

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 6549]****U.S. Department of State Advisory Committee on Private International Law: Working Group I of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services**

A study group of the Advisory Committee reviews and provides comments on an initiative by the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) to revise the 1994 UNCITRAL Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services ("Model Procurement Law"), and its Guide to Enactment, available at http://www.uncitral.org/uncitral/en/uncitral_texts/procurement_infrastructure/1994Model.html. The UNCITRAL Model Procurement Law is not intended to be applied by the United States, but it is cited and relied upon in many other nations as a model procurement code.

The UNCITRAL Working Group tasked with making recommendations for an updated model law has focused on new practices and technological developments, in particular those resulting from the use of electronic communications in public procurement. These topics have included the use of electronic means of communication in the procurement process, publication of procurement-related information, the procurement technique known as the electronic reverse auction, abnormally low tenders, and the method of contracting known as framework agreements. The Working Group also decided that the Model Law and the Guide should take into account the question of conflicts of interest. In this regard, the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, which entered into force in December 2005, specifically calls for anti-corruption measures in procurement to address conflicts of interest. See also Report of Working Group I (Procurement A/CN.9/668) on the work of its fifteenth session (New York, 2–6 February 2009) available at http://www.uncitral.org/uncitral/en/commission/working_groups/1Procurement.html.

It is possible that a revised model procurement law will be presented for final review by UNCITRAL in 2009. The UNCITRAL Working Group has recommended that the Model Law be considered for adoption by UNCITRAL in advance of the completion of an updated Guide to Enactment. UNCITRAL has also recently scheduled a Working Group meeting from May

25th through 29th, 2009, to work on the recommendations.

In order to assist the U.S. Delegation at the Working Group session, a public meeting to review and discuss the current status of the proposed reforms will be held on April 22, 2009.

Time and Place: The public meeting will take place at The George Washington University Law School Faculty Conference Center, 5th Floor, 2000 H Street., Washington, DC on April 22, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon EDT.

Public Participation: Comments may be submitted prior to or after the meeting to the Office of Private International Law, U.S. Department of State, 2430 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037–2851, attn: Michael Dennis, or by facsimile to 202–776–8482, or by electronic e-mail to DennisMJ@State.gov. Persons wishing to attend the meeting should call Trisha Smeltzer at 202–776–8423 or contact by e-mail at SmeltzerTK@state.gov.

Dated: April 6, 2009.

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[FR Doc. E9–8393 Filed 4–10–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7410–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 6548]****Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting**

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2009, in Room 2415 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Diplomatic Conference for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships to be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong, China, from May 11–15, 2009.

The provisional agenda calls for the Conference to consider the draft International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, the text of which has been prepared by the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), and any draft Conference resolutions. The Conference agenda also calls for the adoption of the Final Act and any instruments, recommendations and resolutions resulting from the work

of the Conference, as well as signature of the Final Act.

Members of the public may attend the May 1st meeting of the SHC up to the seating capacity of the room. Please note that due to security considerations, two valid, government-issued photo identification documents must be presented to gain entrance to the building. The Coast Guard Headquarters building is accessible by taxi and privately owned conveyance. Please note that parking in the vicinity of the building is extremely limited and that public transportation is not generally available.

To facilitate attendance to this meeting, those who plan to attend should contact the meeting coordinator, LCDR Jason Smith—not later than 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2009—by e-mail at jason.e.smith2@uscg.mil; by phone at (202) 372–1376; by fax at (202) 372–1925; or by writing to Commandant (CG–5212), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 2nd Street, SW., Room 1308, Washington, DC 20593–0001. Additional information regarding other SHC public meetings and associated IMO meetings may be found at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/imo>.

Dated: April 7, 2009.

Mark Skolnicki,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E9–8394 Filed 4–10–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–09–P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**Free Trade Agreements; Invitation for Applications for Inclusion on the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement Dispute Settlement Rosters**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative ("USTR").

ACTION: Invitation for applications.

SUMMARY: The Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement ("CAFTA–DR" or "Agreement") requires the establishment of four rosters of individuals that would be available to serve as panelists in dispute settlement proceedings arising under the Agreement. A general roster is required to be established under Chapter Twenty (Dispute Settlement). Chapter Twelve (Financial Services), Chapter Sixteen (Labor), and Chapter Seventeen (Environment) require the establishment of separate rosters for disputes arising under those chapters.