The Bureau has received feedback from industry indicating that the Bureau’s use of disclaimers on its materials causes confusion as to the utility and reliability of the guidance and otherwise diminishes the usefulness of the guidance provided. The Bureau has also received feedback urging the Bureau to modify existing disclaimers.

Bureau disclaimers are printed on, for example, rule summaries, compliance guides, quick reference materials, and other compliance aids. These disclaimers are given orally to industry stakeholders when Bureau staff present in webinars or at industry conferences or respond to questions through the Regulatory Inquiries Function. The particular language used in disclaimers is tailored to the type of guidance being provided. For example, the disclaimers provided within the Bureau’s regulatory implementation and compliance aids generally indicate that the explanation or summary of a regulatory requirement does not apply to all possible circumstances and is not legal advice. Oral disclaimers given through the Bureau’s Regulatory Inquiries Function generally explain that Bureau staff only provide informal responses to regulatory inquiries and that the responses are not intended to serve as legal advice or considered to be an official interpretation of a regulation.

The Bureau has developed different disclaimers for different types of materials as its guidance function has evolved over time, and stakeholders have indicated that some historical formulations are particularly likely to cause confusion. For example, industry stakeholders point to language stating that webinar materials do not bind the Bureau, or create any rights, benefits, or defenses that are enforceable by other parties, as raising questions about whether material presented can be relied upon. They question whether the Bureau would change its interpretation without notice or take action against a party acting in conformity with an interpretation stated in a webinar.

The Bureau is seeking feedback on all aspects of its disclaimers, including the following areas of interest:

20. Taking into consideration the Bureau’s purposes for providing guidance as well as APA requirements discussed above, whether disclaimers are transparent, understandable, and appropriate to the type of guidance being provided.

21. Desired changes to the Bureau’s disclaimer language or approach to disclaimers generally, and whether other Federal agencies have adopted disclaimer language or approaches to disclaimers that would be useful to the Bureau.

22. The variety of Bureau disclaimers currently provided, and whether the Bureau should adopt a single, more generic disclaimer to be used in most instances.

23. Other feedback or suggestions related to the Bureau’s disclaimers.

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 5511(c).

Dated: March 27, 2018.
Mick Mulvaney,
Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

BILLING CODE 4810–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 17–52]

Arms Sales Notification


ACTION: Arms sales notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pamela Young, (703) 697–9107, pamela.a.young14.civ@mail.mil or Kathy Valadez, (703) 697–9217, kathy.a.valadez.civ@mail.mil; DSCA/DSA–RAN.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This 36(b)(1) arms sales notification is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104–164 dated July 21, 1996. The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 17–52 with attached Policy Justification.

Dated: March 27, 2018.
Shelly E. Finke,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.
The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-52, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $106.8 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Hooper
Lieutenant General, USA
Director

Enclosures:
1. Transmittal
2. Policy Justification
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Armed Forces.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Arms Sales Notification


ACTION: Arms sales notice.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This 36(b)(1) arms sales notification is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104–164 dated July 21, 1996. The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 17–60 with attached Policy Justification.

Dated: March 27, 2018.

Shelly E. Finke,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.