

fiber connection to CME Group market data from at least three providers, including IDS.

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which exchanges and other vendors (e.g., Hosting Users) offer co-location services as a means to facilitate the trading and other market activities of those market participants who believe that co-location enhances the efficiency of their operations. The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Specifically, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”²¹

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act²² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.²³

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the

Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2021-43 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.
- All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2021-43. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2021-43, and should be submitted on or before December 9, 2021.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁴

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-25127 Filed 11-17-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No: SSA-2021-0045]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages requiring clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104-13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, effective October 1, 1995. This notice includes revisions of OMB-approved information collections.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility, and clarity; and ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Mail, email, or fax your comments and recommendations on the information collection(s) to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses or fax numbers.

(OMB) Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA

Comments: <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Submit your comments online referencing Docket ID Number [SSA-2021-0045].

(SSA) Social Security Administration, OLCA, Attn: Reports Clearance Director, 3100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, Fax: 410-966-2830, Email address: OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov

Or you may submit your comments online through <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>, referencing Docket ID Number [SSA-2021-0045].

SSA submitted the information collections below to OMB for clearance. Your comments regarding these information collections would be most useful if OMB and SSA receive them within 30 days from the date of this publication. To be sure we consider your comments, we must receive them no later than December 20, 2021. Individuals can obtain copies of these

²¹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005).

²² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

²⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

OMB clearance packages by writing to OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov.

1. *Certificate of Support—20 CFR 404.370, 404.408a, and 404.750—0960–0001.* A parent of a deceased, fully insured worker may be entitled to Social Security Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) benefits based on the earnings record of the

deceased worker under certain conditions. One of the conditions is when the parent receives at least one-half support from the deceased worker at certain points in time. The one-half support requirement also applies to a spousal applicant in determining whether OASDI benefits are subject to Government Pension Offset (GPO). SSA

uses Form SSA–760, Certificate of Support, to determine if the parent of a deceased worker or a spouse applicant meets the one-half support requirement. Respondents are parents of deceased workers and spouses who may meet the GPO exception.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA–760	18,000	1	15	4,500	*\$27.07	**\$121,815

* We based this figure on the average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

2. *Medical Source Opinion of Patient's Capability to Manage Benefits—20 CFR 404.2015 and 416.615—0960–0024.* SSA appoints a representative payee in cases where we determine beneficiaries are not capable of managing their own benefits. In these instances, we require medical evidence

to determine the beneficiaries' capability of managing or directing their benefit payments. SSA collects medical evidence on Form SSA–787, Medical Source Opinion of Patient's Capability to Manage Benefits, to: (1) Determine beneficiaries' capability or inability to handle their own benefits; and (2) assist

in determining the beneficiaries' need for a representative payee. The respondents are the beneficiary's physicians or medical officers of the institution in which the beneficiary resides.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA–787	767,737	1	20	255,912	*\$105.22	**\$26,927,061

* We based this figure on the national average medical professionals' salaries as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291228.htm>).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

3. *Work Activity Report—Employee—20 CFR 404.1520(b), 404.1571–404.1576, 404.1584–404.1593, and 416.971–404.976—0960–0059.* SSA uses Form SSA–821–BK, Work Activity Report—Employee, and its electronic version, the SSA–821–APP, to collect recipient employment information to determine whether recipients worked after

becoming disabled and, if so, whether the work is substantial gainful activity. SSA uses the SSA–821–BK and SSA–821–APP to obtain work information during the initial claims process, the continuing disability review process, post-adjudicative work issue actions, and for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claims involving work issues. SSA

reviews and evaluates the data to determine if the applicant or recipient meets the disability requirements of the law. The respondents are applicants or recipients of Title II Social Security Disability, and Title XVI SSI applicants.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Average wait time in field office or for teleservice centers (minutes) **	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA–821–BK (Paper) ..	319,900	1	30	159,950	*\$10.95	** 21	***\$2,977,469
SSA–821–APP (Electronic)	91,400	1	30	45,700	* 10.95	.....	*** 500,415
Totals	411,300	.....	.....	205,650	.....	.....	*** 3,477,884

* We based this figure on the average DI payments based on SSA's current FY 2021 data (<https://www.ssa.gov/legislation/2021FactSheet.pdf>).

