

Dated: November 9, 2016.

Lawrence Romo,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2016-27920 Filed 11-18-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8015-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of open Federal Interagency Task Force meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is issuing this notice to announce the location, date, time and agenda for the next meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES AND TIME: Wednesday, December 7, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., Washington, DC 20416.

Where: Eisenhower Conference Room, Side B, located on the Concourse level.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), SBA announces the meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development (Task Force). The Task Force is established pursuant to Executive Order 13540 to coordinate the efforts of Federal agencies to improve capital, business development opportunities, and pre-established federal contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans. Moreover, the Task Force shall coordinate administrative and regulatory activities and develop proposals relating to "six focus areas": (1) Improving capital access and capacity of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans through loans, surety bonding, and franchising; (2) ensuring achievement of the pre-established Federal contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans through expanded mentor-protégé assistance and matching such small business concerns with contracting opportunities; (3) increasing the integrity of certifications of status as a small business concern owned and controlled by a veteran or service-disabled veteran; (4) reducing paperwork and administrative burdens

on veterans in accessing business development and entrepreneurship opportunities; (5) increasing and improving training and counseling services provided to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; and (6) making other improvements relating to the support for veterans business development by the Federal Government.

Additional Information: This meeting is open to the public. Advance notice of attendance is requested. Anyone wishing to attend and/or make comments to the Task Force must contact SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development no later than December 6, 2016 at veteransbusiness@sba.gov. Comments for the record should be applicable to the "six focus areas" of the Task Force and will be limited to five minutes in the interest of time and to accommodate as many participants as possible. Written comments should also be sent to the above email no later than December 6, 2016. Special accommodations requests should also be directed to SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development at (202) 205-6773 or to veteransbusiness@sba.gov. For more information on veteran owned small business programs, please visit www.sba.gov/vets.

Dated: November 9, 2016.

Miguel J. L'Heureux,

SBA Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016-27884 Filed 11-18-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9795]

U.S. National Commission for UNESCO; Notice of Meeting

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the U.S. National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will take place on Monday, December 12, 2016, at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC (2201 C Street NW.). The Commission will hold a series of informational plenary, subject-specific committee, and thematic breakout sessions and discuss final recommendations, which will be open to the public 9:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and from 12:30 p.m. to approximately 4:30 p.m.

Members of the public who wish to attend any of these meetings or who need reasonable accommodation should contact the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO at the email address below no later than Thursday, December 8,

2016 for further information about admission, as seating is limited. Those who wish to make oral comments during the public comment section held during the afternoon session should request to be scheduled by Thursday, December 8, 2016. Each individual will be limited to five minutes, with the total oral comment period not exceeding thirty minutes.

Access to the building is strictly controlled. For pre-clearance purposes, those planning to attend will need to provide full name, address, date of birth, citizenship, driver's license or passport number, and email address. This information will greatly facilitate entry into the building.

Written comments should be submitted by Tuesday, December 6, 2016 to allow time for distribution to the Commission members prior to the meeting. The National Commission may be contacted via email at DCUNESCO@state.gov, or via phone at (202) 663-2685. The Web site can be accessed at: <http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/>.

Personal information regarding attendees is requested pursuant to Public Law 99-399 (Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986), as amended; Public Law 107-56 (USA PATRIOT Act); and Executive Order 13356. The purpose of the collection is to validate the identity of individuals who enter Department facilities. The data will be entered into the Visitor Access Control System (VACS-D) database. Please see the Security Records System of Records Notice (State-36) at <https://foia.state.gov/docs/SORN/State-36.pdf> for additional information.

Dated: November 7, 2016.

Allison Wright,

Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2016-27958 Filed 11-18-16; 8:45 am]

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)]

Notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Vacancy

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice of vacancy on federal advisory committee and solicitation of nominations.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) hereby gives notice of one vacancy on its Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) for a representative of private railcar owners, lessors, or

manufacturers. The Board is soliciting suggestions from the public for a candidate to fill this vacancy.

DATES: Suggestions for a candidate for membership on RETAC are due December 21, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Suggestions may be submitted either via the Board's e-filing format or in paper format. Any person using e-filing should attach a document and otherwise comply with the instructions at the E-FILING link on the Board's Web site, at <http://www.stb.gov>. Any person submitting a filing in paper format should send the original and 10 copies to: Surface Transportation Board, Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2), 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jason Wolfe at 202-245-0239.

[Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board exercises broad authority over transportation by rail carriers, including rates and services (49 U.S.C. 10701-10747, 11101-11124), construction, acquisition, operation, and abandonment of railroad lines (49 U.S.C. 10901-10907), and consolidation, merger, or common control arrangements between railroads (49 U.S.C. 10902, 11323-11327).

In 2007, the Board established RETAC as a federal advisory committee consisting of a balanced cross-section of energy and rail industry stakeholders to provide independent, candid policy advice to the Board and to foster open, effective communication among the affected interests on issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, railroads, and users of energy resources. RETAC operates under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2, 1-16).

RETAC's membership is balanced and representative of interested and affected parties, consisting of not less than: Five representatives from the Class I railroads; three representatives from Class II and III railroads; three representatives from coal producers; five representatives from electric utilities (including at least one rural electric cooperative and one state- or municipally-owned utility); four representatives from biofuel refiners, processors, or distributors, or biofuel feedstock growers or providers; one representative of the petroleum shipping industry; and, two representatives from private car owners,

car lessors, or car manufacturers. RETAC may also include up to two members with relevant experience but not necessarily affiliated with one of the aforementioned industries or sectors. (At present, the at-large seats are occupied by representatives of railway labor and the downstream petroleum production industry.) Members are selected by the Chairman of the Board with the concurrence of a majority of the Board. The Chairman may invite representatives from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy, and Transportation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to serve on RETAC in advisory capacities as *ex officio* (non-voting) members. The three members of the Board serve as *ex officio* members of the Committee.

RETAC meets at least twice per year. Meetings are generally held at the Board's headquarters in Washington, DC, but may be held in other locations. Members of RETAC serve without compensation and without reimbursement of travel expenses unless reimbursement of such expenses is authorized in advance by the Board's Managing Director. Further information about RETAC is available on the RETAC page of the Board's Web site at <http://www.stb.gov/stb/rail/retac.html>.

The Board is soliciting nominations from the public for a candidate to fill one vacancy on RETAC for a representative of private railcar owners, lessors, or manufacturers, for a three-year term ending September 30, 2019. According to revised guidance issued by the Office of Management and Budget, it is permissible for federally registered lobbyists to serve on advisory committees, such as RETAC, as long as they do so in a representative capacity, rather than an individual capacity. See *Revised Guidance on Appointment of Lobbyists to Fed. Advisory Comms., Bds., & Comm'ns*, 79 FR 47,482 (Aug. 13, 2014). Members of RETAC are appointed to serve in a representative capacity.

Nominations for a candidate to fill this vacancy should be submitted in letter form and should include: (1) The name of the candidate; (2) the interest the candidate will represent; (3) a summary of the candidate's experience and qualifications for the position; (4) a representation that the candidate is willing to serve as a member of RETAC; and, (5) a statement that the candidate agrees to serve in a representative capacity. Suggestions for a candidate for membership on RETAC should be filed with the Board by December 21, 2016. Please note that submissions will be available to the public at the Board's offices and posted on the Board's Web

site under Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2).

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1321; 49 U.S.C. 11101; 49 U.S.C. 11121.

Decided: November 16, 2016.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Brendetta S. Jones,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2016-27963 Filed 11-18-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket Number USTR-2016-0023]

Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Initiation of a Review of Argentina for Possible Designation as a Beneficiary Developing Country

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initiation of a review to consider designation of Argentina as a beneficiary developing country under the GSP program, and the schedule for public comments and a public hearing relating to whether Argentina meets the criteria for designation.

DATES: December 23, 2016 at midnight EST: Deadline for submission of comments, pre-hearing briefs, and requests to appear at the January 10, 2017, public hearing.

January 10, 2017: The GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) will convene a public hearing on the GSP eligibility review of Argentina in Rooms 1 and 2, 1724 F Street NW., Washington DC 20508, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

January 24, 2017 at midnight EST: Deadline for submission of post-hearing briefs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, GSP Program, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 1724 F Street NW., Room 514, Washington DC 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395-2974, the fax number is (202) 395-9674, and the email address is GSP@ustr.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The GSP program is authorized by Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461, *et seq.*), as amended (Trade Act), and is implemented in accordance with Executive Order 11888 of November 24, 1975, as modified by subsequent Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations. It provides for duty free treatment of designated