

infection by *W. bancrofti* or *B. malayi* include microscopy and immunoassays using serum/plasma extracted from the patient. However, the sensitivity of microscopy detection varies among patients, and existing immunoassays show cross-reactivity with antibodies directed towards other parasites, such as *Onchocerca volvulus* or *Loa loa*, whose geographic distribution can overlap with the LF-causing filarial parasites.

This new technology addresses the limitation of cross-reactivity, presenting an opportunity for a directed assay towards the detection of *W. bancrofti* or *B. malayi*. Preliminary data against sera from LF-affected individuals indicates Wb4 is effective at detecting *B. malayi*. Wb4B, a modified version of recombinant Wb4 that lacks the nineteen (19) amino acid signal sequence of full-length Wb4, appears capable of isolation and purification by traditional molecular biology techniques and shows improved response in immunoassays.

The subject technology, including the antigen sequence for Wb4B and plasmids enabling bacterial, insect, and mammalian cell expression, is available for licensing for commercial development in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404, as well as for further development and evaluation under a research collaboration.

There may be the potential to combine this technology with other NIAID-developed biomarker technologies (Wb123, available for licensing, HHS Ref. No. E-281-2010-0, "Diagnostic Assays and Methods of Use for Detection of Filarial Infection" and Wb5, available for licensing, HHS Ref. No. E-093-2022-0, "Compositions and Methods for Detecting Lymphatic Filariasis") for the development of a multiplex assay for detection of active *W. bancrofti* or *B. malayi* infection for diagnostic or surveillance purposes.

Potential Commercial Applications:

- Diagnostics for *W. bancrofti* and *B. malayi* infection.
- Surveillance for *W. bancrofti* and *B. malayi* prevalence.

Competitive Advantages:

- Increased specificity compared to available diagnostics.
- Differentiation from other parasites with similar geographic footprints.

Development Stage:

- Pre-Clinical.

Inventors: Dr. Thomas B. Nutman and Dr. Sasisekhar Bennuru, both of NIAID.

Intellectual Property: HHS Reference No. E-067-2024-0. U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 63/672,667, filed on July 17, 2024, and PCT Application

No. PCT/US2025/037585, filed on July 17, 2025.

Related Inventions: Diagnostic Assays and Methods of Use for Detection of Filarial Infection (HHS Reference No. E-281-2010-0); Compositions and Methods for Detecting Lymphatic Filariasis (HHS Reference No. E-093-2022-0).

Licensing Contact: To license this technology, please contact Jonathan Motley at 240-669-5209, or jonathan.motley@nih.gov, and reference E-067-2024-0.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate, or commercialize this technology. For collaboration opportunities, please contact Jonathan Motley at 240-669-5209, or jonathan.motley@nih.gov.

Dated: October 22, 2026.

Surekha Vathyam,

Director, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

[FR Doc. 2026-21905 Filed 10-26-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4167-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2026-0110]

Notification of the Imposition of Conditions of Entry on Vessels Arriving from Somalia

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Coast Guard announces that it is adding the Federal Republic of Somalia to the Port Security Advisory.

DATES: The policy announced in this notice is effective on October 27, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about this document call or email Mr. Edward Munoz, Division Chief, International Port Security Assessments, U.S. Coast Guard, telephone 202-372-2122, HQS-DG-IPSPProgramHQs@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

The authority for this notice is 5 U.S.C. 552(a) ("Administrative Procedure Act"), 46 U.S.C. 70110 ("Maritime Transportation Security Act"), and Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1(II)(97)(f).

As delegated, section 70110(a) authorizes the U.S. Coast Guard to impose conditions of entry on vessels arriving in U.S. waters from ports that the U.S. Coast Guard has not found to maintain effective antiterrorism measures. Accordingly, the U.S. Coast Guard has determined that Somalia is not maintaining effective antiterrorism measures in its ports and is imposing conditions of entry on vessels arriving to the U.S. from the ports of Somalia.

With this notice, the current list of countries assessed and not maintaining effective antiterrorism measures is as follows: Cambodia, Cameroon, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Equatorial Guinea, Gambia (The), Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Madagascar, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Timor-Leste, Venezuela, and Yemen. The current Port Security Advisory is available at: <http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/International-Domestic-Port-Assessment/>.

Nathan A. Moore,

Vice Admiral, USCG, Deputy Commandant for Operations.

[FR Doc. 2026-21865 Filed 10-26-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Customs Broker Permit User Fee Payment for 2027

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice to customs brokers that the annual user fee that is assessed for each permit held by a customs broker, whether an individual, partnership, association, or corporation, is due no later than January 29, 2027. Pursuant to fee adjustments required by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations, the customs broker permit user fee payable for calendar year 2027 will be \$190.88.

DATES: Payment of the 2027 Customs Broker Permit User Fee is due no later than January 29, 2027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hannah Arnold, Chief, Broker Administration Branch, Office of Trade,

(202) 744–1170, or by email at hannah.p.arnold@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Pursuant to section 111.96 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (19 CFR 111.96(c)), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) assesses an annual user fee for each customs broker permit granted to an individual, partnership, association, or corporation. The CBP regulations provide that this fee is payable each calendar year for a national permit held by a customs broker and must be paid by the due date published annually in the **Federal Register**. See 19 CFR 24.22(h) and (i); 19 CFR 111.96(c).

