01-M

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Annual Report on Discrimination in Foreign Government Procurement Pursuant to Executive Order 13116 ("Title VII")

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that  
 the United States Trade Representative  
 ("USTR") has submitted the annual  
 report on discrimination in foreign  
 government procurement, published  
 herein, to the Committees on Finance  
 and on Governmental Affairs of the  
 United States Senate and the  
 Committees on Ways and Means and on  
 Government Reform and Oversight of  
 the United States House of  
 Representatives, pursuant to the  
 reinstated procedures of Title VII of  
 the Omnibus Trade and  
 Competitiveness Act of 1988 ("Title  
 VII"), as amended, as set forth in  
 Executive Order No. 13116 of March 31,  
 1999.

**DATES:** The report was submitted on  
 April 30, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
 Stephen Kho, Assistant General  
 Counsel, Office of the US Trade  
 Representative, 600 17th Street, NW,  
 Washington, DC 20508, 202-395-3581.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The text of  
 the USTR report is as follows:

#### Office of the United States Trade Representative, Washington, DC

April 30, 1999

### Annual Report on Discrimination in Foreign Government Procurement

#### I. Legal Authority

On March 31, 1999, the President  
 signed Executive Order 13116, which  
 largely reinstates the provisions of  
 Title VII of the Omnibus Trade and  
 Competitiveness Act of 1988 ("Title  
 VII"), as amended. Under the Executive

Order, the United States Trade  
 Representative ("USTR") is required to  
 submit to the Congress by April 30 of  
 each year a report identifying foreign  
 countries:

(1) That have failed to comply with  
 their obligations under the WTO  
 Agreement on Government Procurement  
 ("GPA"), Chapter 10 of the North  
 American Free Trade Agreement, or  
 other agreements relating to government  
 procurement to which that country and  
 the United States are parties; or

(2) That maintain, in government  
 procurement, a significant pattern or  
 practice of discrimination against U.S.  
 products or services which results in  
 identifiable harm to U.S. businesses,  
 when those countries' products or  
 services are acquired in significant  
 amounts by the U.S. Government.

Within 90 days of the submission of  
 the report, USTR must initiate under  
 section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, as  
 amended, an investigation with respect  
 to any country identified in the report,  
 unless USTR determines that a  
 satisfactory resolution of the matter has  
 been achieved. If the matter is not  
 resolved during that period and USTR  
 determines that the rights of the United  
 States under an international  
 procurement agreement are being  
 violated, or that any discriminatory  
 procurement practices exist, the  
 Executive Order requires USTR, *inter  
 alia*, to initiate formal dispute  
 settlement proceedings under the  
 international agreement in question or  
 revoke any waivers for purchasing  
 requirements granted to the  
 discriminating foreign country.

Title VII has been a useful and  
 effective tool in challenging foreign  
 governments' procurement barriers. The  
 reinstatement of Title VII procedures  
 through Executive Order 13116 sends a  
 strong signal that the President is  
 committed to protecting U.S. interests in  
 international procurement markets.

#### II. Identification of Foreign Countries and their Discriminatory Procurement Practices

From 1991 to 1996, USTR conducted  
 six annual reviews under Title VII.  
 During that time, six identifications  
 were formally made, while numerous  
 potentially discriminatory government  
 procurement practices were noted.  
 USTR achieved satisfactory resolution  
 with respect to eight discriminatory or  
 potentially discriminatory practices,  
 including a GATT dispute settlement  
 proceeding, with regard to the  
 procurement of an electronic toll booth  
 collection system in Norway, in which  
 the panel found in favor of the United  
 States.