DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 9404]

Notice of Closed Meeting of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee

There will be a closed meeting of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee on Tuesday, February 2 and Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at the Department of State, Annex 5, 2200 C Street NW., Washington, DC.

The Committee will conduct interim reviews of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia Concerning the Imposition of Import Restrictions on Archaeological Material from Cambodia from the Bronze Age through the Khmer Era, and the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Belize Concerning the Imposition of Import Restrictions on Categories of Archaeological Material Representing the Cultural Heritage of Belize from the Pre-Ceramic (Approximately 9000 B.C.), Pre-Classic, Classic, and Post-Classic Periods of the Pre-Columbian Era Through to the Early and Late Colonial Periods. Public comment, oral and written, will be invited at a time in the future should either or both of these Memoranda of Understanding be proposed for extension.

The Committee’s responsibilities are carried out in accordance with provisions of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.). The text of the Act and Memoranda of Understanding, as well as related information, may be found at http://culturalheritage.state.gov.

This meeting will be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) and 19 U.S.C. 2605(b), the latter of which stipulates that “The provisions of the [Cultural Property Advisory] Committee except that the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of section 10 and section 11 of such Act (relating to open meetings, public notice, public participation, and public availability of documents) shall not apply to the Committee, whenever and to the extent it is determined by the President or his designee that the disclosure of matters involved in the Committee’s proceedings would compromise the Government’s negotiating objectives or bargaining positions on the negotiations of any agreement authorized by this chapter.” Pursuant to law, executive order, and delegation of authority, I have made such a determination.

Dated: January 4, 2016.
Evan Ryan,
Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE


AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of hearing and receipt of public comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces petitions submitted in connection with the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Product Review that have been accepted for further review. This notice also sets forth the schedule for submitting comments and for a public hearing associated with the review of these petitions and products.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aimee Larsen, Director for GSP, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW., Washington DC 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395–2974 and the email address is Aimee_B_Larsen@ustr.eop.gov.

DATES: The GSP regulations (15 CFR part 2007) provide the schedule of dates for conducting an annual review unless otherwise specified in a notice published in the Federal Register. The schedule for the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Product Review is set forth below. Notification of any other changes will be published in the Federal Register.

February 19, 2016—Due date for submission of comments, pre-hearing briefs and requests to appear at the GSP Subcommittee Public Hearing on the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Product Review.
March 3–4, 2016—The GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) will convene a public hearing on all petitioned product additions, product removals, and competitive needs limitation (CNL) waiver petitions that were accepted for the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Product Review. The hearing will be held in Rooms 1 and 2, 1724 F Street NW., Washington DC 20508, beginning at 9:30 a.m. each day.

March 25, 2016—Due date for submission of post-hearing comments or briefs in connection with the GSP Subcommittee Public Hearing.

April 2016—The U.S. International Trade Commission is expected to publish a public version of its report providing advice on the probable economic effect of the prospective addition and removal of products and granting of CNL waiver petitions considered as part of 2015/2016 GSP Annual Product Review. Comments from interested parties on the USITC report on these products should be posted on www.regulations.gov in Docket Number USTR–2015–0013 following the instructions provided below and will be due 10 calendar days after the date of the USITC’s publication of the public version of the report.

July 1, 2016—Effective date for any modifications that the President proclaims to the list of articles eligible for duty-free treatment under the GSP resulting from the 2015/2016 Annual Product Review and for determinations related to CNL waivers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The GSP program provides for the duty-free importation of designated articles when imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. The GSP program is authorized by Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461, et seq.), as amended (1974 Act), and is implemented in accordance with Executive Order 11888 of November 24, 1975, as modified by subsequent Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations.

Petitions Requesting Modifications of Product Eligibility

In a notice published in the Federal Register on August 19, 2015 (80 FR 50377), the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) announced the initiation of the 2015/2016 GSP Annual Review and indicated that the interagency GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC was prepared to receive petitions to modify the list of products that are eligible for duty-free treatment under the GSP program and petitions to waive CNLs on imports of certain products from specific beneficiary countries. On November 17, 2015, USTR announced that the deadline for the filing of CNL waiver petitions had been extended to December 4, 2015 (80 FR 73868 and 80 FR 79193). The GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC has reviewed the product and CNL waiver petitions submitted in response to these announcements, and has decided to accept those petitions to add a product to the list of those eligible for duty-free treatment

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