

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public conference to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of November 5, 2008 (73 FR 65881). The conference was held in Washington, DC, on November 17, 2008, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determinations in these investigations to the Secretary of Commerce on December 15, 2008. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 4054 (December 2008), entitled *Commodity Matchbooks from India: Investigation Nos. 701-TA-459 and 731-TA-1155 (Preliminary)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 15, 2008.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. E8-30178 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-745 (Second Review)]

Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar From Turkey; Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject five-year review, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), that revocation of the antidumping duty order on steel concrete reinforcing bar from Turkey would not be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.²

Background

The Commission instituted this review on February 1, 2008 (73 FR 6206) and determined on May 6, 2008 that it would conduct a full review (73 FR 27847, May 14, 2008). Notice of the scheduling of the Commission's review and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office

of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** on June 11, 2008 (73 FR 33116). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on October 16, 2008, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determination in this review to the Secretary of Commerce on December 15, 2008. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 4052 (December 2008), entitled *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Turkey: Investigation No. 731-TA-745 (Second Review)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 15, 2008.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. E8-30179 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980

Notice is hereby given that on December 9, 2008, a Complaint was filed and a proposed Consent Decree was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts in *United States of America v. City of Attleboro, Massachusetts, et al.*, Civil Action No. 1:08-cv-120378.

In this action the United States seeks reimbursement of response costs incurred by EPA for response actions at the Shpack Landfill Superfund Site ("Site") in Norton and Attleboro Massachusetts, and performance of studies and response work at the Site consistent with the National Contingency Plan, 40 CFR part 300, pursuant to Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental, Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9606 and 9607 ("CERCLA"). The Consent Decree provides that the settling parties will perform the chemical portion of the cleanup work at the Site, currently estimated at \$29 million, as well as reimburse EPA for up to \$2.9 million of EPA's future costs. The Consent Decree includes a covenant not to sue by the United States under Sections 106 and 107 of CERCLA, §§ 9606 and 9607, and Section 7003 of the Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. 6973.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the Consent Decree. Commenters may request an opportunity for a public meeting in the affected area, in accordance with Section 7003(d). Comments should be addressed to the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and either e-mailed to pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov or mailed to P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States v. City of Attleboro, Massachusetts, et al.*, D.J. Ref. 90-11-2-08360.

The Consent Decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 1 Courthouse Way, John Joseph Moakely Courthouse, Suite 9200, Boston, MA 02210, and U.S. EPA Region 1, One Congress St., Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114. During the public comment period, the Consent Decree may also be examined on the following Department of Justice Web site, http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/Consent_Decrees.html. A copy of the Consent Decree may also be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044-7611 or by faxing or e-mailing a request to Tonia Fleetwood (tonia.fleetwood@usdoj.gov), fax no. (202) 514-0097, phone confirmation number (202) 514-1547. In requesting a copy from the Consent Decree Library, please enclose a check in the amount of \$125.50 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the U.S. Treasury or, if by e-mail or fax, forward a check in that amount to the Consent Decree Library at the stated address.

Ronald G. Gluck,

Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. E8-30142 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of International Labor Affairs; Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries To Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

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

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.2(f)).

² Commissioners Charlotte R. Lane and Irving A. Williamson dissenting.

ACTION: Request for information on efforts by certain countries to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

SUMMARY: This notice is a request for information for use by the Department of Labor (DOL) in preparation of an annual report on certain trade beneficiary countries' implementation of international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. This will be the eighth such report by DOL under the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA).

DATES: Submitters of information are requested to provide their submission to the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking at the e-mail or physical address below by 5 p.m., January 26, 2009.

