

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****RIN 0648–XB48****Marine Mammals; File No. 932–1489**

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the NMFS Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program has been issued an amendment to scientific research and enhancement Permit No. 932–1489–08.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s): see

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy Sloan, Dr. Tammy Adams, or Carrie Hubard, (301)713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222–226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 932–1489–08 (70 FR 38883) authorizes the NMFS Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program to carry out activities pursuant to Title IV of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1421 *et seq.*), including activities directed on threatened and endangered marine mammals, and import and export activities. This amendment (Permit No. 932–1489–09) extends the expiration date of the permit one year, to June 30, 2008.

Issuance of this permit amendment, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit amendment: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

The amendment and related documents are available for review in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713–2289; fax (301)427–2521;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115–0700; phone (206)526–6150; fax (206)526–6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668; phone (907)586–7221; fax (907)586–7249;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4213; phone (562)980–4001; fax (562)980–4018;

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814–4700; phone (808)973–2935; fax (808)973–2941;

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930–2298; phone (978)281–9300; fax (978)281–9394; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701; phone (727)824–5312; fax (727)824–5309.

Dated: July 12, 2007.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E7–13949 Filed 7–18–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS
Determination Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

July 13, 2007.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Directive to the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

SUMMARY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that certain textile and apparel goods from South Africa shall be treated as “handloomed, handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic printed fabrics” and qualify for preferential treatment under the African Growth and Opportunity Act. Imports of eligible products from South Africa with an appropriate visa will qualify for duty-free treatment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 30, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anna Flaaten, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Sections 112(a) and 112(b)(6) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106–200) (“AGOA”), as amended by section 7(c) of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108–274) (“AGOA Acceleration Act”) (19 U.S.C. §§ 3721(a) and (b)(6)); Sections 2 and 5 of Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001; Sections 25–27 and Paras. 13–14 of Presidential Proclamation 7912 of June 29, 2005.

AGOA provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, including handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles of a beneficiary country that are certified as such by the competent authority in the beneficiary country. The AGOA Acceleration Act further expanded AGOA by adding ethnic printed fabrics to the list of textile and apparel products made in the beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries that may be eligible for the preferential treatment described in section 112(a) of the AGOA. In Executive Order 13191 (January 17, 2001) and Presidential Proclamation 7912 (June 29, 2005), the President authorized CITA to consult with beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and to determine which, if any, particular textile and apparel goods shall be treated as being handloomed, handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic printed fabrics. (66 FR 7271–72 and 70 FR 37959, 37961 & 63).

In a letter to the Commissioner of Customs dated January 18, 2001, the United States Trade Representative directed Customs to require that importers provide an appropriate export visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country to obtain preferential treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of the visa number corresponds to one of nine groupings of textile and apparel products that are eligible for preferential tariff treatment. Grouping “9” is reserved for handmade, handloomed, folklore articles, or ethnic printed fabrics.

CITA has consulted with South African authorities and has determined that handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles (e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, place mats, and tablecloths), handmade articles made from handloomed fabrics, and the ethnic printed fabrics described in Annex A to this notice, if produced in and exported from South Africa, are eligible for preferential tariff treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA, as amended. After further consultations with South African authorities, CITA

may determine that additional textile and apparel goods shall be treated as folklore articles. In the letter published below, CITA directs the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to allow duty-free entry of such products under U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule subheading 9819.11.27 if accompanied by an appropriate AGOA visa in grouping "9".

R. Matthew Priest,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

July 13, 2007.

Commissioner of Customs,
U.S. Customs and Border Protection,
Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: The Committee for the Implementation of Textiles Agreements ("CITA"), pursuant to Sections 112(a) and (b)(6) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) ("AGOA"), as amended by Section 7(c) of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-274) ("AGOA Acceleration Act") (19 U.S.C. §§ 3721(a) and (b)(6)), Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001, and Presidential Proclamation 7912 of June 29, 2005, has determined, effective on July 30, 2007, that the following articles shall be treated as "handloomed, handmade, folklore articles, and ethnic printed fabrics" under the AGOA: (a) handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles (e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats, and tablecloths), and handmade articles made from handloomed fabrics, if made in South Africa from fabric handloomed in South Africa; and (b) ethnic printed fabrics described in Annex A, if made in South Africa. Such articles are eligible for duty-free treatment only if entered under subheading 9819.11.27 and accompanied by a properly completed visa for product grouping "9", in accordance with the provisions of the Visa Arrangement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the United States Concerning Textile and Apparel Articles Claiming Preferential Tariff Treatment under Section 112 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000. After further consultations with South African authorities, CITA may determine that additional textile and apparel goods shall be treated as folklore articles.

Sincerely,
R. Matthew Priest,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

ANNEX A: South African Ethnic Printed Fabrics

Each ethnic print must meet all of the criteria listed below:

- A) selvedge on both edges
- B) width of less than 50 inches

- C) classifiable under subheading 5208.52.30 ¹ or 5208.52.40 ² of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States
- D) contains designs, symbols, and other characteristics of African prints normally produced for and sold in Africa by the piece.
- E) made from fabric woven in the U.S. using U.S. yarn or woven in one or more eligible sub-Saharan beneficiary countries using U.S. or African yarn
- F) printed, including waxed, in one or more eligible sub-Saharan beneficiary countries

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BILLING CODE 3510-DR-S

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 17, 2007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the

information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: July 12, 2007.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: New.

Title: Assessment Accommodations for English Language Learners.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Individuals or household.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 3,667.

Burden Hours: 397.

Abstract: This study will examine the effect of a test accommodation and its impact on the validity of assessments for English language learners (ELLs). Specifically, it will examine the ways in which linguistic modification affects students' ability to access content (e.g. math) during testing. Linguistic modification is theory-based process in which the language in test items, directions, and/or response options are modified in ways that clarify and simplify the text without simplifying or significantly altering the construct tested. By comparing the effects of linguistic modification on the performance of ELL students with that of English language proficient general education students without disabilities (non-ELL/non-SD), this study aims to increase understanding of the effects of an accommodation—one that holds promise as a means of decreasing the achievement gap between non-ELL/non-SD and ELL students—on construct validity, differential validity, and incremental validity of achievement test scores. While the initial phase of this study focuses on instrument refinement and validation, the second phase uses experimental design to examine the effectiveness of this accommodation for

¹ printed plain weave fabrics of cotton, 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing over 100g/m² but not more than 200 g/m², of yarn number 42 or lower

² printed plain weave fabrics of cotton, 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing over 100g/m² but not more than 200g/m², of yarn numbers 43-68