

meeting its obligations under the AIDCP and its obligations of membership in the IATTC. Every five years, the government of the harvesting nation must request a new affirmative finding and submit the required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator. On an annual basis, NMFS reviews the affirmative finding and determines whether the harvesting nation continues to meet the requirements. A nation may provide information related to compliance with AIDCP and IATTC measures directly to NMFS on an annual basis or may authorize the IATTC to release the information to NMFS to annually renew an affirmative finding determination without an application from the harvesting nation.

An affirmative finding will be terminated, in consultation with the Secretary of State, if the Assistant Administrator determines that the requirements of 50 CFR 216.24(f) are no longer being met or that a nation is consistently failing to take enforcement actions on violations, thereby diminishing the effectiveness of the AIDCP.

As a part of the affirmative finding process set forth in 50 CFR 216.24(f)(8), the Assistant Administrator considered documentary evidence submitted by the governments of The Nations and obtained from the IATTC and has determined that The Nations have met the MMPA's requirements to receive affirmative finding annual renewals.

After consultation with the Department of State, the Assistant Administrator issued affirmative finding annual renewals to The Nations, allowing the continued importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and products derived from yellowfin tuna harvested in the ETP by The Nations' flagged purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under The Nations' jurisdiction for the one-year period of April 1, 2017, through March 31, 2018.

El Salvador's five-year affirmative finding will remain valid through March 31, 2018, and Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Spain's five-year affirmative findings will remain valid through March 31, 2020, subject to subsequent annual reviews by NMFS.

Dated: June 19, 2017.

**Samuel D. Rauch III,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017-13045 Filed 6-21-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[170602536-7536-01]

RIN 0660-XC035

#### Promoting Stakeholder Action Against Botnets and Other Automated Threats

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** In response to requests for additional time, the Department of Commerce is extending the closing deadline for submitting comments to a request for public comments entitled "Promoting Stakeholder Action Against Botnets and Other Automated Threats." In the request for comment, the NTIA seeks broad input from all interested stakeholders—including private industry, academia, civil society, and other security experts—on ways to improve industry's ability to reduce threats perpetuated by automated distributed attacks, such as botnets, and what role, if any, the U.S. Government should play in this area. Through this notice, the Department extends the comment period to July 28, 2017.

**DATES:** Comments are due on July 28, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be submitted by email to *counter\_botnet\_RFC@ntia.doc.gov*. Written comments also may be submitted by mail to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Room 4725, Attn: Evelyn L. Remaley, Deputy Associate Administrator, Washington, DC 20230. For more detailed instructions about submitting comments, see the "Instructions for Commenters" section of **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Megan Doscher, tel.: (202) 482-2503, email: *mdoscher@ntia.doc.gov*, or Allan Friedman, tel.: (202) 482-4281, email: *afriedman@ntia.doc.gov*, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Room 4725, Washington, DC 20230. Please direct media inquiries to NTIA's Office of Public Affairs, (202) 482-7002, or at *press@ntia.doc.gov*.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Background:* The open and distributed nature of the digital

ecosystem has led to unprecedented growth and innovation in the digital economy. However, it has been accompanied by risks that threaten to undermine that very ecosystem. These risks take many forms online, with different combinations of threats, vulnerabilities, and affected parties from those in the physical world. The President has directed the Departments of Commerce and Homeland Security to jointly lead an open and transparent process to identify and promote action by appropriate stakeholders to improve the resilience of the Internet and communications ecosystem and to encourage collaboration with the goal of dramatically reducing threats perpetrated by automated and distributed attacks.<sup>1</sup> This RFC focuses on automated, distributed attacks that affect large sets of victims, and that put the broader network and its users at risk. These types of attacks have been a concern since the early days of the Internet,<sup>2</sup> and were a regular occurrence by the early 2000s.<sup>3</sup> Automated and distributed attacks, particularly botnets due to their ability to facilitate high-impact disruption, form a threat that is bigger than any one company or sector. Botnets are used for a variety of malicious activities, but distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, which can overwhelm other networked resources, are a critical threat and developing collaborative solutions to prevent and mitigate these attacks is a priority. As new scenarios emerge, including those exploiting a new generation of connected devices (so called "Internet of Things" (IoT) devices), there is an urgent need for coordination and collaboration across a diverse set of ecosystem stakeholders. Please see the original notice (82 FR 27042 (June 13, 2017)) for more detailed questions to which NTIA is inviting feedback on this subject. The notice is available on NTIA's Web site at <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/federal-register-notice/2017/rfc-promoting-stakeholder-action-against-botnets-and-other-automated-threats>.

The original deadline for submission of comments was July 13, 2017. With this notice, NTIA announces that the closing deadline for submission of

<sup>1</sup> *Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure*, Exec. Order 13800, 82 FR 22391 (May 11, 2017).

<sup>2</sup> See generally *United States versus Morris*, 928 F.2d 504 (2d Cir. 1991) (discussing one of the first known computer worms to spread across the Internet).

