

## Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation:

1. *Quality of the program idea:* Proposals should be substantive, well thought out, focused on issues of demonstrable relevance to all proposed participants, and responsive, in general, to the exchange suggestions and guidelines provided above.

2. *Implementation Plan and Ability to Achieve Objectives:* A detailed project implementation plan should establish a clear and logical connection between the interest, the expertise, and the logistic capacity of the applicant and the objectives to be achieved. The plan should discuss, in concrete terms, how the institution proposes to achieve the objectives. Institutional resources—including personnel—assigned to the project should be adequate and appropriate to achieve project objectives. The substance of workshops and site visits should be included as an attachment, and the responsibilities of U.S. participants and in-country partners should be clearly described.

3. *Institution's Record/Ability:* Proposals should include an institutional record of successful exchange programs, with reference to responsible fiscal management and full compliance with reporting requirements. The Bureau will consider the demonstrated potential of new applicants and will evaluate the performance record of prior recipients of Bureau grants as reported by the Bureau grant staff.

4. *Follow-on Activities:* Proposals should provide a plan for sustained follow-on activity (building on the linkages developed under the grant and the activities initially funded by the grant, after grant funds have been depleted), ensuring that Bureau-supported projects are not isolated events.

5. *Project Evaluation/Monitoring:* Proposals should include a plan to monitor and evaluate the project's implementation, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. Reports should include both accomplishments and problems encountered. A discussion of survey methodology or other disclosure/measurement techniques, plus a description of how outcomes are defined in terms of the project's original objectives, is recommended. Successful applicants will be expected to submit a report after each project component is

concluded or semi-annually, whichever is less frequent.

6. *Impact:* Proposed projects should, through the establishment of substantive, sustainable individual and institutional linkages and through encouraging maximum sharing of information and cross-boundary cooperation, enhance mutual understanding among communities and societies.

7. *Cost Effectiveness and Cost Sharing:* Administrative costs should be kept low. Proposal budgets that provide evidence of cost sharing comprised of cash or in-kind contributions, representing 33 percent or more of the total cost of the exchange will be given priority consideration. Cost sharing may be derived from diverse sources, including private-sector contributions and/or direct institutional support.

8. *Support for Diversity:* Proposals should demonstrate support for the Bureau's policy on diversity. Features relevant to this policy should be cited in program implementation (selection of participants, program venue, and program evaluation), program content, and program administration.

## Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries \* \* \*; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations \* \* \* and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program above is provided through legislation.

## Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will

be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

## Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: June 5, 2000.

**Evelyn S. Lieberman,**

*Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, U.S. Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 00-14666 Filed 6-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-11-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Trade Policy Staff Committee; Public Comments on Proposed United States- Jordan Free Trade Agreement

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This publication gives notice that United States intends to conduct negotiations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to conclude a free trade agreement. The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is requesting written comments from the public to assist the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in formulating negotiating objectives for the agreement and to provide advice on how specific goods and services and other matters should be treated under the agreement. This publication also provides notice that USTR, through the TPSC, will perform an environmental review of the agreement.

**DATES:** Public comments are due by noon July 17, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For procedural questions concerning public comments, contact Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, TPSC, Office of the USTR, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508 (202) 395-3475. All other questions regarding the negotiations should be addressed to Adam Shub, Director for Middle Eastern Affairs, Office of the USTR (202) 395-3320.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 6, 2000, President Clinton agreed with Jordan's King Abdullah II to negotiate a bilateral free trade agreement. In the negotiations, the United States and Jordan will seek to eliminate duties and commercial barriers to bilateral trade in U.S.- and Jordanian-origin goods and also expect to address trade in services, trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights, trade-related

environmental and labor matters, and other issues.

Written comments with as much specificity as possible, including data, views and arguments, are invited on:

(a) General and commodity-specific negotiating objectives for the agreement.

(b) Economic costs and benefit to U.S. producers and consumers of removal of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to U.S.-Jordan trade.

(c) Treatment of specific goods (described by Harmonized System tariff numbers) under the agreement, including comments on (1) product specific import or export interests or barriers, (2) experience with particular measures that should be addressed in the negotiations, and (3) in the case of articles for which immediate elimination of tariffs is not appropriate, recommended staging schedule for such elimination.

