

*Primary Parishes:*  
Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, St.  
Bernard, St. Charles.  
The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Other (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.750
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is #10189.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

**Cheri L. Cannon,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 05-18203 Filed 9-13-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## **SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Disaster Declaration #10178 and #10179]

### **Mississippi Disaster Number MS-00005**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Amendment 1.

**SUMMARY:** This is an amendment of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Mississippi (FEMA-1604-DR), dated 8/29/2005.

*Incident:* Hurricane Katrina.

*Incident Period:* 8/29/2005 and continuing.

*Effective Date:* 9/6/2005.

*Physical Loan Application Deadline Date:* 10/28/2005.

*EIDL Loan Application Deadline Date:* 5/29/2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area Office 3, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of the Presidential disaster declaration for the State of Mississippi, dated 8/29/2005, is hereby amended to include the following areas as adversely affected by the disaster:

#### **Primary Counties**

ADAMS  
ATTALA  
CLAIBORNE

CHOCTAW  
CLARKE  
COPIAH  
COVINGTON  
FRANKLIN  
HINDS  
JASPER  
JEFFERSON  
JEFFERSON DAVIS  
JONES  
KEMPER  
LAUDERDALE  
LAWRENCE  
LEAKE  
LINCOLN  
LOWNDES  
MADISON  
NESHOB  
NEWTON  
NOXUBEE  
OKTIBBEHA  
RANKIN  
SCOTT  
SIMPSON  
SMITH  
WARREN  
WAYNE  
WINSTON  
YAZOO

#### **Contiguous Counties**

MISSISSIPPI  
CARROLL  
CLAY  
HOLMES  
HUMPHREYS  
ISSAQUENA  
MONROE  
MONTGOMERY  
SHARKEY  
WEBSTER  
ALABAMA  
CHOCTAW  
LAMAR  
PICKENS  
SUMTER  
LOUISIANA  
EAST CARROLL  
MADISON  
TENSAS

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**Cheri L. Cannon,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 05-18201 Filed 9-13-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## **SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

### **National Small Business Development Center Advisory Board; Public Meeting**

The U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Small Business Development Centers, National

Advisory Board will be hosting a public meeting via conference call to discuss such matters that may be presented by members, the staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, or interested others. The conference will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 1 p.m. eastern standard time.

Anyone wishing to participate or make an oral presentation to the Board must contact Erika Fischer, Senior Program Analyst, U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Small Business Development Centers, 409 3rd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416, telephone (202) 205-7045 or fax (202) 481-0681.

**Matthew K. Becker,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 05-18200 Filed 9-13-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## **OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

### **African Growth and Opportunity Act Implementation Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee; Public Comments on Annual Review of Country Eligibility for Benefits Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act**

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The African Growth and Opportunity Act Implementation Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (the "Subcommittee") is requesting written public comments for the annual review of the eligibility of sub-Saharan African countries to receive the benefits of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The Subcommittee will consider these comments in developing recommendations on AGOA country eligibility for the President. Comments received related to the child labor criteria may also be considered by the Secretary of Labor for the preparation of the Department of Labor's report on child labor as required under section 412(c) of the Trade and Development Act of 2000. This notice identifies the eligibility criteria that must be considered under AGOA, and lists those sub-Saharan African countries that are currently eligible for the benefits of the AGOA, and those that are currently ineligible for such benefits.

**DATES:** Public comments are due at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

(USTR) by noon, Friday, October 14, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Submission by electronic mail: [FR0525@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:FR0525@ustr.eop.gov). Submissions by facsimile: Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, at (202) 395-6143. The public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically rather than by facsimile. See requirements for submissions below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For procedural questions, please contact Gloria Blue, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Room F516, Washington, DC, 20508, at (202) 395-3475. All other questions should be directed to Constance Hamilton, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, at (202) 395-9514.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The AGOA (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Public Law 106-200) (19 U.S.C. 3721 *et seq.*), as amended, authorizes the President to designate sub-Saharan African countries as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries eligible for duty-free treatment for certain additional products under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) (Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*) (the "1974 Act")), as well as for the preferential treatment the AGOA provides for certain textile and apparel articles.

The President may designate a country as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country eligible for both the additional GSP benefits and the textile and apparel benefits of the AGOA (if the country also meets certain statutory requirements intended to prevent unlawful transshipment of such articles) if he determines that the country meets the eligibility criteria set forth in: (1) Section 104 of the AGOA; and (2) section 502 of the 1974 Act. For 2005, 37 countries have been designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. These countries, as well as the 11 countries currently ineligible, are listed below. Section 506A of the 1974 Act provides that the President shall monitor, review, and report to Congress annually on the progress of each sub-Saharan African country in meeting the foregoing eligibility criteria in order to determine whether each beneficiary sub-Saharan African country should continue to be eligible, and whether each sub-Saharan African country that is currently not a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country, should be designated as such a country. The President's determinations will be included in the annual report submitted

to Congress as required by Section 106 of the AGOA. Section 506A of the 1974 Act requires that, if the President determines that a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country is not making continual progress in meeting the eligibility requirements, he must terminate the designation of the country as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

The Subcommittee is seeking public comments in connection with the annual review of the eligibility of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries for the AGOA's benefits. The Subcommittee will consider any such comments in developing recommendations on country eligibility for the President. Comments related to the child labor criteria may also be considered by the Secretary of Labor in making the findings required under section 504 of the 1974 Act.