<sup>3</sup> See Nicholas C. Weaver, *Warhol Worms: The Potential for Very Fast Internet Plagues*, *Int'l Computer Science Inst.* (Aug. 15, 2001), <http://www1.icsi.berkeley.edu/~nweaver/papers/warhol/warhol.html>.

comments has been extended until July 28, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. EDT.

**Instructions for Commenters:** NTIA invites comment on the full range of issues that may be presented by this inquiry, including issues that are not specifically raised in the above questions. Commenters are encouraged to address any or all of the above questions. Comments that contain references to studies, research, and other empirical data that are not widely published should include copies of the referenced materials with the submitted comments.

Comments submitted by email should be machine-readable and should not be copy-protected. Comments submitted by mail may be in hard copy (paper) or electronic (on CD-ROM or disk). Responders should include the name of the person or organization filing the comment, as well as a page number on each page of their submissions. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted on the NTIA Web site, <https://www.ntia.doc.gov>, without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NTIA will accept anonymous comments.

Dated: June 19, 2017.

**Kathy Smith,**

*Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-13034 Filed 6-21-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO-C-2017-0024]

#### Notice of Public Meeting on Voluntary Initiatives To Combat Infringement of Intellectual Property in the Online Environment

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will host a public meeting at its headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, on July 17, 2017, on measuring the impact of voluntary initiatives undertaken to reduce intellectual property infringement, such as copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting, that occurs online.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held on July 17, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be held at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Madison Building, Global Intellectual Property Academy, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. All major entrances to the building are accessible to people with disabilities.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information regarding the public meeting, please contact Peter Fowler, Charisma Hampton, or Nadine Herbert at the Office of Policy and International Affairs, by telephone at (571) 272-9300, by email at [peter.fowler@uspto.gov](mailto:peter.fowler@uspto.gov), [charisma.hampton@uspto.gov](mailto:charisma.hampton@uspto.gov), and [nadine.herbert@uspto.gov](mailto:nadine.herbert@uspto.gov), or by postal mail addressed to: Mail Stop OPIA, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, ATTN: Peter Fowler, Charisma Hampton, or Nadine Herbert. Please direct all media inquiries to the Office of the Chief Communications Officer, USPTO, at (571) 272-8400.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The rapid growth of the online marketplace for goods and services has been accompanied by a rise in online infringement of intellectual property, including copyright piracy and trademark infringement. In response, the private sector has undertaken a range of voluntary initiatives to help reduce that infringement.

The Executive Branch has supported these voluntary initiatives. The 2013 *Joint Strategic Plan on Intellectual Property Enforcement* (JSP) encouraged their development, and the FY 2017-2019 JSP (available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/IPEC/2016jointstrategicplan.pdf>) identified four research-related "action items" to be taken to enhance the initiatives, as well as broadly-directed "calls for research" on their impact and effectiveness." (See Action Nos. 2.2., 2.3, 2.5, and 2.6, at pp. 63 and 65-66 of the FY 2017-2019 JSP, and the "calls for research" on the initiatives, at pp. 145-146 of the FY 2017-2019 JSP).

On June 20, 2013, the United States Patent and Trademark Office requested input from the public on the impact of the initiatives (78 FR 37210, June 20, 2013). The USPTO has also convened meetings with content creators and Internet service providers, brand owners and payment processing companies, representatives of the advertising community and third-party content and brand owners, as well as with Internet service providers and technology companies to discuss existing voluntary

efforts to reduce infringement on commercial platforms that facilitate illicit activities.

To continue this outreach, and as part of the Executive Branch's implementation of the FY 2017-2019 JSP's action items and calls for research, the USPTO will conduct a public meeting on Voluntary Initiatives in the Digital Environment on July 17, 2017. Topics will include methods and metrics for conducting empirical research on the digital economy; evaluating the effectiveness of self-regulatory regimes; case studies of certain private sector initiatives; the role of voluntary undertakings in raising consumer awareness; stemming revenue flows to bad actors; and lessons learned and next steps.

#### Instructions and Information on the Public Meeting

The public meeting will be held at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Madison Building, Global Intellectual Property Academy, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The public meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The agenda will be available a week before the meeting on the USPTO Web site, <https://www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/ip-policy/enforcement/voluntary-initiatives-combat-infringement-intellectual>. Registration is also available at the same URL. Attendees may also register at the door one half-hour prior to the beginning of the meeting.

The public meeting will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodation, such as sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, should communicate their needs to Nadine Herbert at the Office of Policy and International Affairs, by telephone at (571) 272-9300, by email at [nadine.herbert@uspto.gov](mailto:nadine.herbert@uspto.gov), or by postal mail addressed to: Mail Stop OPIA, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, ATTN: Nadine Herbert, at least seven (7) business days prior to the symposium.

Dated: June 16, 2017.

**Joseph Matal,**

*Performing the Functions and Duties of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2017-12992 Filed 6-21-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**