ADDRESSES: E-mail submissions should be addressed to Tina McCarter at mccarter.tina@dol.gov. Written submissions should be addressed to Ms. McCarter at the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, USDOL, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-5317, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tina McCarter or Charita Castro, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking, at (202) 693-4843, fax: (202) 693-4830, or via e-mail to mccarter-tina@dol.gov or castro.charita@dol.gov. DOL's international child labor reports can be found on the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/media/reports/iclp/main.htm> or can be obtained from the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Trade and Development Act of 2000 [Pub. L. 106-200] established a new eligibility criterion for receipt of trade benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), Caribbean Basin Trade and Partnership Act (CBTPA), and Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The TDA amends the GSP reporting requirements of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 504) [19 U.S.C. 2464] to require that the President's annual report on the status of internationally recognized worker rights include "findings by the Secretary of Labor with respect to the beneficiary country's implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor." Title II of the TDA and the TDA Conference Report [Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference, 106th Cong. 2d. sess. (2000)] indicate that the same criterion applies for the receipt of benefits under CBTPA and AGOA, respectively.

In addition, the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA), as amended and expanded by the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA) [Pub. L. 107-210, Title XXXI], includes as a criterion for receiving benefits "[w]hether the country has implemented its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor as defined in section 507(6) of the Trade Act of 1974."

Scope of Report

Countries and non-independent countries and territories presently eligible under the GSP and to be included in the report are: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Anguilla, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Christmas Island, Cocos Islands, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Djibouti, Dominica, East Timor, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Heard Island and MacDonald Islands, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Macedonia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Montserrat, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Norfolk Island, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands, Russia, Rwanda, Saint Helena, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tokelau Island, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turks and Caicos Islands, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Wallis and Futuna, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Western Sahara, Republic of Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Countries eligible or potentially eligible for additional benefits under the AGOA and to be included in the report are: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia,

Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia.

Countries potentially eligible for additional benefits under the CBTPA and to be included in the report are: Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Countries potentially eligible for additional benefits under the ATPA/ATPDEA and to be included in the report are: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

In addition, the following countries will be included in the report as required by the Department of Labor Appropriations, 2006, Conference Report, H.R. Rep. 109-337 (2005): Bahrain, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Morocco, and Nicaragua.

Information Sought

The Department invites interested parties to submit information relevant to the findings to be made by DOL under the TDA for all listed countries. Information provided through public submission will be considered by DOL in preparing its findings. Materials submitted should be confined to the specific topic of the study. In particular, DOL's Bureau of International Labor Affairs is seeking submissions on the following topics:

1. Whether the country has adequate laws and regulations proscribing the worst forms of child labor. Specifically, DOL is seeking the following information:

(a) What laws have been promulgated on child labor? What is the country's minimum age for admission to work? Are there exceptions to the minimum age law? What is the minimum age for admission to hazardous work, and what additional provisions have been enacted regarding children's involvement in hazardous work?

(b) What laws have been promulgated on the worst forms of child labor, such as forced child labor and trafficking or child prostitution and pornography? Please specify what worst forms of child labor are prohibited and describe penalties for violations. What is the minimum age for military recruitment and/or involvement in armed conflict?

(c) If the country has ratified International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention 182, has it developed a list of occupations considered to be worst

forms of child labor, as called for in article 4 of the Convention?

2. Whether the country has adequate laws and regulations as well as formal institutional mechanisms for the implementation and enforcement of such laws and regulations; specifically:

(a) What legal remedies are available to government agencies that enforce child labor and worst forms of child labor laws (civil fines, criminal penalties, court orders, etc.), and are they adequate to deter violations?

(b) To what extent are violations investigated and addressed?

(c) What level of resources does the government devote to investigating child labor and worst forms of child labor cases? How many inspectors does the government employ to address child labor? How many police or other law enforcement officials address worst forms of child labor issues? How many child labor investigations have been conducted over the past year and how many have resulted in fines, penalties, or convictions? How many investigations into worst forms of child labor violations have been conducted over the past year and how many have resulted in prosecutions and convictions?

(d) Has the government provided training activities for officials charged with enforcing child labor or worst forms of child labor laws?

