

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce invites U.S. companies to participate in the below listed overseas trade missions. For a more complete description of each trade mission, obtain a copy of the mission statement from the Project Officer indicated for each mission below.

Explore BC

Vancouver, Canada, November 18–19, 2002, Recruitment closes on October 18, 2002.

For further information contact: Ms. Cheryl Schell, U.S. Department of Commerce. Telephone 604–642–6679, or e-mail Cheryl.Schell@mail.doc.gov.

RepCom Mexico City 2002

Mexico City, Mexico, December 2–5, 2002, Recruitment closes on October 26, 2002.

For further information contact: Mr. Bryan Larson, U.S. Department of Commerce. Telephone 011–52–55–5140–2612, or e-mail Bryan.Larson@mail.doc.gov.

Textile and Apparel Trade Mission to South Africa

Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg, December 8–14, 2002, Recruitment closes on November 8, 2002.

For further information contact: Ms. Pamela Kirkland, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Telephone 202–482–3587, or e-mail Pamela.Kirkland@mail.doc.gov.

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. For further information contact Mr. Thomas Nisbet, U.S. Department of Commerce, telephone 202–482–5657, or e-mail Tom_Nisbet@ita.doc.gov.

Dated: October 4, 2002.

Thomas H. Nisbet,

*Director, Export Promotion Coordination,
Office of Planning, Coordination and
Management.*

[FR Doc. 02–26062 Filed 10–11–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

[Docket No.: 981028268–1287–05]

Announcing Approval of Changes to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 186–2, Digital Signature Standard

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Commerce has approved changes to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 186–2, Digital Signature Standard (DSS). These changes extend the transition period for the implementation of FIPS 186–2 to December 2002 and clarify that a private sector algorithm (PKCS #1, version 1.5 or higher) may be used during the extended transition period.

DATE: These changes are effective October 15, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Elaine Barker, (301) 975–2911, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, STOP 8930, Gaithersburg, MD 20899–8930.

SPECIFICATIONS: These changes are available electronically from the NIST Web site at <http://csrc.nist.gov/encryption/tkdisigs.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In January 2000, the Secretary of Commerce approved FIPS 186–2, Digital Signature Standard (DSS), which adopts three techniques for the generation and verification of digital signatures. These are the Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) and two techniques specified in industry standards (ANSI X9.31–1998, Digital Signatures Using Reversible Public Key Cryptography for the Financial Services Industry and ANSI 9.62, 1998, Public Key Cryptography for the Financial Services Industry: Elliptical Curve Digital Signature Algorithm). When the standard was approved, it provided for a transition period from July 2000 to July 2001 to enable federal agencies to continue to use their existing digital signature systems and to acquire additional equipment that might be needed to interoperate with these legacy digital signature systems. Several agencies notified NIST that commercial equipment implementing the digital signature algorithms adopted by FIPS 186–2 is not readily available, and that existing systems would be jeopardized by adherence to the original implementation schedule.

A notice was published in the **Federal Register** (Volume 66, Number 133, pp. 36254–5) on July 11, 2001, seeking public review or comment on proposed changes to ease transition to FIPS 186–2. The proposed changes extended the transition period for the implementation of FIPS 186–2 from July 2001 until December 2002 and specified that a private sector algorithm (PKCS #1, version 1.5 or higher) may be used during the extended transition period. The **Federal Register** notice solicited comments from the public, academic and research communities, manufacturers, voluntary standards organizations, and Federal, state, and local government organizations. In addition to being published in the **Federal Register**, the notice was posted on the NIST Web pages; information was provided about the submission of electronic comments. Responses were received from four individuals and private sector organizations. Below are three comments received; the fourth response was a “no comments” response. None of the responses received opposed the changes.

Comment: The extended transition period will give government agencies a longer period in which to implement FIPS 186–2 and insure its interoperability with existing systems. Overall, these changes to FIPS 186–2 are favorable, and should be adopted as soon as possible.

Comment: This office concurs with the document as written and has no additional comments to offer.