(d) Adequacy of existing customs measures to ensure Jordanian origin of imported goods, and appropriate rules of origin for goods entering the United States under the agreement.

(e) Proposals for service sectors to be addressed in the agreement, existing barriers to trade in those sectors, and economic costs and benefits of removing such barriers.

(f) Relevant trade-related intellectual property rights issues that should be addressed in the negotiations.

(g) Relevant trade-related environmental and labor issues that should be addressed in the negotiations.

(h) Possible environmental effects of the agreement.

USTR, through the TPSC, will perform an environmental review of the proposed agreement pursuant to Executive order 13141, 64 FR 63169.

Comments identifying as present or potential trade barriers laws or regulations that are not primarily trade-related should address the economic, political and social objectives of such regulations and the degree to which they discriminate against producers of the other country.

#### Written Comments

Persons submitting written comments should provide twenty (20) copies no later than noon, July 17, 2000, to Gloria Blue at address listed above. Where possible, please supplement written comments with a computer disk of the submission containing as much of the technical details as possible either in spreadsheet or word processing table format, with each tariff line/services sector in a separate cell. The disk should have a label identifying the software used and the submitter.

Written comments submitted in connection with this request, except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6, will be available for public inspection in the USTR Reading Room (Room 101) at the address noted above. An appointment to review the file may be made by calling Brenda Webb at (202) 395-6186. The Reading Room is open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Business confidential information, including any information submitted on disks, will be subject to the requirements of 15 CFR 2003.6. Any business confidential material must be clearly marked as such on the cover letter or page and each succeeding page, and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary thereof. If the submission contains business confidential information, twenty copies of a public version that does not contain confidential information, must be submitted. A justification as to why the information contained in the submission should be treated confidentially must be included in the submission. In addition, any submissions containing business confidential information must be clearly marked "Confidential" at the top and bottom of the cover page (or letter) and each succeeding page of the submission. The version that does not contain confidential information should also be clearly marked, at the top and bottom of each page, "public version" or "non-confidential."

Nancy A. LeMond,  
USTR, Chief of Staff.

[FR Doc. 00-15060 Filed 6-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3901-01-M

#### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/D-175]

#### WTO Dispute Settlement Proceeding Regarding Indian Measures Affecting Trade and Investment in the Motor Vehicle Sector

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative ("USTR" is providing notice of the request for the establishment of a dispute settlement panel under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization ("WTO"), by the United States, to examine Public Notice No. 60

((PN)/97-02) of the Indian Ministry of Commerce, published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, effective 12 December 1997 ("Public Notice 60"); the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act 1992; the Export and Import Policy, 1997-2002; memoranda of understanding signed by the Government of India with manufacturing firms in the motor vehicle sector pursuant to Public Notice No. 60; and certain related Indian legislative and administrative measures. In this dispute, the United States alleges that these measures are inconsistent with the obligations of India under Articles III:4 and XI:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) and Articles 2.1 and 2.2 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures. The USTR invites written comments from the public concerning the issues raised in this dispute.

**DATES:** Although the USTR will accept any comments received during the course of the dispute settlement proceedings, comments should be submitted by July 28, 2000, to be assured of timely consideration by the USTR in preparing its first written submission to the panel.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments to Sandy McKinzy, Monitoring and Enforcement Unit, Office of the General Counsel, Room 122, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20508, Attn: India Motor Vehicle Dispute. Telephone: (202) 395-3582.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven F. Fabry, Associate General Counsel, telephone: (202) 395-3582; Christopher Rosettie, Director for Multilateral Services and Investment Affairs, telephone: (202) 395-7271; or Joseph Damond, telephone: (202) 395-6813.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 127(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA) (19 U.S.C. 3537(b)(1)), the USTR is providing notice that on May 15, 2000, the United States submitted a request for the establishment of a WTO dispute settlement panel to examine the United States' claim that certain Indian measures affecting trade and investment in the motor vehicle sector are inconsistent with India's obligations under the GATT 1994 and the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures. The WTO Dispute Settlement Body is likely to establish a dispute settlement panel no later than the end of July, 2000. Under normal circumstances, the panel, which will