

damages caused by a tornado, high winds and severe thunderstorms that occurred April 28, 2002. Applications for loans for physical damage may be filed until the close of business on July 8, 2002, and for economic injury until the close of business on February 7, 2003, at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	6.750
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	3.375
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	7.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	3.500
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	6.375
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	3.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 341012 and for economic injury is 9P5300.

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

Dated: May 7, 2002.

Hector V. Barreto,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-11926 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3409]

Commonwealth of Virginia

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on May 5, 2002, I find that Buchanan and Tazewell Counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms, tornadoes and flooding occurring on April 28, 2002 through May 3, 2002. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on July 4, 2002 and for economic injury until the close of business on February 5, 2003 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd., South 3rd Fl., Niagara Falls, NY 14303-1192.

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 above location: Bland, Dickenson, Russell and Smyth Counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia; Pike County in the State of Kentucky; and McDowell, Mercer and Mingo counties in the State of West Virginia.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	6.750
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	3.375
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	7.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	3.500
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	6.375
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	3.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 340911. For economic injury the number is 9P4200 for Virginia; 9P4300 for Kentucky; and 9P4400 for West Virginia.

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

Dated: May 6, 2002.

Herbert L. Mitchell,

Associate Administrator For Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 02-11789 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3408]

State of West Virginia

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on May 5, 2002, I find that McDowell, Mercer, Mingo and Wyoming Counties in the State of West Virginia constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms, flooding and landslides occurring on May 2, 2002 and continuing.

Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on July 4, 2002 and for economic injury until the close of business on February 5, 2003 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd., South 3rd Fl., Niagara Falls, NY 14303-1192.

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 above location: Boone, Lincoln, Logan, Raleigh, Summers and Wayne Counties in the State of West Virginia; Martin and Pike Counties in the State of Kentucky; and Bland, Buchanan, Giles and Tazewell Counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	6.750
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	3.375
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	7.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	3.500
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	6.375
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	3.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 340811. For economic injury the number is 9P3900 for West Virginia; 9P4000 for Kentucky; and 9P4100 for Virginia.

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

Dated: May 6, 2002.

Herbert L. Mitchell,

Associate Administrator, For Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 02-11790 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs

[Public Notice 4017]

Certifications Pursuant to Section 609 of Public Law 101-162; Relating to the Protection of Sea Turtles in Shrimp Trawl Fishing Operations

SUMMARY: On April 27, 2002, the Department of State certified, pursuant to section 609 of Public Law 101-162 ("Section 609"), that 17 nations have adopted programs to reduce the incidental capture of sea turtles in their shrimp fisheries comparable to the program in effect in the United States.

The Department also certified that the fishing environments in 24 other countries and one economy, Hong Kong, do not pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles protected under Section 609. Shrimp imports from any nation not certified were prohibited effective May 1, 2002 pursuant to Section 609.

Effective Date: On Publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
David Hogan, Office of Marine Conservation, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-7818; telephone: (202) 647-2335.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 609 of Public Law 101-162 prohibits imports of certain categories of shrimp unless the President certifies to the Congress not later than May 1 of each year either: (1) That the harvesting nation has adopted a program governing the incidental capture of sea turtles in its commercial shrimp fishery comparable to the program in effect in the United States and has an incidental take rate comparable to that of the United States; or (2) that the fishing environment in the harvesting nation does not pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles. The President has delegated the authority to make this certification to the Department of State. Revised State Department guidelines for making the required certifications were published in the Federal Register on July 8 1999 (Vol. 64, No. 130, page 36946, Public Notice 3086).

On April 27, 2002, the Department certified 17 nations on the basis that their sea turtle protection program is comparable to that of the United States: Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela.

The Department also certified 24 shrimp harvesting nations and one economy as having fishing environments that do not pose a danger to sea turtles. Sixteen nations have shrimp grounds only in cold waters where the risk of taking sea turtles is negligible. They are: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay. Eight nations and one economy only harvest shrimp using small boats with crews of less than five that use manual rather than mechanical means to retrieve nets, or catch shrimp in using other methods that do not threaten sea turtles. Use of such small-

scale technology does not adversely affect sea turtles. The nine nations and one economy are: the Bahamas, China, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Oman, Peru and Sri Lanka.

The Department of State has communicated the certifications under Section 609 to the Office of Trade Program of the United States Customs Service.

Dated: April 29, 2002.

David A Balton, Acting

Deputy Assistant Secretary, For Oceans and Fisheries, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 02-11901 Filed 5-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-2002-12272]

Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: A working group of the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) will meet to discuss task statement #34 concerning the minimum standard of competence in security necessary for a ship's security officer and crew. MERPAC advises the Secretary of Transportation on matters relating to the training, qualifications, licensing, certification, and fitness of seamen serving in the U.S. merchant marine. This meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The MERPAC working group will meet on Tuesday, June 18, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This meeting may adjourn early if all business is finished. Requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before June 4, 2002. Written material and requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the working group should reach the Coast Guard on or before June 4, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The working group of MERPAC will meet in room 1103, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. Further directions regarding the location of U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters may be obtained by contacting Mr. Mark Gould at (202) 267-6890. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander Brian J. Peter, Commandant (G-MSO-1), 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 Brian J. Peter, Executive Director of MERPAC, or Mr. Mark C. Gould, Assistant to the Executive Director, telephone 202-267-6890, fax 202-267-4570, or e-mail mgould@comdt.uscg.mil.

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

Agenda of June 18, 2002 Meeting

The working group will meet to discuss the Knowledge, Understanding, and Proficiency (KUPs) required to train a ship security officer in the minimum competencies detailed in task statement #34. The International Maritime Organization's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) will further consider the competencies to be required of ship security officers and other crew members at its 75th session which will be held from 15-24 May 2002. The United States' proposal is contained in MSC paper 75/17/30 (located at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nmc/imosec/75-17-30.pdf>). The MERPAC working group will consider any action taken on this proposal by the MSC. The working group will develop the KUPs into a table format similar to Section A of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), as amended, Code. At the end of the day, the working group will re-cap its discussions and prepare the table for the full committee to consider at its next meeting.

Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may adjourn early if all business is finished. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify the Executive Director no later than June 4, 2002. Written material for distribution at the meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than June 4, 2002. If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee or working group in advance of the meeting, please submit 25 copies to the Executive Director no later than June 4, 2002. We request that members of the public who plan to attend this meeting notify Mr. Mark Gould at the number listed in **ADDRESSES** above so that