DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Notice of Publication of 2020 Update to the Department of Labor’s List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Announcement of public availability of updated list of goods with child labor or forced labor.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the publication of an updated list of goods—along with countries of origin—that the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) has reason to believe are produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards (the List). ILAB is required to develop and make available to the public the List pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVTPRA) of 2005, as amended.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, at (202) 693–4843 (this is not a toll free number) or ILAB-TVTPRA@dol.gov. Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) announces the publication of the ninth edition of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor (List), pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVTPRA) of 2005, as amended (TVTPRA). ILAB published the initial List on September 10, 2009, and has since published eight updated editions. The 2020 edition adds six new goods (gloves, rubber gloves, hair products, pome and stone fruits, sandstone, and tomato products) and two new countries (Venezuela and Zimbabwe) and one new area (Taiwan) to the List. This edition also features the removal of cattle produced with child labor in Namibia from the List.

Section 105(b) of the TVPRA mandates that ILAB develop and publish a list of goods from countries that ILAB “has reason to believe are produced with child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards” 22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2). ILAB’s Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (OCFT) carries out this mandate. The primary purposes of the List are to raise public awareness about the incidence of child labor and forced labor in the production of goods in the countries listed and to promote efforts to eliminate such practices. A full report, including the updated List and a discussion of the List’s methodology, as well as Frequently Asked Questions and a bibliography of sources, are available on the Department of Labor website at: http://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods/.


Signed at Washington, DC, this 28th day of September 2020.

Grant Lehms,
Chief of Staff, Bureau of International Labor Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Notice of Initial Determination Revising the List of Products Requiring Federal Contractor Certification as to Forced orIndented Child Labor

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, United States Department of Labor.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: This initial determination proposes to revise the list (E.O. List) required by the “Prohibition of Acquisition of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor” in accordance with the Department of Labor’s “Procedural Guidelines for the Maintenance of the List of Products Requiring Federal Contractor Certification as to Forced or Indentured Child Labor” (the Procedural Guidelines). The E.O. List identifies products by their country of origin that the Department of Labor (DOL), in consultation and cooperation with the Departments of State and Homeland Security (the three Departments), has a reasonable basis to believe might have been mined, produced, or manufactured by forced or indentured child labor. This notice proposes to add one new line item (bricks from Cambodia) to the E.O. List. DOL invites public comment on this initial determination. The three Departments will consider all public comments prior to publishing a final determination revising the E.O. List.

DATES: Information should be submitted to the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (OCFT) via one of the methods described below by no later than 5 p.m., December 1, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marcia Eugenio, Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, at (202) 693–4843 (this is not a toll free number). Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627. Comments, identified as “Docket No. DOL–2020–0008,” may be submitted by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. The portal includes instructions for submitting comments. Parties submitting responses electronically are encouraged not to submit paper copies.

• Email: EO13126@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Information Sought

DOL is requesting public comment on the revisions to the list proposed below, as well as any other issue related to the fair and effective implementation of Executive Order (E.O.) 13126. This notice is a general solicitation of comments from the public. All submitted comments will be made a part of the public record and will be available for inspection on http://www.regulations.gov.

In conducting research for this initial determination, DOL considered a wide variety of materials based on its own research and originating from other U.S. Government agencies, foreign governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, U.S. Government-funded technical assistance and field research projects, academic and other independent research, media, and other sources. The Department of State and U.S. embassies and consulates abroad also provide important information by gathering data from contacts, conducting site visits, and reviewing local media sources. In developing the proposed revision to the E.O. List, DOL’s review focused on information concerning the use of forced or indentured child labor that was available from the above sources.

As outlined in the Procedural Guidelines, several factors were weighed in determining whether or not a product should be placed on the revised E.O. List: The nature of the information describing the use of forced or indentured child labor; the source of the information; the date of the information; the extent of corroboration of the information by other sources; whether the information involved more than an isolated incident; and whether