

(1) the claimant establishes that, at the time he or she returned to work and thereafter, the impairment was still expected to last for at least 12 consecutive months from the date of onset;

(2) the claimant returns to work after the waiting period (if a waiting period is applicable) but within the 12-month period following the established onset date; and

(3) the return to work demonstrating an ability to engage in substantial gainful activity occurs either before or after approval of the award.

A claim for title XVI benefits based on disability in which the claimant returns to work within 12 months of the established onset date of an impairment which could otherwise be the basis for a finding of disability should be allowed and the claimant granted section 1619 status<sup>6</sup> if the following conditions are met:

(1) The claimant establishes that, at the time he or she returned to work and thereafter, the impairment was still expected to last for at least 12 consecutive months from the date of onset;

(2) The claimant returns to work in a month subsequent to the month of established onset but within the 12-month period following the established onset date;

(3) The claimant is eligible to receive "regular" SSI benefits under section 1611 of the Act (or a federally administered State supplementary payment) based on the impairment (disregarding the effect the claimant's return to work within 12 months after the date of onset would otherwise have on eligibility for such benefits or payment) for at least 1 month in the period preceding the month in which he or she returns to work;

(4) The claimant meets all other nondisability requirements for section 1619 status; and

(5) The return to work demonstrating an ability to engage in substantial

gainful activity occurs either before or after approval of the award.

[FR Doc. 00-29191 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4190-29

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3466]

### Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee will conduct an open meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday, December 11, 2000, in Room 6319, at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. This meeting will discuss the upcoming 44th Session of the Subcommittee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety (SLF) and associated bodies of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) which will be held on September 17-21, 2001, at the IMO Headquarters in London, England.

Items of discussion will include the following:

- Review of results from the previous Session (SLF 43),
- Harmonization of damage stability provisions in the IMO instruments,
- Revision of technical regulations of the 1966 International Load Line Convention,
- Revisions to the Fishing Vessel Safety Code and Voluntary Guidelines.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. Paul Cojeen, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Commandant (G-MSE-2), Room 1308, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 267-2988.

Dated: November 8, 2000.

**Stephen Miller,**

*Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.*

[FR Doc. 00-29244 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3467]

### Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2000, in Room 6103 of the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 2nd Street SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001. The purpose of the meeting is to

finalize preparations for the 32nd Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping, which is scheduled for January 22 to 26, 2001, at IMO Headquarters in London. At this meeting, papers received and the draft U.S. positions will be discussed.

Among other things, the items of particular interest are:

- Training and certification of maritime pilots
- Unlawful practices associated with certificates of competency (*i.e.*, forged certificates)
- Standard Marine Communication Phrases
- Training in the use of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems
- Guidance for training in ballast water management
- Guidance for ships operating in ice-covered waters
- Validation of an IMO model course on assessment of competence
- Guidance associated with the International Convention on Standards of Training,

Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel Convention, as adopted by the 1995 conference; not yet ratified or in force.

Members of the public may attend the meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: LCDR Luke Harden, Commandant (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Room 1210, 2100 2nd Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 267-0229.

Dated: November 8, 2000.

**Stephen Miller,**

*Executive Secretary Shipping Coordinating Committee.*

[FR Doc. 00-29245 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-07-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/DS-58]

### WTO Dispute Settlement Proceeding Regarding Section 609 of Public Law 101-162 Relating to the Protection of Sea Turtles in Shrimp Trawl Fishing Operations

**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 that the government of

<sup>6</sup>Pursuant to statutory amendments made by Public Law 99-643, effective July 1, 1987, the trial work period provisions no longer apply to title XVI disability claims. Beginning July 1, 1987, a disabled individual, who was eligible to receive "regular" SSI benefits under section 1611 of the Act (or a federally administered State supplementary payment) for a month and subsequently has earnings ordinarily considered to represent substantial gainful activity, will move directly to section 1619 status rather than be accorded a trial work period. This Ruling extends to such individuals, *i.e.*, a claim for title XVI benefits based on disability should be allowed and the claimant granted section 1619 status if the claimant would otherwise be eligible for section 1619 status and the same conditions set out above for title II claims based on disability are met.

Malaysia has requested the establishment of a dispute settlement panel under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO) to examine whether the United States has implemented the recommendations and rulings of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in a dispute involving import restrictions under section 609 of Public Law 101-162 (Section 609). Section 609 is intended to promote the conservation of endangered sea turtle species by restricting the importation of shrimp and shrimp products harvested by methods harmful to sea turtles. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the issues raised in the dispute.