** We based this figure on averaging both the average FY 2021 wait times for field offices and teleservice centers, based on SSA's current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

4. *Application for Supplemental Security Income—20 CFR 416.207 and 416.305–416.335, Subpart C—0960–0229.* The SSI program provides aged, blind, and disabled individuals who have little or no income, with funds for food, clothing, and shelter. Individuals complete Form SSA–8000–BK,

Application for Supplemental Security Income, to apply for SSI. SSA uses the information from Form SSA–8000–BK, and its electronic Intranet counterpart, the SSI Claim System, to: (1) Determine whether SSI claimants meet all statutory and regulatory eligibility requirements; and (2) calculate SSI payment amounts.

The respondents are applicants for SSI or their representative payees.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Note: This is a correction notice: SSA published the incorrect burden information for this collection at 86 FR 47190, on 8/23/21. We are correcting this error here.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Average wait time in field office or for teleservice centers (minutes) **	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSI Claim System	1,646,520	1	35	960,470	* \$19.01	** 21	\$29,213,656
SSA–8000–BK (Paper Form)	705	1	40	470	* 19.01	** 21	*** 13,630
Totals	1,647,225	.....	.....	960,940	.....	.....	*** 29,227,286

* We based this figure by averaging both the average DI payments based on SSA's current FY 2021 data (<https://www.ssa.gov/legislation/2021FactSheet.pdf>), and the average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm).

** We based this figure on averaging both the average FY 2021 wait times for field offices and teleservice centers, based on SSA's current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

5. *State Supplementation Provisions: Agreement; Payments—20 CFR 416.2095–416.2098, and 416.2099–0960–0240.* Section 1618 of the Social Security Act (Act) requires those states administering their own supplementary income payment program(s) to demonstrate compliance with the Act by passing Federal cost-of-living increases on to individuals who are eligible for state supplementary payments. SSA requires states to report to SSA their compliance of the passing-along of such

increases. In general, states report their supplementary payment information annually through the maintenance-of-payment levels method. However, SSA may ask them to report up to four times in a year through the total-expenditures method. Regardless of the method, the states confirm their compliance with the requirements, and provide any changes to their optional supplementary payment rates. SSA uses the information to determine each state's compliance or noncompliance with the

pass-along requirements of the Act to determine eligibility for Medicaid reimbursement. If a state fails to keep payments at the required level, it becomes ineligible for Medicaid reimbursement under Title XIX of the Act. Respondents are state agencies administering supplementary income payment programs.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
Total Expenditures	11	1	60	11	* \$21.46	** \$236
Maintenance of Payment Levels	22	1	60	22	* 21.46	** 472
Totals	33	.....	.....	33	.....	** 708

* We based this figure on the average state Eligibility for Government Programs Interviewers hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes434061.htm>).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

6. *Representative Payee Report of Benefits and Dedicated Account—20 CFR 416.546, 416.635, 416.640, and 416.665–0960–0576.* SSA requires representative payees to submit a written report accounting for the use of money paid to Social Security or SSI

recipients, and to establish and maintain a dedicated account for these payments. SSA uses Form SSA–6233, Representative Payee Report of Benefits and Dedicated Account, to: (1) Ensure the representative payees use the payments for the recipient's current

maintenance and personal needs; and (2) confirm the expenditures of funds from the dedicated account remain in compliance with the law. Respondents are representative payees for SSI and Social Security recipients.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Average wait time in field office or for teleservice centers (minutes) **	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA-6233	31,500	1	20	10,500	* \$27.07	** 21	*** \$582,682

* We based this figure on average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

** We based this figure on averaging both the average FY 2021 wait times for field offices and teleservice centers, based on SSA's current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

7. *Credit Card Payment Form—0960-0648.* SSA uses Form SSA-1414, Credit Card Payment Form, to process: (1) Credit card payments from former employees and vendors with outstanding debts to the agency; (2)

advance payments for reimbursable agreements; and (3) credit card payments for all Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests requiring payment. The respondents are former employees and vendors who have outstanding

debts to the agency; entities who have reimbursable agreements with SSA; and individuals who request information through FOIA.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA-1414	6,000	1	2	200	* \$27.07	** \$5,414

* We based this figure on the average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

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8. *Registration for Appointed Representative Services and Direct Payment—0960-0732.* SSA uses Form SSA-1699, Registration for Appointed Representative Services and Direct Payment, to register appointed representatives of claimants before SSA who:

- Want to register for direct payment of fees;
- Registered for direct payment of fees prior to 10/31/09, but need to update their information;

- Registered as appointed representatives on or after 10/31/09, but need to update their information; or
- Received a notice from SSA instructing them to complete this form.