3. Whether social programs exist in the country to prevent the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor, and to assist in the removal of children engaged in the worst forms of child labor; specifically:

(a) What initiatives has the government supported specifically to prevent or withdraw children from exploitive work situations, such as school scholarships conditioned on a child's withdrawal from child labor? (If possible, please provide information on funding levels for such initiatives.)

4. Whether the country has a comprehensive policy for the elimination of the worst forms of child labor; specifically:

(a) Does the country have a comprehensive policy or national program of action on child labor or any of its forms?

(b) Does the country specifically incorporate child labor in poverty reduction, development, educational or other social policies or programs, such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, etc.? If so, to what degree has the country implemented the policy and/or program of action and achieved its goals and objectives?

(c) Is education free in law and in practice? Is education compulsory in law and in practice?

Please note that although many anti-poverty programs may have indirect impacts on child labor, the TDA calls for governments to take specific actions to address the problem. Therefore, the DOL's report focuses, and information is requested on, efforts that name child labor as an explicit objective, target group, or condition for participation in government policies and programs.

5. Whether the country is making continual progress toward eliminating the worst forms of child labor; specifically:

(a) In what sectors/work activities/goods do children work and how has this changed over the past year? Information on age and gender of working children, disaggregated by industry/work activity/good, is appreciated.

Please note that in order to provide comparable statistics on child work and education across countries in the TDA report, DOL relies on the Understanding Children's Work Project (see <http://www.ucw-project.org/>) and UNESCO Institute of Statistics data (<http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>); therefore, such data is NOT being requested in this Notice.

(b) To what extent are children working in slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as debt bondage, serfdom, and forced or compulsory labor? Please indicate industries where this occurs and, if applicable, specific goods that such children produce.

(c) To what extent are children trafficked to work? Are children trafficked for commercial sex or for labor exploitation? Information on the industries into which children are trafficked and the goods that they produce in this situation is appreciated. Are they trafficked across national borders or within the country (specify source, destination and transit countries/regions/communities, if possible).

DOL greatly appreciates submission of original sources. Information submitted may include reports, newspaper articles, or other materials. Governments that have ratified ILO Convention 182 are requested to submit copies of their most recent article 22 submissions under the Convention, especially those with information on types of work determined in accordance with article 4 of the Convention. Copies of any recent government child labor surveys or data sets are also particularly appreciated.

Definition of Worst Forms of Child Labor

The term "worst forms of child labor" is defined in section 412(b) of the TDA as comprising:

"(A) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

(B) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

(C) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties; and

(D) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children."

The TDA Conference Report noted that the phrase, "work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children," is to be defined as in article II of Recommendation No. 190, which accompanies ILO Convention 182. This includes:

"(a) Work which exposes children to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse;

(b) Work underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;

(c) Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads;

(d) Work in an unhealthy environment which may, for example, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health;

(e) Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer."

The TDA Conference Report further indicated that this phrase be interpreted in a manner consistent with the intent of article 4 of ILO Convention 182, which states that such work shall be determined by national laws or regulations or by the competent authority in the country involved. In addition, the TDA Conference report indicated that the phrase generally not apply to situations in which children work for their parents on bona fide family farms or holdings.

This notice is a general solicitation of comments from the public.

Marcia Eugenio,

*Acting Associate Deputy Under Secretary,
International Labor Affairs Bureau.*

[FR Doc. E8-30140 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Availability of Funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications for the Older Worker Demonstration

Announcement Type: Notice of Solicitation for Grant Applications.

Funding Opportunity Number: SGA/DFA PY-08-06.

Catalog Federal Assistance Number: 17.268.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announces the availability of approximately \$10 million in funds for Older Worker Demonstration Grants. These grants will be awarded through a competitive process as a part of the High Growth Job Training Initiative (HGJTI). The grants are intended to address the workforce challenges facing older individuals by developing models for talent development in regional economies that recognize older workers as a valuable labor pool and include employment and training strategies to retain and/or connect older workers to jobs in high growth, high demand industries critical to the regional economy.