Comment: I support the indefinite continuation to ANSI X9.31 as a data formatting approach approved under FIPS 186. NIST is to be congratulated on its continuing interaction with the PKI industry to ensure compatible standards as reflected in the continuing support for PKCS #1.

Therefore, the Secretary of Commerce approved the changes to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 186–2, Digital Signature Standard (DSS). These changes extend the transition period for the implementation of FIPS 186–2 from July 2001 to December 2002 and clarify that a private sector algorithm (PKCS #1, version 1.5 or higher) may be used during the extended transition period.

Authority: Under Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to approve standards and guidelines for the cost effective security and privacy of sensitive information processed by Federal computer systems.

E.O. 12866: This notice has been determined to be non-significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in E. O. 13132.

Dated: October 8, 2002.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.,

Director.

[FR Doc. 02-26132 Filed 10-11-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-CN-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of 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 Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet Tuesday, October 29, 2002, from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee is composed of eight members appointed by the Director of NIST; who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, education, and management consulting. The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP), its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an ATP update, a panel from the international community on technology programs, an update on the ATP competition and a presentation on emerging knowledge about ATP's impacts on firm behavior, collaboration, etc. Discussions scheduled to begin at 8:45 a.m. and to end at 9:50 a.m. and to begin at 2:30 p.m. and to end at 3:45 p.m. on October 29, 2002, on the ATP budget issues and staffing of positions will be closed. All visitors to the National Institute of Standards and Technology site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Carolyn Peters no later than Thursday, October 24, 2002, and

she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Ms. Peters's email address is carolyn.peters@nist.gov and her phone number is 301/975-5607.

DATES: The meeting will convene October 29, 2002, at 8:45 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:45 p.m. on October 29, 2002.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building, Lecture Room B, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899. Please note admittance instructions under **SUMMARY** paragraph.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carolyn J. Peters, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-1004, telephone number (301) 975-5607.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on January 3, 2002, that portions of the meeting of the Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee which involve discussion of proposed funding of the Advanced Technology Program may be closed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), because those portions of the meetings will divulge matters the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency actions; and that portions of meetings which involve discussion of staffing of positions in ATP may be closed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6), because divulging information discussed in those portions of the meetings is likely to reveal information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Dated: October 8, 2002.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.,

Director.

[FR Doc. 02-26131 Filed 10-11-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 100902A]

Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC); Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council's Habitat Advisory Panel (HAP), and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), and the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) Committee will hold meetings.

DATES: The SFA Committee will meet on October 23-24, 2002, and the HAP/SSC meeting will be held on October 25, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 8000 Tartak St., Isla Verde, Carolina, PR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Munoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, PR 00918-2577, telephone 787-766-5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SFA Committee, the HAP, and the SSC will meet to discuss the items contained in the following agendas:

October 23, 2002

SFA Committee Meeting

Presentation of SFA Parameter Tables Review of Section I of the SFA Amendment Options Paper

The SFA Committee will need to review the various SFA parameter options and offer recommendations to the CFMC based on group consensus. These recommended alternatives will then be utilized to construct the table of SFA parameters for CFMC managed species.

Additionally, the SFA Committee will need to review the various alternatives regarding the aquarium trade species in the Reef Fish and Coral Fishery Management Plans, in order to produce a recommendation to the CFMC on how to pursue management of these species. This discussion will have ramifications on the generation of stock status determination criteria for these species.

Construction of SFA Parameters

The SFA Committee will need to evaluate the various biological and socio-economic data, as well as personal knowledge and experience, on all managed species and species groups, in order to recommend prudent stock status determination criteria to the CFMC. This process may, in turn drive additional management measures, based on the resulting stock status determination (i.e., approaching overfished or overfished status).

October 24, 2002

Discussion on Sections I and II of the SFA Amendment Options Paper

The SFA Committee will need to review the various proposed alternatives and offer recommendations to the CFMC based on group consensus that will comply with Magnuson-Stevens Fishery