

Dated: July 31, 2006.

William Lang,

*Program Director, Division of Ocean Sciences,
National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 06-6668 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

National Science Board and Its Subdivisions; Meetings

Date and Time: August 9–10, 2006.

Wednesday, August 9, 2006—8:15 a.m.–4:45 p.m.

8:15–9:15—open;
9:15–10—open;
10–10:45—open;
10:45–11:30—open;
11:30–12:30—open;
1:30–2:20—open;
2:20–4—closed;
4–4:15—closed;
4:15–4:30—open;
4:30–4:45—closed.

Thursday, August 10, 2006—8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

8–9:30—open;
9:30–10:30—open;
10:30–11—closed;
11–11:30—open;
11:30–12—closed;
1–1:15—closed;
1:15–1:30—closed;
1:30–3:30—open.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Room 1235, Arlington, VA 22230.

Public Meeting Attendance: All visitors must report to the NSF's visitor's desk at the 9th and N. Stuart Streets entrance to receive a visitor's badge.

Contact Information: Please refer to the National Science Board Web site (www.nsf.gov/nsb) for updated schedule. NSB Office: Dr. Robert Webber, (703) 292-7000.

Status: Part of this meeting will be closed to the public. Part of this meeting will be open to the public.

Matters To Be Considered:

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

Open

CPP Subcommittee on Polar Issues (8:15 a.m.–9:15 a.m.)

- Chairman's Remarks
- Approval of Minutes
- Astrophysics and South Pole Infrastructure
- New View on Arctic Climate History
- Ice Sheets
- IPY Solicitations

CPP Task Force on Hurricane Science and Engineering (9:15 a.m.–10 a.m.)

- Approval of Minutes for May 2006 Meeting
 - Discussion of Draft Hurricane Science and Engineering Report
 - Future Activities of the Task Force
- CPP Task Force on Transformative Research (10 a.m.–10:45 a.m.)
- Approval of Minutes for May 2006 Meeting
 - Outcomes of Previous TR Workshops—Draft Report
- CPP Task Force on International Science (10:45 a.m.–11:30 a.m.)
- Approval of Minutes
 - Summary of the May 11 Hearing and Roundtable Discussion
 - Discussion of Items To Come Out of the Task Force's Series of Roundtable Discussions
 - Discussion of Future Task Force Activities, Including the Roundtable Discussion Scheduled for September 25, 2006 in Singapore

Committee on Programs and Plans (11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)

- Approval of May 10, 2006 CPP Minutes
- Status Reports:
 - Task Force on Transformative Research
 - Task Force on Hurricane Science and Engineering and Dr. Ken Ford
 - Subcommittee on Polar Issues
 - Task Force on International Science
- Discussion Item: NSB Policy on Recompetition of NSF Awards
- Update: NSF's Cyberinfrastructure Vision
- NSB Information Item: NSF Activities in High Performance Computing: Status of the Petascale System Acquisition

Committee on Programs and Plans

- Open: (1:30 p.m.–2:20 p.m.)
- NSB Information Item: EarthScope Facility Construction Project
- Update: Major Research Facilities & Facility Plan
- Overview of Process for CPP/NSB Re-examination of Priority Order for New Start MREFC Projects

Executive Committee Open: (4:15 p.m.–4:30 p.m.)

- Approval of Minutes for May 2006 Meeting
- Updates or New Business From Committee Members

Closed

Committee on Programs and Plans

- Closed: (2:20 p.m.–4 p.m.)
- Awards and Agreements

Committee on Programs and Plans

- Executive Closed: (4 p.m.–4:15 p.m.)
- Awards and Agreements

Executive Committee Closed (4:30 p.m.–4:45 p.m.)

- Specific Personnel Matters
- Future Budgets

Thursday, August 10, 2006

Open

EHR Subcommittee on Science and Engineering Indicators (8 a.m.–9:30 a.m.)