Grants awarded under the Older Worker Demonstration should focus on providing training and related services for individuals age 55 and older that result in employment and advancement opportunities in high growth industries and economic sectors. The proposed strategies must take place in the context of regional talent development efforts designed to contribute to a strong regional economy, and must be developed and implemented by a strategic regional partnership. The preferred eligible applicants for this solicitation are entities that represent the local workforce investment system, but other entities may apply. It is anticipated that the number of awards will range from 10 to 13, with award amounts ranging from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000.

This solicitation provides background information and describes the application submission requirements, outlines the process that eligible entities must use to apply for funds covered by

this solicitation, and details how grantees will be selected.

KEY DATES: The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement is February 19, 2009. Applications must be received at the address below no later than 4 p.m. (Eastern Time). A Virtual Prospective Applicant Conference will be held for this grant competition in January. The date and access information for this Virtual Prospective Applicant Conference will be posted on the ETA Web site at: <http://www.workforce3one.org/>.

ADDRESSES: Mailed applications must be addressed to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Federal Assistance, Attention: Melissa Abdullah, Reference SGA/DFA PY-08-06, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-4716, Washington, DC 20210. Applicants may alternatively apply on-line through Grants.gov as discussed in Part IV(C) of this solicitation. Telefacsimile (FAX) applications will not be accepted. Applicants are advised that U.S. Postal Service mail delivery in the Washington area may be delayed due to mail decontamination procedures. Hand delivered proposals will be received at the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This solicitation consists of eight parts:

- Part I provides the funding opportunity description. It contains background on talent development in the global economy, the aging of the American workforce, and the workforce challenges faced by older individuals; provides information on the Older Worker Demonstration; and outlines the critical elements and focus areas for this solicitation.
- Part II describes the award amount and performance period for the award.
- Part III describes the eligible applicants and other grant specifications.
- Part IV provides information on the application and submission process and various funding restrictions.
- Part V describes the criteria against which applications will be reviewed and explains the review and selection process.
- Part VI provides award administration information.
- Part VII contains ETA agency contact information.
- Part VIII lists additional resources of interest to applicants and other information.

Part I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Background

1. Talent Development in a Global Economy

Globalization of the economic marketplace is now well recognized, as is the fact that American businesses must now compete not only with companies across the street, but also with companies across the globe. Global competition is typically seen as a national challenge. In reality, regions are where companies, workers, researchers, entrepreneurs and governments come together to create a competitive advantage in the global marketplace. That advantage stems from the ability to transform new ideas and new knowledge into advanced, high quality products or services—in other words, to innovate.

Regions that are successful in creating a competitive advantage demonstrate the ability to organize “innovation assets”—people, institutions, capital, and infrastructure—to generate growth and prosperity in the region’s economy. These regions are successful because they have connected three key elements: workforce skills and lifelong learning strategies, investment and entrepreneurship strategies, and regional infrastructure and economic development strategies.

In the new global economy, a region’s ability to develop, attract, and retain a well educated and skilled workforce is a key factor in our nation’s economic competitiveness. A region may possess a strong infrastructure and the investment resources for success, but without the talented men and women to use those elements for economic growth, they will be underutilized. Talent can also drive infrastructure and investment because investment capital is smart money and will follow talent, while infrastructure can be built to support a growing economy.

The aging of the American workforce will clearly impact a region’s ability to develop, attract, and retain a well educated and skilled workforce. As regions respond to current and anticipated skills shortages and, in some industries and occupations, to labor shortages, they often overlook a key asset—the mature workforce. Older workers are an experienced and highly skilled pool of labor that can help regions meet their competitive needs.

2. Aging of the American Workforce

The United States is in the throes of a demographic metamorphosis. Currently, 12.4 percent of the U.S.