By registering these individuals, SSA: (1) Authenticates and authorizes them to do business with us; (2) allows them to access our records for the claimants they represent; (3) facilitates direct payment of authorized fees to appointed representatives; and, (4) collects the information we need to meet Internal

Revenue Service (IRS) requirements to issue specific IRS forms if we pay an appointed representative in excess of a specific amount (\$600). The respondents are appointed representatives who want to use Form SSA-1699 for any of the purposes cited in this Notice.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA-1699	10,382	1	20	3,461	* \$71.59	** \$247,773

* We based this figure on average Lawyers hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes231011.htm).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

9. *Notification of a Social Security Number (SSN) to an Employer for Wage Reporting Purposes—20 CFR 422.103(a)—0960-0778.* Individuals applying for employment must provide

an SSN or indicate they have applied for one. However, when an individual applies for an initial SSN, there is a delay between the assignment of the number and the delivery of the SSN

card. At an individual's request, SSA uses Form SSA-132, Notification of a Social Security Number (SSN) to an Employer for Wage Reporting Purposes, to send the individual's SSN to an

employer. Mailing this information to the employer: (1) Ensures the employer has the correct SSN for the individual; (2) allows SSA to receive correct earnings information for wage reporting purposes; and (3) reduces the delay in

the initial SSN assignment and delivery of the SSN information directly to the employer. It also enables SSA to verify the employer as a safeguard for the applicant's personally identifiable information. The respondents are

individuals applying for an initial SSN who ask SSA to mail confirmation of their application or the SSN to their employers.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Average wait time in field office or for teleservice centers (minutes) **	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA-132	124,668	1	2	4,156	*\$27.07	** 24	***\$1,462,403

* We based this figure on average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

** We based this figure on the average FY 2021 wait times for field offices, based on SSA's current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

10. *Data Exchange Request Form—20 CFR 401.100—0960-0802.* SSA maintains approximately 3,000 data exchange agreements and regularly receives new requests from Federal, State, local, and foreign governments, as well as private organizations, to share data electronically. SSA engages in various forms of data exchanges from Social Security number verifications to

computer matches for benefit eligibility, depending on the requestor's business needs. Section 1106 of the Act requires we consider the requestor's legal authority to receive the data, our disclosure policies, systems' feasibility, systems' security, and costs before entering into a data exchange agreement. We use Form SSA-157, Data Exchange Request Form, for this

purpose. Requesting agencies, governments, or private organizations will use the form when voluntarily initiating a request for data exchange from SSA. Respondents are Federal, State, local, and foreign governments, as well as private organizations seeking to share data electronically with SSA.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
State, local, and tribal governments	139	1	45	104	*\$42.85	** \$4,456
Private sector organizations	74	1	45	56	* 42.85	** 2,400
Totals	213	.....	.....	160	.....	** 6,856

* We based this figure by averaging the average Management Analyst hourly salary, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes131111.htm); the average Business and Financial Operations hourly salary (www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes130000.htm); and the average Epidemiologist hourly salary (www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes191041.htm).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

11. *Fee Agreement for Representation before the Social Security Administration—0960-0810.* The Act requires individuals who represent a claimant before the agency and want to receive a fee for their services to obtain SSA's authorization of the fee. One way to obtain the authorization is to submit the fee agreement to the agency either in writing or by using Form SSA-1693, Fee Agreement for Representation before the

Social Security Administration. Since representatives currently use fee agreements which vary in length, content, and complexity, submission of a free-form fee agreement may cause delays in SSA's review time. Therefore, SSA encourages respondents to use Form SSA-1693 to submit the information either using the paper form or the electronically submittable e1693 through SSA's website. SSA uses the

information from the SSA-1693 to review the request and authorize any fee to representatives who seek to charge and collect a fee from a claimant. The respondents are the representatives who help claimants through the application process, and the claimants who they represent.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) **
SSA-1693	5,000	1	13	1,083	*\$50.47	**\$54,659

* We based this figure on the averaged total of the average Lawyer's Legal Services wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes231011.htm>), and the average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

Dated: November 15, 2021.