Section 24.22 of title 19 of the CFR (19 CFR 24.22) sets forth the terms and conditions for when fees for certain services, including specific customs user fees, are required. The specific customs user fee amounts that appear in 19 CFR 24.22 are not the actual fees but represent the base year amounts that are subject to adjustment each fiscal year in accordance with the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) (Pub. L. 114–94, December 4, 2015). Section 32201 of the FAST Act amended section 13031 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c) by requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to adjust certain customs COBRA user fees and corresponding limitations to reflect certain increases in inflation. Paragraph (k) of section 24.22 of title 19 of the CFR (19 CFR 24.22(k)) sets forth the methodology to adjust fees for inflation and to determine the change in inflation, including the factor by which the fees and limitations will be adjusted, if necessary.

Customs brokers are subject to an annual customs broker permit user fee calculated using the base year amount in Appendix A to 19 CFR part 24, as adjusted by the terms in 19 CFR 24.22(k). See 19 U.S.C. 58c(a)(7) and 19 CFR 24.22(h). In accordance with 19 CFR 24.22, CBP determines annually whether an adjustment to the fees and limitations is necessary and publishes a **Federal Register** notice specifying the amount of the fees and limitations for each fiscal year. On July 31, 2026, CBP published a **Federal Register** notice, entitled Customs User Fees To Be Adjusted for Inflation in Fiscal Year 2027 (CBP Decision 26–14), which announced, among other fee adjustments, that the annual customs broker permit user fee will increase to \$190.88 for calendar year 2027. See 91 FR 48398.

Thus, as required by 19 CFR 24.22, CBP provided notice in the **Federal Register** of the annual fee amount at least 60 days prior to the date that the payment is due for each customs broker national permit. This document notifies customs brokers that, for calendar year 2027, the due date for payment of the annual customs broker permit user fee is January 29, 2027. If a customs broker fails to pay the annual customs broker permit user fee by January 29, 2027, the national permit is revoked by operation of law. See 19 CFR 111.45(b) and 111.96(c).

Customs brokers are strongly encouraged to submit the payment electronically via the eCBP portal located at <https://e.cbp.dhs.gov/brokers/#/home>. Customs brokers who are first-time users of the eCBP portal must create a *Login.gov* account. Instructions and training resources—such as user and quick reference guides for customs brokers on how to create a *Login.gov* account and how to use the eCBP portal—can be found on CBP's website at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/eCBP>. CBP will also accept payments at the processing center as defined in 19 CFR 111.1, in accordance with the remittance procedures in 19 CFR 24.22(i).

Susan S. Thomas,

Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade.

[FR Doc. 2026–21853 Filed 10–26–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Suspension of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Economic Vitality & Security Travel Authorization Program (EVS–TAP)

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, DHS.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision of the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) to suspend the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Economic Vitality & Security Travel Authorization Program (EVS–TAP). EVS–TAP allows prescreened nationals of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to travel to the CNMI without a visa for temporary visits under specified conditions. Pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations, the Secretary has broad authority to suspend the program for good cause, including threats to national security,

law enforcement interests, and immigration enforcement. The Secretary has determined that there is good cause to suspend EVS–TAP, while DHS, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Interior, evaluates the program.

DATES: Suspension of the CNMI EVS–TAP is effective at 1400 EDT on October 30, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melanie Mataxas, Traveler Authorization and Communications Program Management Office, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, at (202) 325–1372, or via email at melanie.d.mataxas@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Generally, under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1101 *et. seq.*, aliens seeking admission to the United States, including nonimmigrants visiting temporarily for business or pleasure, must obtain a visa before traveling to the United States. See section 212(a)(7)(B)(i) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(7)(B)(i). In 2008, Congress enacted the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (CNRA), Public Law 110–229, 122 Stat. 754, which generally applied the INA, including the standard visa requirements, to Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). See 48 U.S.C. 1806(a); sections 212 and 214 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182 and 1184. Under the standard visa application process, nonimmigrant visitors must complete an application, submit fingerprints and certain biometrics, and participate in an interview at a U.S. Consulate or Embassy, subject to certain exceptions. See section 222 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1202; 8 CFR 103.2; 22 CFR part 42.

As a part of the CNRA, however, Congress also authorized the creation of a specific visa waiver program for travel specific to Guam and the CNMI.¹ Section 212(l) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(l), as amended by the CNRA, sets forth the general parameters of this specific visa waiver authority. The

¹ The CNRA's Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program replaced the pre-existing Guam-only Visa Waiver Program authorized under section 212(l) of the INA. See Public Law 99–396, sec. 14 (1986). The Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program is separate from the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (U.S. VWP), which is authorized under section 217 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187. That program allows for citizens or nationals of countries designated as U.S. VWP participating countries to travel to the entire United States, after obtaining an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), for business or tourism stays for up to 90 days without a visa.