**DATES:** Although USTR will accept any submissions received during the course of the dispute settlement proceedings, comments should be submitted on or before November 30, 2000 to be assured of timely consideration by USTR in preparing its first written submission to the panel.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted 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: Dispute Regarding U.S. Sea Turtle Conservation Law. Telephone: (202) 395-3582.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kira Alvarez, Director for Marine Resources and Regional Affairs, (202) 395-7320, or William Busis, Associate General Counsel, (202) 395-3150. For questions concerning the operation of U.S. import restrictions under Section 609, please contact David Hogan, Office of Marine Conservation, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington DC, telephone number (202) 647-2335.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Prior WTO Proceedings**

On November 6, 1998, the WTO DSB adopted the reports of a dispute settlement panel and the WTO Appellate Body in a case brought by India, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand challenging U.S. restrictions on shrimp imports under section 609. The Appellate Body report found that section 609 itself was not inconsistent with U.S. obligations under the WTO Agreement and was, in fact, covered by the WTO provision relating to the conservation of exhaustible natural resources. At the same time, however, the Appellate Body report found that certain aspects of the manner in which

section 609 was being implemented, in their cumulative effect, were inconsistent with U.S. obligations under the WTO Agreement. The Appellate Body report recommended that the United States revise its implementation of section 609 accordingly.

At the time the dispute settlement panel was established, USTR published a notice inviting public comments on the issues in the dispute. See 62 FR 13,934 (March 24, 1997). The dispute settlement panel and Appellate Body reports are publicly available in the USTR reading room and on the WTO web site ([www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)).

**U.S. Implementation**

In November 1998, and after consultations with Congress and other stakeholders, the United States notified the DSB that the United States intended to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in a manner which is consistent not only with U.S. WTO obligations, but also with the firm commitment of the United States to the protection of endangered sea turtles.

The United States and the other parties to the dispute reached agreement on 13 months as a reasonable period for implementation. The 13-month period ended in December 1999.

In March 1999, the Department of State, which administers section 609, published a notice summarizing steps being taken to implement the DSB recommendations and rulings, and requesting comments on proposed revisions to the guidelines used for making certifications under section 609. See 64 FR 14,481 (March 25, 1999). In July 1999, the Department of State published a notice reviewing and responding to the comments received on its March 1999 notice, and setting forth revised section 609 guidelines. See 64 FR 36,946 (July 8, 1999).

In January 2000, the United States informed the DSB that the United States had implemented the recommendations and rulings of the DSB during the 13-month implementation period. The United States explained that the implementation steps had both responded to the issues raised by the Appellate Body report, and—with the cooperation of the countries in the Indian Ocean region—had advanced efforts to conserve endangered sea turtles. Those implementation steps included the revisions to the Department of State guidelines, efforts to negotiate an agreement with the governments of the Indian Ocean region on the protection of sea turtles, and renewed offers of technical training in sea turtle conservation measures.

**Article 21.5 Proceeding**

On October 23, 2000, the Government of Malaysia—one of the four complaining parties in the prior WTO proceeding—requested that the DSB establish a panel under Article 21.5 of the WTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) to examine whether the United States had implemented the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. Malaysia is claiming that implementation of the DSB recommendations and rulings required the U.S. to remove the import restrictions imposed under section 609.

The DSB has established a dispute settlement panel to consider Malaysia's claim. As provided under the DSU, the panel is composed of the same members as in the prior proceeding. The panel is scheduled to issue its report in mid-March, 2001. Pursuant to an understanding between the United States and Malaysia, either party may request that the WTO Appellate Body review the report of the dispute settlement panel.

The European Communities and the governments of Japan, Ecuador, Australia, India, Thailand, Canada, Mexico, Pakistan, and Hong Kong, China have indicated their interest to participate in the dispute as third parties.

**Invitation for Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the issues raised in the dispute. Comments must be in English and provided in fifteen copies. A person requesting that information contained in a comment submitted by that person be treated as confidential business information must certify that such information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the commenter. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy.

Information or advice contained in a comment submitted, other than business confidential information, may be determined by USTR to be confidential in accordance with section 135(g)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(g)(2)). If the submitter believes that information or advice may qualify as such, the submitter—

(1) Must so designate the information or advice;

(2) Must clearly mark the material as "SUBMITTED IN CONFIDENCE" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy; and

(3) Is encouraged to provide a non-confidential summary of the information or advice.

Pursuant to section 127(e) of the URAA (19 U.S.C. 3537(e)), USTR maintains a file on this dispute settlement proceeding, accessible to the public, in the USTR Reading Room: Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508. The public file includes a listing of any comments received by USTR from the public with respect to the dispute; the U.S. submissions to the panel; the summaries of submissions, to the panel received from other participants in the dispute; as well as the reports of the panel and the Appellate Body. An appointment to review the public file (Docket WTO/DS-58, U.S. Sea Turtle Conservation Law) may be made by calling Brenda Webb, (202) 395-6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**A. Jane Bradley,**

*Assistant United States Trade Representative for Monitoring and Enforcement.*

[FR Doc. 00-29241 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-P

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending October 20, 2000**

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Sections 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days after the filing of the application.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8113.

*Date Filed:* October 17, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* CTC COMP 0314 dated 13 October 2000, Resolution 033f—Local Currency Rate Changes—Pakistan, Intended effective date: 16 October 2000.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8120.

*Date Filed:* October 18, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC COMP 0695 (Re-issue) dated 6 October 2000, Mail Vote 088—Resolution 010j, Special Passenger Amending Resolution to/from Cyprus, Intended effective date: 1 January 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8130.

*Date Filed:* October 18, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC COMP 0706 dated 17 October 2000, Mail Vote 091—Resolution 024d (Amending), Currency Names, Codes, Rounding Units and Acceptability of Currencies, Intended effective date: 1 December 2000.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8166.

*Date Filed:* October 20, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC23 EUR-JK 0059 dated 3 October 2000, Europe-Japan/Korea Resolutions r1-r48, Technical Correction PTC23 EUR-JK 0060 dated 10 October 2000, Minutes—PTC23 EUR-JK 0061 dated 13 October 2000, Tables—PTC23 EUR-JK FARES 0023 dated 6 October 2000, Intended effective date: 1 April 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8167.

*Date Filed:* October 20, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC23 EUR-SWP 0048 dated 13 October 2000, Europe-South West Pacific Resolutions r1-r23, Minutes—PTC23 EUR-SWP 0045 dated 3 October 2000, Tables—PTC23 EUR-SWP FARES 0019 dated 17 October 2000, Intended effective date: 1 April 2001.

**Dorothy Y. Beard,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. 00-29234 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending October 27, 2000**

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days after the filing of the application.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8204.

*Date Filed:* October 27, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC23 AFR-TC3 0108 dated 10 October 2000, TC23/TC123 Africa-TC3 Resolutions r1-r43, PTC23 AFR-TC3 0110 dated 20 October 2000, Technical Correction, Minutes—PTC23 AFR-TC3 0109 dated 20 October 2000, Tables—PTC23 AFR-TC3 FARES 0048 dated 20 October 2000, Intended effective date: 1 April 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8205.

*Date Filed:* October 27, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC23 ME-TC3 0104 dated 3 October 2000, TC23/TC123 Middle East-TC3 Resolutions r1-r52, Minutes—PTC23 ME-TC3 0105 dated 27 October 2000, Tables—PTC23 ME-TC3 FARES 0045 dated 10 October 2000, Intended effective date: 1 April 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8208.

*Date Filed:* October 27, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC1 0166 dated 27 October 2000, Mail Vote 092—Resolution 010k, TC1 Caribbean Special Passenger Amending Resolution, Intended effective date: 15 November 2000.

**Dorothy Y. Beard,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. 00-29236 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending November 3, 2000**

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days after the filing of the application.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8213.

*Date Filed:* October 31, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC123 0116 dated 27 October 2000 (r-1-6), PTC123 0117 dated 27 October 2000 (r-7-9), TC123 North Atlantic Expedited Resolutions, Intended effective dates: 1 December 2000/1 January 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8214.

*Date Filed:* October 31, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC123 0118/0119/0120/0121 dated 27 October 2000, TC123 Mid/South Atlantic Resolutions, Intended effective dates: 1 December 2000/1 January 2001.

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-8244.

*Date Filed:* November 3, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:* PTC COMP 0718 dated 3 November 2000, Mail Vote 093—Resolution 010h, Special Passenger Currency Conversion Resolution—euro, Intended effective date: 1 January 2001.

**Dorothy Y. Beard,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. 00-29237 Filed 11-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P