- Approval of May Minutes
- Chairman's Remarks
- What Is Science and Engineering Indicators?
- Role of S&E Indicators Subcommittee
- Introduction of Key NSBO and SRS Staff
- Discussion of Science and Engineering Indicators Chapters
- Introduction to Condensed Version of Indicators and Companion Piece
- Key Board Dates and Activities for Production of Science and Engineering Indicators 2008
- Chairman's Summary

Committee on Audit and Oversight

- Open: (9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.)
- Approval of Minutes of May, 2006 Meeting
- Report by NSF Advisory Committee on GPRA Performance Assessment (ACGPA) Status of Financial Audit Procurement
- CFO Update

Committee on Strategy and Budget

- Open: (11 a.m.–11:30 a.m.)
- Approval of May 9, 2006 CSB Minutes
- Status of FY 2007 Budget Request to Congress
- Discussion of NSF Strategic Plan FY 2006–2011

Closed

Committee on Audit and Oversight

- Closed: (10:30 a.m.–11 a.m.)
- Budget
- Pending Investigations

Committee on Strategy and Budget

- Closed (11:30 a.m.–12 noon)
- Approval of CSB Closed Session Teleconference Minutes
- Discussion of NSF FY 2008 Budget Request

Plenary Sessions of the Board (1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.)

Plenary Executive Closed (1 p.m.–1:15 p.m.)

- Approval of May 2006 Minutes
- Re-examination of Priority Order of MREFC

Plenary closed (1:15 p.m.–1:30 p.m.)

- Approval of May 2006 Minutes
- Awards and Agreements
- Closed Committee Reports

Plenary Open (1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.)

- Approval of May 2006 Minutes
- Resolution to Close September 2006

- Meeting
- Chairman's Report
- Director's Report
- Open Committee Reports

Michael P. Crosby,

Executive Officer and NSB Office Director.

[FR Doc. 06-6718 Filed 8-2-06; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF THE TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Determinations Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has determined that Burkina Faso has adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents in connection with shipments of textile and apparel articles and has implemented and follows, or is making substantial progress toward implementing and following, the customs procedures required by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Therefore, imports of eligible products from Burkina Faso qualify for the textile and apparel benefits provided under the AGOA.

DATES: Effective August 4, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laurie-Ann Agama, Director for African Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-9514.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The AGOA (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-200) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. The textile and apparel trade benefits under the AGOA are available to imports of eligible products from countries that the President designates as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, provided that these countries: (1) Have adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents; and (2) have implemented and follow, or are making substantial progress toward implementing and following, certain customs procedures that assist U.S. Customs and Border Protection in verifying the origin of the products.

In Proclamation 7853, the President designated Burkina Faso a "beneficiary sub-Saharan African country."

Proclamation 7350 (October 2, 2000) delegated to the USTR the authority to determine whether designated countries have met the two requirements described above. The President directed the USTR to announce any such determinations in the **Federal Register** and to implement them through modifications of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Based on actions that the Government of Burkina Faso has taken, I have determined that Burkina Faso has satisfied these two requirements.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in the USTR by Proclamation 7350, U.S. note 7(a) to subchapter II of chapter 98 of the HTS and U.S. note 1 to subchapter XIX of chapter 98 of the HTS are each modified by inserting "Burkina Faso" in alphabetical sequence in the list of countries. The foregoing modifications to the HTS are effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date of publication of this notice. Importers claiming preferential tariff treatment under the AGOA for entries of textile and apparel articles should ensure that those entries meet the applicable visa requirements. *See Visa Requirements Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act*, 66 FR 7837 (2001).

Susan C. Schwab,

United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. E6-12642 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-27442]

Notice of Applications for Deregistration Under Section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

July 28, 2006.

The following is a notice of applications for deregistration under section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 for the month of July, 2006. A copy of each application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch (tel. 202-551-5850). An order granting each application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by writing to the SEC's Secretary at the address below and serving the relevant applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on August 22, 2006, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the

applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

For Further Information Contact:

Diane L. Titus at (202) 551-6810, SEC, Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-4041.

The Thurlow Funds, Inc. [File No. 811-8219]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On March 17, 2006, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$16,500 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by Thurlow Capital Management, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

Filing Date: The application was filed on June 30, 2006.

Applicant's Address: 3212 Jefferson St. #416, Napa, CA 94558.

Retirement Income Trust [File No. 811-21320]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 27, 2006, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Applicant incurred no expenses in connection with the liquidation.

Filing Date: The application was filed on July 19, 2006.

Applicant's Address: 5553 Woodmont St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

WM Prime Income Fund [File No. 811-9122]

Summary: Applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On August 17, 1998, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$4,000 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by WM Advisors, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

Filing Date: The application was filed on June 6, 2006.

Applicant's Address: John T. West, c/o WM Advisors, Inc., 1201 Third Ave., Suite 2200, Seattle, WA 98101.