

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration****District Heating Mission to Russia; Extension**

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce announces new, extended recruitment closing dates for the following overseas trade missions. For a more complete description of each trade mission, obtain a copy of the mission statement from the Project Officer indicated below. Recruitment and selection of private sector participants for these missions will be conducted according to the Statement of Policy Governing Department of Commerce Overseas Trade Missions dated March 3, 1997.

District Heating Mission to Russia, Moscow and St Petersburg, Russia, October 15–21, 2000, Recruitment closes on September 15, 2000.

For further information contact: Rachel Halpern, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 202–482–4423, Fax: 202–482–0170, E-Mail: Rachel_Halpern@ita.doc.gov

Clean Energy Trade Mission to Saudi Arabia, The United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman, October 24–November 1, 2000, Recruitment closes on September 22, 2000.

For further information contact: Joseph Ayoub, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 202–482–0313, Fax: 202–482–0170, E-Mail: Joseph_Ayoub@ita.doc.gov

National Gas and Cogeneration Technologies Business Development Mission, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil, November 5–9, 2000, Recruitment closes on October 5, 2000.

For further information contact: Sam Beatty, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 202–482–4179, Fax: 202–482–0170, E-mail: Samuel_Beatty@ita.doc.gov

Power Plant Renovation & Modernization/Natural Gas Utilization/Renewable Energy, Trade Mission to South Africa, Pretoria and Johannesburg, South Africa, November 13–17, 2000, Recruitment closes on October 13, 2000.

For further information contact: John Rasmussen, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 482–1889, Fax: 202–82–0170, E-mail:

John_Rasmussen@ita.doc.gov

Clean Energy Trade Mission China, Beijing, Chengdu and Guangzhou,

China, December 4–8, 2000, Recruitment closes on November 3, 2000.

For further information contact Kathryn Hollander, U.S. Department of Commerce. 202–482–0385, Fax: 202–482–0170, E-mail:

Kathryn_Hollander@ita.doc.gov

Clean Energy Trade Mission to India, New Delhi, Chennai, Calcutta and Mumbai, India, November 26–December 5, 2000, Recruitment closes on October 26, 2000.

For further information contact: Nazir Bhagat, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 202–482–3855, Fax: 202–482–5666, E-mail: Nazir_Bhagat@ita.doc.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Reginald Beckham, U.S. Department of Commerce. Tel: 202–482–5478, Fax: 202–482–1999.

Dated: August 8, 2000.

Thomas H. Nisbet,

Director, Promotion Planning and Support Division, Office of Export Promotion Coordination.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology****Announcement of a Partially Closed Meeting of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Advisory Board**

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Advisory Board (MEPNAB) will meet to hold a meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2000. The MEPNAB is composed of eight members appointed by the Director of NIST who were selected for their expertise in the area of industrial extension and their work on behalf of smaller manufacturers. The Board was set up, under the direction of the Director of NIST, to fill a need for outside input on MEP. MEP is a unique program consisting of centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The centers have been created by state, federal, and local partnerships. The Board works closely with MEP to provide input and advice on MEP's programs, plans, and policies.

The purpose of this meeting is to delve into areas of operation determined by the Board. The agenda includes a look at the MEP program impact, the integration team pilot, and the operation of Center boards. The portion of the meeting, which involves personnel and proprietary budget information, will be closed to the general public. All other portions of the meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will convene on September 20, 2000, at 8 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:30 p.m. and will be held at NIST, Gaithersburg, MD. The closed portion of the meeting is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration with the concurrence of the General Counsel formally determined on July 12, 2000, pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that these portions of the meeting may be properly closed because they are concerned with matters that are within the purview of 5 U.S.C. 522(c)(4), (6) and (9)(b). A copy of the determination is available for public inspection in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6219, Main Commerce.

MEP's services to small manufacturers address the needs of the national market as well as the unique needs of each company. Since MEP is committed to providing this type of individualized service through its centers, the program requires the perspective of locally based experts to be incorporated into its national plans. The MEPNAB was established at the direction of the NIST Director to maintain MEP's focus on local and market-based needs. The MEPNAB was approved on October 16, 1998, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2., to provide advice on MEP programs, plans, and policies; to assess the soundness of MEP plans and strategies; to assess the current performance against MEP program plans, and to function in an advisory capacity. The Board will meet three times a year and reports to the Director of NIST. This will be the third meeting of the MEPNAB in 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Acierto, Senior Policy Advisor, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899–4800, telephone number (301) 975–5033.