

profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere: 4.875%.

For Economic Injury:

Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere: 3.061%.

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 356111. For economic injury the number is 9Y4000 for Virginia; 9Y4100 for West Virginia; and 9Y4200 for Kentucky.

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

Dated: December 10, 2003.

Herbert L. Mitchell,
Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 03-31079 Filed 12-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3558]

State of West Virginia (Amendment #4)

In accordance with a notice received from the Department of Homeland Security—Federal Emergency Management Agency, effective December 9, 2003, the above numbered declaration is hereby amended to include Braxton, Lewis, Logan, and Taylor Counties as disaster areas due to damages caused by severe storms, flooding and landslides occurring on November 11, 2003, and continuing through November 30, 2003.

All other counties contiguous to the above named primary counties have been previously declared. All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is January 20, 2004, and for economic injury the deadline is August 23, 2004.

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

Dated: December 10, 2003.

Herbert L. Mitchell,
Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 03-31078 Filed 12-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 4527]

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; Request for Nominations for the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee of the General Advisory Committee to the United States Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking applications and nominations for the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee of the General Advisory Committee to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). The purpose of the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee is to provide public input and advice to the United States Section to the IATTC in the formulation of U.S. policy and positions at meetings of the IATTC and its subsidiary bodies. The Scientific Advisory Subcommittee shall also function as the National Scientific Advisory Committee (NATSAC) provided for in the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP). The United States Section to the IATTC is composed of the U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC, appointed by the President, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries or his or her designated representative. Authority to establish the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee is provided by the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950, as amended by the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act (IDCPA) of 1997.

DATES: Nominations must be submitted on or before February 17, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be submitted to David Balton, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Room 7831, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-7818; or by fax to 202-736-7350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
David Hogan, Office of Marine Conservation, Department of State: 202-647-2335.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Scientific Advisory Subcommittee

The Tuna Conventions Act (16 U.S.C. 953, Section 4) provides that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC, shall appoint a Scientific Advisory Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) of the General Advisory Committee. The Subcommittee is composed of not fewer than 5 and not more than 15 qualified scientists with balanced representation

from the public and private sectors, including non-governmental conservation organizations. The Subcommittee advises the Committee and the U.S. Section on matters including: the conservation of ecosystems; the sustainable uses of living marine resources related to the tuna fishery in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean; and the long-term conservation and management of stocks of living marine resources in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

In addition, at the request of the Committee, the U.S. Commissioners, or the Secretary of State, the Subcommittee performs such functions and provides such assistance as may be required by formal agreements entered into by the United States for the eastern Pacific tuna fishery, including the AIDCP. The functions may include: the review of data from the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP), including data received from the IATTC staff; recommendations on research needs and the coordination and facilitation of such research; recommendations on scientific reviews and assessments required under the IDCP; recommendations with respect to measures to assure the regular and timely full exchange of data among the Parties to the AIDCP and each nation's NATSAC (or its equivalent); and consulting with other experts as needed. The Subcommittee is invited to have representatives attend all non-executive meetings of the U.S. Section and the General Advisory Committee and is given full opportunity to examine and to be heard on all proposed programs of scientific investigation, scientific reports, and scientific recommendations of the Commission. Representatives of the Subcommittee may attend meetings of the IATTC and the AIDCP as members of the U.S. delegation or otherwise in accordance with the rules of those bodies governing such participation. Participation as a member of the U.S. delegation is subject to such limits as may be placed on the size of the delegation.

National Scientific Advisory Committee

The Subcommittee also functions as the NATSAC established pursuant to Article XI of the AIDCP. In this regard, the Subcommittee performs the functions of the NATSAC as specified in Annex VI of the AIDCP including, but not limited to: receiving and reviewing relevant data, including data provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by the IATTC Staff; advising and recommending to the U.S. Government measures and actions that should be undertaken to conserve and

manage stocks of living marine resources in the AIDCP Area; making recommendations to the U.S. Government regarding research needs related to the eastern Pacific Ocean tuna purse seine fishery; promoting the regular and timely full exchange of data among the Parties on a variety of matters related to the implementation of the AIDCP; and consulting with other experts as necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the Agreement.

General Provisions

Each appointed member of the Committee and the Subcommittee/NATSAC is appointed for a term of 3 years and may be reappointed. Logistical and administrative support for the operation of the Subcommittee will be provided by the Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, and by the Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service. Members receive no compensation for their service on the Subcommittee/NATSAC, nor will members be compensated for travel or other expenses associated with their participation.

Procedures for Submitting Applications/Nominations

Applications/nominations for the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee/NATSAC should be submitted to the Department of State (See **ADDRESSES**). Such applications/nominations should include the following information:

(1) Full name/address/phone/fax and e-mail of applicant/nominee;

(2) Applicant/nominee's organization or professional affiliation serving as the basis for the application/nomination;

(3) Background statement describing the applicant/nominee's qualifications and experience, especially as related to the tuna purse seine fishery in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean or other factors relevant to the implementation of the Convention establishing the IATTC or the AIDCP;

(4) A written statement from the applicant/nominee of intent to participate actively and in good faith in the meetings and activities of the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee/NATSAC. Applicants/nominees who submitted material in response to the **Federal Register** notices published by the U.S. Department of State on November 12, 2002 and February 5, 2003 need not resubmit their applications pursuant to this notice.

Dated: December 1, 2003.

David A. Balton,

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

[FR Doc. 03-31134 Filed 12-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Determinations Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has determined that Cote d'Ivoire has adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents in connection with shipment of textile and apparel articles and has implemented and follows, or is making substantial progress toward implementing and following, the customs procedures required by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Therefore, imports of eligible products from Cote d'Ivoire qualify for the textile and apparel benefits provided under the AGOA.

DATES: December 17, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick Coleman, Director for African Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-9514.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The AGOA (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-200, as amended by section 3108 of the Trade Act of 2002) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African Countries. The textile and apparel trade benefits under the AGOA are available to imports of eligible products from countries that the President designates as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries," provided that these countries: (1) Have adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents; and (2) have implemented and follow, or are making substantial progress toward implementing and following, certain customs procedures that assist the Customs Service in verifying the origin of the products.

In Proclamation 7561 (May 16, 2002), the President designated Cote d'Ivoire as a "beneficiary sub-Saharan African country" and proclaimed that, for

purposes of section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA, Cote d'Ivoire shall be considered a lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country. In Proclamation 7350 (October 2, 2002), the President delegated to the USTR the authority to determine whether designated countries have met the two requirements described above. The President directed the USTR to announce any such determinations in the **Federal Register** and to implement them through modifications of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Based on actions that Cote d'Ivoire has taken, I have determined that Cote d'Ivoire has satisfied these two requirements.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in the USTR by Proclamation 7350, U.S. note 7(a) to subchapter II of chapter 98 of the HTS, and U.S. notes 1 and 2(d) to subchapter XIX of chapter 98 of the HTS are each modified by inserting "Cote d'Ivoire" in alphabetical sequence in the list of countries. The foregoing modifications to the HTS are effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the effective date of this notice. Importers claiming preferential tariff treatment under the AGOA for entries of textile and apparel articles should ensure that those entries meet the applicable visa requirements. See *Visa Requirements Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act*, 66 FR 7837 (2001).

Robert B. Zoellick,

United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 03-31133 Filed 12-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-W3-M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Determinations Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has determined that Niger has adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents in connection with shipments of textile and apparel articles and has implemented and follows, or is making substantial progress toward implementing and following, the customs procedures required by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Therefore, imports of eligible