

Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Objectives and Duties

1. The Committee shall review and make recommendations regarding general policy for NIST, its organization, its budget, and its programs, within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress.

2. The Committee functions solely as an advisory body, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

3. The Committee shall report to the Director of NIST.

4. The Committee shall provide a written annual report, through the Director of NIST, to the Secretary of Commerce for submission to the Congress on or before January 31 each year. Such report shall deal essentially, though not necessarily exclusively, with policy issues or matters which affect the Institute, or with which the Committee in its official role as the private sector policy adviser of the Institute is concerned. Each such report shall identify areas of research and research techniques of the Institute of potential importance to the long-term competitiveness of United States industry, which could be used to assist United States enterprises and United States industrial joint research and development ventures. The Committee shall submit to the Secretary and the Congress such additional reports on specific policy matters as it deems appropriate.

Membership

1. The Committee is composed of fifteen members that provide representation of a cross-section of traditional and emerging United States industries. Members shall be selected solely on the basis of established records of distinguished service and shall be eminent in one or more field such as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations. No employee of the Federal Government shall serve as a member of the Committee.

2. The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall appoint the members of the Committee, and they will be selected on a clear, standardized basis, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidance.

Miscellaneous

1. Members of the VCAT are not paid for their service, but will, upon request,

be allowed travel expenses in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5701 et seq., while attending meetings of the Committee or of its subcommittees, or while otherwise performing duties at the request of the chairperson, while away from their homes or a regular place of business.

2. Meetings of the VCAT take place in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, usually at the NIST headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and once each year at the NIST headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. Meetings are one or two days in duration and are held quarterly.

3. Committee meetings are open to the public except for approximately one hour, usually at the beginning of the meeting, a closed session is held in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6), because divulging information discussed in those portions of the meetings is likely to reveal information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. All other portions of the meetings are open to the public.

Nomination Information

1. Nominations are sought from all fields described above.

2. Nominees should have established records of distinguished service and shall be eminent in fields such as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment and international relations. The category (field of eminence) for which the candidate is qualified should be specified in the nomination letter. Nominations for a particular category should come from organizations or individuals within that category. A summary of the candidate's qualifications should be included with the nomination, including (where applicable) current or former service on federal advisory boards and federal employment. In addition, each nomination letter should state that the person agrees to the nomination, acknowledge the responsibilities of serving on the VCAT, and will actively participate in good faith in the tasks of the VCAT. Besides participation at meetings, it is desired that members be able to devote the equivalent of two days between meetings to either developing or researching topics of potential interest, and so forth in furtherance of their Committee duties.

3. The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse VCAT membership.

Dated: August 13, 2001.

Karen H. Brown,
Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081001F]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on September 5-9, 2001. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: All meetings will be held at the Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, September 5, and continue through Thursday, September 6. The Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Thursday, September 6, and continue through Saturday, September 8, 2001. The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Friday, September 7, continuing through Sunday, September 9, 2001. All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions which may be held during the week at which the Council may discuss personnel issues and/or current litigation.

Council: The sole purpose of these meetings is to review the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) and associated Draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) for Steller sea lion protection measures in the Federal groundfish fisheries off Alaska, and send them out for public review. The agenda for the SSC, AP, and Council will consist of staff reports on Steller sea

lion issues and initial review of Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives for management of the 2002 Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish fisheries. Final action will be taken at the Council's October 3–8, 2001 meeting in Seattle, Washington.

Newly-appointed Council members will also be sworn in at the meeting and the Council will elect a Chair and Vice-chair for the next year.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen at 907–271–2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 10, 2001.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 01–20919 Filed 8–17–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Commission On Ocean Policy Inaugural Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, DOC, on behalf of Council on Environmental Quality and the Commission on Ocean Policy.

ACTION: Notice of Inaugural Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: On behalf of the recently appointed Commission on Ocean Policy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, is hereby announcing the Commission's first public meeting. The first meeting will be on Monday and Tuesday, September 17 and 18, 2001. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on September 17, and conclude at 5 p.m. The Commission will

reconvene at 9 a.m. on September 18 and meet until 5p.m. The meeting will be held in the U.S. Department of Commerce auditorium, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC.

The Commission on Ocean Policy is holding this public meeting pursuant to requirements under the Oceans Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–256, Section 3(e)(1)(E)). This is the first meeting of the Commission on Ocean Policy. The agenda will include welcoming remarks, an overview of the Oceans Act, discussion of the Commission's responsibilities, and organizing the efforts of the Commission. Further information is available at the following preliminary Web site, <http://oceancommission.gov>, which will be available on or before Friday, September 7, 2001.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, is providing this notice at the request of the Council on Environmental Quality and under legislation providing FY1998 appropriations for NOAA, H.R. 2267 (Public Law 105–119), and the accompanying conference report (105–405). The report specifies that funding has been appropriated to NOAA's National Ocean Service "to provide support for the Commission on Ocean Policy, a commission which will examine both Federal and non-Federal ocean and coastal activities, and report to the Congress and the President."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glen Boledovich, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway, SSMC 4, Room 13313, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301–713–3070 ext. 193, Glenn.Boledovich@noaa.gov.

Jamison S. Hawkins,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 010731195–1195–01]

RIN 0651–AB25

Notice of Hearing and Request for Comments on Draft Convention on Jurisdiction and Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Hearing and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The Hague Conference on Private International Law is negotiating a Convention designed to create common jurisdiction rules for international civil and commercial cases and to provide for international recognition and enforcement of judgments issued under these rules. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is seeking views of the public on recent developments on this effort. Interested members of the public are invited to testify at a hearing to be held September 11, 2001, and to present written comments on any of the topics outlined in the supplementary information section of this notice or otherwise related to the proposed Convention.

DATES: A public hearing will be held on September 11, 2001, starting at 9:30 a.m. and ending no later than 5:00 p.m. Those wishing to testify must request an opportunity to do so no later than August 31, 2001. Speakers may provide a written copy of their testimony for inclusion in the record. Written comments should be submitted on or before October 19, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The September 11 hearing will be held in the Patent Theater located on the Second Floor of Crystal Park 2, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Persons interested in testifying should send their request to Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Box 4, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231, marked to the attention of Angie Reilly. Requests may also be submitted by facsimile transmission to (703) 305–8885 or by electronic mail through the Internet to angie.reilly@uspto.gov.

Persons interested in submitting written comments should send their comments to Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Box 4, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231, marked to the attention of Velica Steadman. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile transmission to (703) 305–8885 or by electronic mail through the Internet to velica.steadman@uspto.gov. All comments will be maintained for public inspection in Room 902 of Crystal Park 2, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Written comments in electronic form will be made available via the USPTO's World Wide Web site at <http://www.uspto.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Lucas by telephone at (703) 305–9300, by facsimile at (703) 305–