

requirements. It is important to note that this authority extends only to compliance with the heightened concentration/combination standards proposed in this filing; it does not apply to the Commission's net capital requirements⁴ or the net capital requirements prescribed by NYSE Rule 104.20.

These heightened requirements are in keeping with the Exchange's resolve to maintain high quality market performance in its listed securities. By minimizing the potential risk of financial problems that would have a significant adverse impact on the functioning of its markets, the overall effectiveness of the specialist system is strengthened.

It is further proposed that the capital requirements for specialist securities not specifically addressed in the Rule (*i.e.*, certain derivatives and structured products) be determined by the Exchange according to a comparison of the products' structure and characteristics relative to the existing standardized securities whose capital requirements are currently prescribed in the Rule. This provision is necessary given the potentially limitless variety of derivative and structured products, which are not easily categorized.

In addition, it is proposed that Rule 104.20 be amended to clarify the definition of "net liquid assets" and distinguish its application to specialist units subject to the Commission's net capital rule from specialist units which are not.

The effective date of the rule amendments will be no later than ninety (90) days from the date of Commission approval, but it may be earlier, *i.e.*, thirty (30) days following written notice to the membership if the NYSE determines that specialist entities are ready to comply with the new requirements.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5)⁵ of the Act in that it promotes just and equitable principles of trade, removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protects investors and the public interest. These interests are served when the capitalization of specialist entities is adequate to maintain a fair and orderly market.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such data if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) by order approve such proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NYSE. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NYSE-99-46 and should be submitted by March 10, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-3939 Filed 2-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9G67]

State of New York (and a Contiguous County in the State of New Jersey)

Bronx County and the contiguous counties of New York, Queens, and Westchester in the State of New York, and Bergen County, New Jersey constitute an economic injury disaster loan area as a result of a fire that occurred on October 20, 1999 in the Castle Hill section of the Bronx. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file applications for economic injury assistance as a result of this disaster until the close of business on November 9, 2000 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd, South, 3rd Floor, Niagara Falls, NY 14303.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 4 percent.

The economic injury number for the State of New Jersey is 9G68.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002)

Dated: February 9, 2000.

Aida Alvarez,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-4013 Filed 2-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9G69]

State of Oregon

Lane and Lincoln Counties and the contiguous counties of Benton, Deschutes, Douglas, Klamath, Linn, Polk, and Tillamook in the State of Oregon constitute an economic injury disaster loan area as a result of flooding, landslides, debris flows, and resulting road closures beginning on November 24, 1999. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file

⁴ 17 CFR 240.15c3-1.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

applications for economic injury assistance as a result of this disaster until the close of business on November 13, 2000 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 4 Office, P.O. Box 13795, Sacramento, CA 95853-4795.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 4 percent.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002)

Dated: February 10, 2000.

Fred P. Hochberg,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-4015 Filed 2-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9G20, Amdt. #1]

State of Washington

The above numbered declaration is hereby amended to include San Juan County in the State of Washington as an economic injury disaster loan area due to the effects of the warm water current known as El Nino beginning in 1997. All counties contiguous to the above-named county have been previously declared.

All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, applications for economic injury may be filed until September 22, 2000 at the previously designated location.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002.)

Dated: February 7, 2000.

Aida Alvarez,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-4014 Filed 2-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3220]

Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law: Study Group on Jurisdiction and Judgments; Meeting Notice

There will be a public meeting of a study group of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law on Friday, March 10, 2000, to discuss intellectual property issues related to the draft Hague convention on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of foreign civil judgments. The meeting will be held from 9:30 am to 3: pm in room

1107 of the Department of State building, 2201 C St., NW, Washington DC 20520.

The purpose of the Study Group meeting is to assist the Department of State consider the position of the United States in negotiations at the Hague Conference on Private International Law for the development of a convention that would regulate jurisdiction in international cases and provide for the recognition and enforcement of certain resulting judgments. The meeting will consider the preliminary draft text of the convention, completed at the last round of intergovernmental negotiations in October 1999. The Department expects the Hague Conference to convene an international experts meeting to consider intellectual property aspects of the text possibly by mid-summer 2000.

Persons interested in the work of the study group or in attending the March 10 meeting in Washington may find a copy of the preliminary draft convention on the Department of State website: <www.state.gov>. The text may be found by clicking on "index," "legal," "private international law," then "what's new." Copies may also be requested from Ms. Rosie Gonzales by fax at 202-776-8482, by telephone at 202-776-8420 (you may leave your request, name, telephone number and mailing address on the answering machine), or by email at <pilddb@his.com>.

The study group meeting is open to the public up to the capacity of the meeting room. As entry to the Department of State is controlled for security reasons, persons who wish to attend the meeting must notify Ms. Gonzales no later than Wednesday March 8 with their name, date of birth, and social security number. They should also provide their company or organization affiliation, mailing and email addresses, and fax and telephone numbers. Persons registered to attend must arrive by 9:30 am at the main entrance to the Department of State at 2201 C St., NW, unless they have made separate arrangements with Ms. Gonzales.

Any person who is unable to attend, but wishes to have his or her views considered, may send comments to Ms. Gonzales at the above fax number or email address, or may address them to the Assistant Legal Adviser for Private International Law (L/PIL), Suite 203, South Building, 2430 E Street, NW Washington, DC, 20037-2851.

Dated: February 14, 2000.

Jeffrey D. Kovar,

Assistant Legal Adviser for Private International Law.

[FR Doc. 00-3984 Filed 2-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3221]

Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law: Study Group on Arbitration and Other Forms of ADR: Meeting Notice

There will be a public meeting of a study group of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law on Monday, March 13, 2000, to discuss issues arising at the upcoming session of the UNCITRAL Working Group on Arbitration. The meeting will be held from 1:00pm to 5:00pm in room 1107 of the Department of State building, 2201 C St., NW, Washington DC 20520.

The purpose of the Study Group meeting is to assist the Department of State prepare the position of the United States for the inaugural session of the Working Group on Arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). The UNCITRAL Working Group is meeting March 20-31 in Vienna, and will consider as priority topics: the possible preparation of an international Model Law on Conciliation (mediation); whether new rules or guidelines should be developed addressing the enforceability of interim measures orders in international commercial arbitration; and problems some countries have experienced implementing the writing requirement in Article 2 of the 1958 New York Convention on the Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

The study group meeting will consider three documents prepared by the UNCITRAL Secretariat for the Working Group session: an agenda (A/CN.9/WG.II/WP.107), and two notes covering the substantive work (A/CN.9/WG.II/WP.108 and WP.108/Add.1). Persons interested in the work of the study group or in attending the March 10 meeting in Washington may find copies of the documents to be considered on the UNCITRAL website: <www.uncitral.org>. The documents may be found by clicking on "english," "sessions," and then "working group on arbitration." Copies may also be requested from Ms. Rosie Gonzales by fax at 202-776-8482, by telephone at 202-776-8420 (you may leave your request, name, telephone number and