In order for shrimp harvested with Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in an uncertified nation to be eligible for importation into the United States under the exemption: “Shrimp harvested by commercial shrimp trawl vessels using TEDs comparable in effectiveness to those required in the United States”, the Department of State must determine in advance that the government of the harvesting nation has put in place adequate procedures to ensure the accurate completion of the DS–2031 forms. At this time, the Department has made such a determination only with respect to Australia, Brazil and France. Thus, the importation of TED-caught shrimp from any other uncertified nation will not be allowed. For Brazil, only shrimp harvested in the northern shrimp fishery are eligible for entry under this exemption. For Australia, shrimp harvested in the Exmouth Gulf Prawn Fishery, the Northern Prawn Fishery, the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery and the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery is eligible for entry under this exemption. For France, shrimp harvested in the French Guiana domestic trawl fishery are eligible for entry under this exemption.

In addition, the Department has already made a determination with regard to wild-harvest shrimp harvested in the Spencer Gulf region in Australia. This product may be exported to the U.S. using a DS–2031 under the exemption for “shrimp harvested in a manner or under circumstances determined by the Department of State not to pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles.” An official of the Government of Australia still also must certify the DS–2031.

Dated: May 12, 2010.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 7014]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Committee Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, in Room 6103 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001. The

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 7015]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Committee Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, in Conference Room 05–1224 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593– 0001. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the eighteenth Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on Flag State Implementation (FSI) to be held at the IMO headquarters in London, United Kingdom, from July 5 to July 9, 2010.

The primary matters to be considered include:

—Adoption of the agenda;
—Decisions of other IMO bodies;
—Responsibilities of Governments and measures to encourage Flag State compliance;
—Mandatory reports under International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78);
—Port reception facilities-related issues;
—Casualty statistics and investigations;
—Harmonization of port State control activities;
—Port State Control (PSC) Guidelines on seafarers’ working hours and PSC guidelines in relation to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006;
—Development of guidelines on port State control under the 2004 Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention;
—Review of Guidelines for the inspection of anti-fouling systems on ships;
—Comprehensive analysis of difficulties encountered in the implementation of IMO instruments;

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 7015]