

the ratio of the national average wage index for 2011 (\$42,979.61) to that for 1997 (\$27,426.00) produces the amount of \$1,567.11. We then round this amount to \$1,600. Accordingly, the election worker coverage threshold amount is \$1,600 for 2013.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: Program Nos. 96.001 Social Security-Disability Insurance; 96.002 Social Security-Retirement Insurance; 96.004 Social Security-Survivors Insurance; 96.006 Supplemental Security Income)

Dated: October 23, 2012.

**Michael J. Astrue,**

*Commissioner of Social Security.*

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**BILLING CODE 4191-02-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 8077]

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

The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO will host its Annual Meeting on Monday, November 26, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. E.S.T. The meeting will convene in room 309 of the George Washington University Marvin Center at 800 21st Street NW., Washington, DC.

The meeting will have a series of speakers offering information about UNESCO and the current state of United States engagement with the Organization. The meeting will also feature a public comment session, limited to approximately 15 minutes in total, with two minutes allowed per speaker.

For more information or to arrange to participate in this meeting (including requests for reasonable accommodation), individuals should contact Francine Randolph, Office of UNESCO Affairs, Washington, DC 20037. Telephone (202) 663-0026; Fax (202) 663-0035.

The National Commission may be contacted via email at [DCUNESCO@state.gov](mailto:DCUNESCO@state.gov), or via phone at (202) 663-0026. Its Web site can be accessed at: <http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/>.

Dated: October 19, 2012.

**Kelly O. Siekman,**

*National Commission for UNESCO,  
Department of State.*

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Request for Public Comments To Compile the Reports on Sanitary and Phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice and Request for Comments.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 181 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2241), the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is required to publish annually the Reports on Sanitary and Phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade. With this notice, the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is requesting interested persons to submit comments to assist it in identifying significant sanitary and phytosanitary and standards-related barriers to U.S. exports of goods for inclusion in these two reports.

These reports were published as the 2012 Report on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (2012 SPS Report) and the 2012 Report on Technical Barriers to Trade (2012 TBT Report) respectively. The TPSC invites written comments from the public on issues that USTR should examine in preparing the SPS and TBT Reports.

**DATES:** Public comments are due not later than November 15, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submissions should be made via the Internet at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) under the following dockets (based on the subject matter of the submission):

*SPS Measures:* USTR-2012-0032.

*Standards-related Measures:* USTR-2012-0033.

For alternatives to on-line submissions please contact TBD USTR (202-395-3475). The public is strongly encouraged to file submissions electronically rather than by facsimile or mail.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the SPS Report or substantive questions or comments concerning SPS measures should be directed to Jane Doherty, Director of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Affairs, USTR (202-395-6127). Questions regarding the TBT Report or substantive questions or comments concerning standards-related measures should be directed to Jennifer Stradtman, Director, Technical Barriers to Trade, USTR (202-395-4498).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SPS and TBT Reports set out inventories of SPS and standards-related non-tariff

barriers to trade. These inventories facilitate U.S. negotiations aimed at reducing or eliminating these barriers. The reports also provide a valuable tool in enforcing U.S. trade laws and strengthening the rules-based trading system. The 2012 and earlier SPS and TBT Reports may be found on USTR's Internet Home Page (<http://www.ustr.gov>) under "USTR News" under the tab "Reports".

To ensure compliance with the applicable statutory mandate and the Obama Administration's commitment to focus on the most significant foreign trade barriers, USTR will be guided by the existence of active private sector interest in deciding which restrictions to include in the SPS and TBT Reports.

*Topics on which the TPSC Seeks Information:* To assist USTR in the preparation of the SPS and TBT Reports, commenters should submit information related to: (1) SPS measures; or (2) standards-related measures (including standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures). Such measures should constitute significant foreign trade barriers to U.S. exports.

*SPS and TBT Reports:* On April 2, 2012, USTR released two reports focusing on foreign trade barriers—one on SPS measures (SPS Report) and the other on standards-related measures (TBT report). USTR also released SPS and TBT Reports in 2011 and 2010. These reports serve as tools to bring greater attention and focus to resolving SPS and standards-related measures that may be inconsistent with international trade agreements to which the United States is a party or that otherwise act as significant foreign barriers to U.S. exports. USTR plans to use comments on SPS and standards-related measures submitted pursuant to this notice in producing these two reports.

The following information describing SPS and standards-related measures may help commenters to file submissions on particular foreign trade barriers under the appropriate docket.

*SPS Measures:* Generally, SPS measures are measures applied to protect the life or health of humans, animals, and plants from risks arising from additives, contaminants, pests, toxins, diseases, or disease-carrying and causing organisms. SPS measures can take such forms as specific product or processing standards, requirements for products to be produced in disease-free areas, quarantine regulations, certification or inspection procedures, sampling and testing requirements, health-related labeling measures, maximum permissible pesticide residue