Naomi Sipple,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2021-25138 Filed 11-17-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Termination of Actions in the Section 301 Digital Services Tax Investigations of Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom and Further Monitoring

AGENCY: Office of the United States
Trade Representative (USTR).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On October 8, 2021, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom joined the United States and 130 other jurisdictions participating in the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting in reaching a political agreement on a two-pillar solution to address tax challenges arising from the digitalization of the world economy. As part of Pillar 1, all parties agreed to remove existing Digital Services Taxes (DSTs) and other relevant similar measures, and to coordinate the withdrawal of these taxes. On October 21, 2021, the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) issued a joint statement with Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom on a transitional approach to those countries' DSTs prior to entry into force of Pillar 1. The joint statement reflects a political agreement that DST liabilities accrued during the transitional period will be creditable in defined circumstances against future income taxes due under Pillar 1. Based on the commitments of Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom to remove their DSTs pursuant to Pillar 1 and on their political agreement to the transitional approach prior to Pillar 1's entry into force, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined to terminate the section 301 actions taken in the respective investigations of these

countries' DSTs. In coordination with Treasury, USTR will monitor implementation of the removal of these countries' DSTs as provided for under Pillar 1 and the transitional approach as provided in the joint statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning the actions, please contact Benjamin Allen, Thomas Au, Patrick Childress, or Kate Hadley, Assistant General Counsels at (202) 395-9439, (202) 395-0380, (202) 395-9531, and (202) 395-3911, respectively, Robert Tanner, Director, Services and Investment at (202) 395-6125, or Michael Rogers, Director for Europe at (202) 395-2684.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Proceedings in the Investigations

For background on the proceedings in the section 301 investigations of DSTs adopted by Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom, please see prior notices including: 84 FR 34042 (July 16, 2019) (France); 84 FR 66956 (December 6, 2019) (France); 85 FR 43292 (July 16, 2020) (France); 85 FR 34709 (June 5, 2020) (Austria, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom); 86 FR 2477 (January 12, 2021) (Italy); 86 FR 6406 (January 21, 2021) (Austria); 86 FR 6407 (January 21, 2021) (Spain); 86 FR 6406 (January 21, 2021) (United Kingdom); 86 FR 16816 (Austria); 86 FR 16819 (Italy); 86 FR 16813 (Spain); and 86 FR 16829 (United Kingdom).

In January 2021, the U.S. Trade Representative indefinitely suspended the section 301 action in the investigation of France's DST in light of the ongoing DST investigations of other jurisdictions. 86 FR 2479 (January 12, 2021). On June 2, 2021, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to take action in the form of additional duties on certain products of Austria, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom, and to immediately suspend those additional duties for up to 180 days. 86 FR 30361 (June 7, 2021) (Austria); 86 FR 30350 (June 7, 2021) (Italy); 86 FR 30358 (June 7, 2021) (Spain); 86 FR 30364 (June 7, 2021) (United Kingdom).

II. OECD/G20 Negotiations

One-hundred forty-one jurisdictions are engaged in international tax negotiations under the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting. On October 8, 2021, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom joined the United States and 130 other participants in reaching political agreement on a Statement on a Two-Pillar Solution to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy. OECD/G20 Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Project, *Statement on a Two-Pillar Solution to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy* (Oct. 8, 2021) at <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-on-a-two-pillar-solution-to-address-the-tax-challenges-arising-from-the-digitalisation-of-the-economy-october-2021.pdf> (the OECD/G20 Two-Pillar Solution). The statement provides that Pillar 1 will be implemented through a multilateral convention. With respect to DSTs, the statement provides:

The Multilateral Convention (MLC) will require all parties to remove all Digital Services Taxes and other relevant similar measures with respect to all companies, and to commit not to introduce such measures in the future. No newly enacted Digital Services Taxes or other relevant similar measures will be imposed on any company from 8 October 2021 and until the earlier of 31 December 2023 or the coming into force of the MLC. The modality for the removal of existing Digital Services Taxes and other relevant similar measures will be appropriately coordinated.

III. Joint Statement

On October 21, 2021, the United States, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom issued a joint statement that describes a political compromise reached among these countries on a transitional approach to existing Unilateral Measures while implementing Pillar 1. *Joint Statement from the United States, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom*