

economic, social, and program characteristics. These data are used to support program and legislative planning; serve as important sources for program evaluation, research, and administrative information within SSA; and serve as the basis for research by other Federal, State, and local government agencies, universities, and private research organizations.

J. The Division of Disability Research (TGBK).

1. Plans, directs and implements a wide range of studies and analyses, utilizing data from surveys and administrative records, on the national disabled population, disability applicants, and disability beneficiaries.

2. Develops research in response to disability program issues.

3. Provides a wide variety of management statistical services to SSA operating and policy components.

K. The Division of Policy Evaluation (TGBL).

1. Ensures that SSA's policy evaluation research is technically appropriate, professionally sound, policy relevant, and timely.

2. Plans, directs, and implements a wide variety of research and policy evaluation activities centered upon programs, policies, potential policy changes and the impact on current and future beneficiaries and programs costs.

Dated: August 14, 2000.

Paul D. Barnes,

Deputy Commissioner for Human Resources.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended; Computer Matching Program (SSA (Social Security Administration/Office of Personnel Management (OPM)) Match Numbers 1005, 1019, 1020, 1021

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice of computer matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, as amended, this notice announces a computer matching program that SSA plans to conduct with OPM.

DATES: SSA will file a report of the subject matching program with the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight of the House of Representatives, and the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and

Budget (OMB). The matching program will be effective as indicated below.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may comment on this notice by either telefax to (410) 966-2935 or writing to the Associate Commissioner, Office of Program Support, 2-Q-16 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. All comments received will be available for public inspection at this address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Associate Commissioner for Program Support as shown above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. General

The Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (Public Law (Pub. L.) 100-503), amended the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) by describing the manner in which computer matching involving Federal agencies could be performed and adding certain protections for individuals applying for and receiving Federal benefits. Section 7201 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-508) further amended the Privacy Act regarding protections for such individuals. The Privacy Act, as amended, regulates the use of computer matching by Federal agencies when records in a system of records are matched with other Federal, State, or local government records.

It requires Federal agencies involved in computer matching programs to:

(1) Negotiate written agreements with the other agency or agencies participating in the matching programs;

(2) Obtain the Data Integrity Boards' approval of the match agreements;

(3) Furnish detailed reports about matching programs to Congress and OMB;

(4) Notify applicants and beneficiaries that their records are subject to matching; and

(5) Verify match findings before reducing, suspending, terminating, or denying an individual's benefits or payments.

B. SSA Computer Matches Subject to the Privacy Act

We have taken action to ensure that all of SSA's computer matching programs comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act, as amended.

Dated: August 28, 2000.

Susan M. Daniels,

Deputy Commissioner for Disability and Income Security Programs.

Notice of Computer Matching Program, Social Security Administration (SSA) With the Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

A. Participating Agencies

SSA and OPM.

B. Purpose of the Matching Program

This matching program will have four separate components. The purposes of each of these parts are as follows:

SSA Match 1005: OPM records will be used in a matching program where SSA will match OPM's data with SSA's records to verify the accuracy of information furnished by applicants and recipients concerning eligibility factors for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Special Veterans' Benefits (SVB) programs. The SSI program provides payments to individuals who have income and resources below levels established by law and regulations, and the SVB program provides special benefits to certain World War II veterans.

SSA Match 1019: SSA will match OPM's records of civil service disability benefit and payment data with SSA's records of Social Security disability insurance beneficiaries to identify disability insurance beneficiaries whose benefits should be reduced under the Social Security Act because the disabled worker is receiving a civil service disability annuity benefit. SSA will match the OPM data to verify information provided (or identify such information that should have been provided) by the disabled worker at the time of initially applying for Social Security benefits and on a continuous basis to ensure any reduction in Social Security disability benefits is based on the current civil service disability benefit amount.

SSA Match 1020: OPM records will be used in a matching program where SSA will match OPM's civil service benefit and payment data with SSA's records for disabled and retired annuitants. These annuitants may be subject to the use of a modified benefit computation formula used by SSA under the Social Security Act for certain persons who receive both a civil service benefit and a Social Security retirement or disability benefit. SSA will use the OPM data to verify the pension or annuity information provided (or identify such information that should have been provided) directly to SSA by the retirees/annuitants.

SSA Match 1021: SSA will match OPM's civil service benefit and payment data with SSA's records of beneficiaries receiving Social Security spouse's benefits which are subject to reduction under the Social Security Act when the beneficiary is also receiving a government pension based on employment not covered under that Act. SSA will match the OPM data to verify information provided (or identify such information that should have been provided) by the SSA beneficiary at the time of initially applying for Social Security benefits and on a continuing basis to ensure that any reduction in Social Security benefits is based on the current pension amount.

C. Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

SSA Match 1005: Section 1631(e)(1)(B) and (f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1383 (e)(1)(B) and (f)) for the SSI program; 42 U.S.C. 1001–1013 for the SVB program.

SSA Match 1019: Section 224 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 424a).

SSA Match 1020: Sections 215 (a)(7) and 215 (d)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 415 (a)(7) and 415 (d)(3)).

SSA Match 1021: Section 202 (b)(4)(A), (c)(2)(A), (e)(7)(A), (f)(2)(A), and (g)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402 (b)(4)(A), (c)(2)(A), (e)(7)(A), (f)(2)(A) and (g)(4)(A)).

D. Categories of Records and Individuals Covered by the Match

OPM will provide SSA with an electronic file extracted from OPM's Annuity and Survivor Master File. The extracted file will contain information about each new annuitant and annuitants whose pension amount has changed. Each record on the OPM file will be matched to SSA's Master Beneficiary Record or Supplemental Security Income and Special Veterans' Benefits Record for the purposes described above in Section B.

E. Inclusive Dates of the Match

The matching program shall become effective upon the signing of the agreement by both parties to the agreement and approval of the agreement by the Data Integrity Boards of the respective agencies, but no sooner than 40 days after notice of this matching program is sent to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget or 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, whichever is later. The matching program will continue for 18 months from the effective date and may be

extended for an additional 12 months thereafter, if certain conditions are met.

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Generalized System of Preferences
(GSP); Worker Rights; Deadline for
Submitting Public Comment on
Withdrawal of Duty-Free Treatment of
Certain Products Imported From
Swaziland**

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

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public that because Swaziland has not taken sufficient steps to provide internationally recognized worker rights, the U.S. Government is preparing to withdraw duty-free treatment accorded to imports from Swaziland under the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and sets forth the deadline for submitting public comments. All GSP eligible products imported from Swaziland would be affected.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Room 518, Washington, DC 20508 (Tel. 202/395–6971). Public versions of all documents relating to this review may be seen by appointment in the USTR public Reading Room between 9:30–12 a.m. and 1–4 p.m. (Tel. 202/395–6186).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The GSP program is authorized pursuant to Title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (“the Trade Act”) (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*). The GSP program grants duty-free treatment to designated eligible articles that are imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. Once granted, GSP benefits may be withdrawn, suspended or limited by the President with respect to any article or with respect to any country. In making this determination, the President must consider several factors, one of which is whether or not such country has taken or is taking steps to afford to workers in that country (including any designated zone in that country) internationally recognized worker rights (19 U.S.C. 2462(c)(7)). Swaziland is a beneficiary of the GSP program. In 1999, nearly all imports from Swaziland benefitted from GSP.

The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations filed a petition from USTR in February 1997 contending that Swaziland was not providing internationally recognized worker rights, particularly the rights to associated and bargain collectively. The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) agreed.

Subsequently, with encouragement from the United States and technical assistance from the International Labor Organization (ILO), Swaziland developed new industrial relations legislation consistent with internationally recognized worker rights. After the Swaziland legislature adopted the new law, however, the legislation was modified in a manner that makes it inconsistent with ILO conventions on the rights to associate and bargain collectively. Swaziland has not put the modified legislation into effect.

Swaziland's enactment of ILO inconsistent legislation has led the TPSC to conclude that Swaziland has made no appreciable progress toward affording internationally recognized worker rights. As a result, the TPSC is seeking public comment on the impact of suspending duty-free treatment for articles imported from Swaziland.

Opportunities for Public Comment and Inspection of Comments

The GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC invites comments in support of, or in opposition to, withdrawal of duty-free treatment on imports from Swaziland under the GSP program. The deadline for submissions is 5 PM on Friday, September 29, 2000.

Comments must be submitted in 15 copies, in English, to the Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee, Trade Policy Staff Committee, 600 17th Street, NW., Room 513, Washington, DC 20508. Information and comments will be subject to public inspection by appointment with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room, except for information granted “business confidential” status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6 and 2007.7. If the document contains business confidential information, 15 copies of a nonconfidential version of the submission along with 15 copies of the confidential version must be submitted. The business confidential version of the submission should be clearly marked “Submitted in Confidence” at the top and bottom of each and every page of the document. A nonconfidential summary of the business confidential information must be included with the business confidential submission, along