

States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 2nd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the 12th Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Sub-Committee on Flag State Implementation to be held at IMO Headquarters in London, England from March 15th to 19th.

The primary matters to be considered include:

- Measures to enhance maritime security;
- Responsibilities of Governments and measures to encourage flag State compliance;
- Port State control on seafarer's working hours;
- Comprehensive analysis of difficulties encountered in the implementation of IMO instruments;
- Regional cooperation on port State control;
- Reporting procedures on port State control detentions and analysis and evaluation of reports;
- Mandatory reports under MARPOL 73/78;
- Casualty statistics and investigations;
- Port State control officer training for bulk carriers;
- Development of provisions on transfer of class;
- Review of the Survey Guidelines under the HSSC (resolution A.746(18));
- Marking the ship's plans, manuals and other documents with the IMO ship identification number;
- Illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing and implementation of resolution A.925(22);
- Consideration of IACS unified interpretations;
- Unique IDs for companies and registered owners;
- Review of reporting requirements for reception facilities.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing to Commander Linda Fagan, Commandant (G-MOC), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Room 1116, Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 267-2978.

Dated: February 4, 2004.

Steven Poulin,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04-3379 Filed 2-13-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4604]

Shipping Coordinating Committee

SUMMARY: The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 in Room 2415 at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare for the Eighty-Eighth Session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Legal Committee (LEG 88) scheduled from April 19, to April 23, 2004.

The provisional LEG 88 agenda calls for the Legal Committee to review the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988, and its Protocol of 1988 relating to Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (SUA Convention and Protocol). Also the Committee will examine the draft Wreck Removal Convention. To be addressed as well is the Provision of Financial Security which includes a progress report on the work of the Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers, and includes follow-up resolutions adopted by the International Conference on the Revision of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974. The Legal Committee will examine places of refuge, measures to protect crews and passengers against crimes committed on vessels, as well as monitoring of the implementation of the HNS Convention, access of news media to the proceedings of institutionalized committees, and matters arising from the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Council and the twenty-third regular session of the Assembly. Finally the committee will review technical cooperation: Subprogramme for maritime legislation in addition to allotting time to address any other issues that may arise on the Legal Committee's work program.

Members of the public are invited to attend the SHC meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. To facilitate the building security process, those who plan to attend should call or send an e-mail two days before the meeting. Upon request, participating by phone may be an option. For further information please contact Captain Joseph F. Ahern or Lieutenant Martha Rodriguez, at U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Maritime and International Law (G-LMI), 2100 Second Street, SW.,

Washington, DC 20593-0001; e-mail mrodriguez@comdt.uscg.mil, telephone (202) 267-1527; fax (202) 267-4496.

Dated: February 4, 2004.

Steve Poulin,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04-3380 Filed 2-13-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-P

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Request for Comments and Notice of
Public Hearing Concerning Proposed
United States-Andean Free Trade
Agreement**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of intent to initiate negotiations on a free trade agreement between the United States and Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia (hereinafter "the Andean countries"), request for comments, and notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The United States intends to initiate negotiations with four Andean countries on a free trade agreement. The interagency Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) will convene a public hearing and seek public comment to assist the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in amplifying and clarifying negotiating objectives for the proposed agreement and to provide advice on how specific goods and services and other matters should be treated under the proposed agreement.

DATES: Persons wishing to testify orally at the hearing must provide written notification of their intention, as well as their testimony, by March 10, 2004. A hearing will be held in Washington, DC, beginning on March 17, 2004, and will continue as necessary on subsequent days. Written comments are due by noon, March 30, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submissions by electronic mail: FR0411@ustr.gov (notice of intent to testify and written testimony); FR0412@ustr.gov (written comments).

Submissions by facsimile: Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, at (202) 395-6143.

The public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically rather than by facsimile. (See requirements for submissions below.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For procedural questions concerning written comments or participation in the public hearing, contact Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee,