

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: February 26, 2003.

C. Miller Crouch,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4293]

Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; Notice of Availability of a Draft National Plan of Action To Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing

SUMMARY: The Department of State announces the availability of a draft National Plan of Action (NPOA) developed pursuant to the International Plan of Action (IPOA) to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing, adopted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Ministerial Meeting in February 2001. Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments on the draft NPOA.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than May 31, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the draft NPOA should be submitted to Deirdre Warner-Kramer, Office of Marine Conservation (OES/OMC), Bureau of Oceans, and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-7818, or may be sent via facsimile (fax) to 202-736-7350. An electronic version of the draft is available at <http://www.state.gov/g/oes/ocns/c7983.htm>. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deirdre Warner-Kramer at 202-647-2335, fax 202-736-7350.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States and other members of the international community have experienced a growing incidence of fishing activity that does not respect applicable laws and regulations, including fishing rules adopted at the national and international levels. Examples of such activity include

reflagging of fishing vessels to evade controls, fishing in areas of national jurisdiction without authorization by the coastal State, and failure to report (or misreporting) catches. Such irresponsible fishing activity directly undermines efforts to manage fisheries properly and impedes progress toward the goal of sustainable fisheries.

Under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), a concerted effort was undertaken to develop a comprehensive "toolbox" of measures that States could take, both individually and collectively, to address the problems of IUU fishing. This effort culminated with the adoption in 2001 of the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA).

As its title suggests, the objective of the IPOA is to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing. The principles to guide the pursuit of this objective include: (1) Broad participation and coordination among States, as well as representatives from industry, fishing communities and non-governmental organizations; (2) the phasing-in of action to implement the IPOA on the earliest possible timetable; (3) the use of a comprehensive and integrated approach, so as to address all impacts of IUU fishing; (4) the maintenance of consistency with the conservation and long-term sustainable use of fish stocks and the protection of the environment; (5) transparency; and (6) non-discrimination in form or in fact against any State or its fishing vessels.

The draft U.S. National Plan of Action is organized along the same lines as the IPOA, including sections on All State Responsibilities, Flag State Responsibilities, Coastal State Measures, Port State Measures, Internationally Agreed Market State Measures, Measures to be Implemented Through Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and Special Requirements of Developing States. As envisioned in the IPOA, the United States intends to review the implementation of this National Plan of Action at least every four years after its adoption.

Dated: February 27, 2003.

Margaret F. Hayes,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries, Department of State.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Proposed Measure and Opportunity for Public Comment Pursuant to Section 421 of the Trade Act of 1974: Certain Steel Wire Garment Hangers From the People's Republic of China

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of proposed measure; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The United States International Trade Commission (ITC) has determined, pursuant to section 421(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the Trade Act) (19 U.S.C. 2451(b)(1)), that certain steel wire garment hangers¹ from the People's Republic of China (China) are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities or under such conditions as to cause market disruption to the domestic producers of like or directly competitive products. Pursuant to section 421(h)(1) of the Trade Act, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is publishing notice of proposed restrictions with respect to imports of the subject steel wire garment hangers from China. USTR invites domestic producers, importers, exporters, and other interested parties to submit their views and evidence on the appropriateness of the proposed restrictions and whether they would be in the public interest. USTR also invites interested parties to participate in a public hearing (if requested).

DATES: Requests for USTR to hold a public hearing are due by March 18, 2003. Written comments and requests to testify at any public hearing are due by March 20, 2003. If a request for USTR

¹ For purposes of its investigation, the ITC considered certain steel wire garment hangers to consist of garment hangers, fabricated from steel wire in gauges from 9 to 17, inclusive (3.77 to 1.37 millimeters, inclusive), whether or not galvanized or painted, whether or not coated with latex or epoxy or other similar gripping materials, and whether or not fashioned with paper covers or capes (with or without printing) and/or nonslip features such as saddles, tubes, or struts. After fabrication, such hangers are in lengths from 7 to 20 inches, inclusive (177.8 to 508 millimeters, inclusive), and the hanger's length or bottom bar is composed of steel wire and/or saddles, tubes, or struts. The product may also be identified by its commercial designation, referring to the shape and/or style of the hanger or the garment for which it is intended, including but not limited to Shirt, Suit, Strut, and Caped hangers. Specifically excluded are wooden, plastic, aluminum, and other garment hangers that are covered under separate subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTS). The products subject to the investigation are classified in subheading 7326.20.00 of the HTS and reported under statistical reporting number 7326.20.0020.