The following sub-Saharan African countries were designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries in 2005:

Angola  
 Republic of Benin  
 Republic of Botswana  
 Burkina Faso  
 Republic of Cameroon  
 Republic of Cape Verde  
 Republic of Chad  
 Republic of Congo  
 Democratic Republic of Congo  
 Republic of Djibouti  
 Ethiopia  
 Gabonese Republic  
 The Gambia  
 Republic of Ghana  
 Republic of Guinea  
 Republic of Guinea-Bissau  
 Republic of Kenya  
 Kingdom of Lesotho  
 Republic of Madagascar  
 Republic of Malawi  
 Republic of Mali  
 Islamic Republic of Mauritania  
 Republic of Mauritius  
 Republic of Mozambique  
 Republic of Namibia  
 Republic of Niger  
 Federal Republic of Nigeria  
 Republic of Rwanda  
 Sao Tome & Principe  
 Republic of Senegal  
 Republic of Seychelles  
 Republic of Sierra Leone  
 Republic of South Africa  
 Kingdom of Swaziland  
 United Republic of Tanzania  
 Republic of Uganda  
 Republic of Zambia

The following sub-Saharan African countries were not designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries in 2005:  
 Republic of Burundi

Central African Republic  
 Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros  
 Republic of Cote d'Ivoire  
 Republic of Equatorial Guinea  
 State of Eritrea  
 Republic of Liberia  
 Somalia  
 Republic of Togo  
 Republic of Sudan  
 Republic of Zimbabwe

**Requirements for Submissions:** In order to facilitate the prompt processing of submissions, USTR strongly urges and prefers electronic (e-mail) submissions to [FR0525@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:FR0525@ustr.eop.gov) in response to this notice. In the event that an e-mail submission is impossible, submissions should be made by facsimile. Persons making submissions by e-mail should use the following subject line: "2005 AGOA Annual Country Review." Documents should be submitted as WordPerfect, MSWord, or text (.TXT) files. Supporting documentation submitted as spreadsheets are acceptable as Quattro Pro or Excel. For any document containing business confidential information submitted electronically, the file name of the business confidential version should begin with the characters "BC-" and the file name of the public version should begin with the characters "P-". The "P-" or "BC-" should be followed by the name of the submitter. Persons who make submissions by e-mail should not provide separate cover letters; information that might appear in a cover letter should be included in the submission itself. Similarly, to the extent possible, any attachments to the submission should be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

Written comments will be placed in a file open to public inspection pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.5, except confidential business information exempt from public inspection in accordance with 15 CFR 2003.6. Confidential business information submitted in accordance with 15 CFR 2003.6 must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" at the top of each page, including any cover letter or cover page, and must be accompanied by a nonconfidential summary of the confidential information. All public documents and nonconfidential summaries shall be available for public inspection in the USTR Reading Room. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public, by appointment only, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. An appointment to review the file may be made by calling

(202) 395-6186. Appointments must be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance.

**Carmen Suro-Bredie,**  
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.  
[FR Doc. 05-18278 Filed 9-13-05; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3190-W5-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Program: Notice Regarding the 2005 and Ongoing Country Practice Reviews

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the timetable for the hearing and public comments on petitions requesting modifications in the status of certain GSP beneficiary countries.

**DATES:** The GSP regulations (15 CFR part 2007) provide the schedule of dates for conducting the annual country practice review unless otherwise specified in a **Federal Register** notice. The current revised schedule follows. Notification of any other changes will be given in the **Federal Register**.

#### Notice of Public Hearing

A hearing will be held by the GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC on November 30, 2005, beginning at 10 a.m., in combined Rooms 1 and 2, 1724 F Street NW., Washington, DC. The hearing will be open to the public and a transcript of the hearing will be made available for public inspection or can be purchased from the reporting company. No electronic media coverage will be allowed.

All interested parties wishing to make an oral presentation at the hearing must submit, following the "Requirements for Submissions" below, the name, address, telephone number, and facsimile number and e-mail address, if available, of the witness(es) representing their organization to Marideth Sandler, Executive Director of the GSP Program and Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC by 5 p.m., November 9, 2005. Requests to present oral testimony in connection with the public hearing must be accompanied by a written brief or statement, in English, and also must be received by 5 p.m., November 9, 2005. Oral testimony before the GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC will be limited to five-minute presentations that summarize or supplement information contained in briefs or statements submitted for the record. Post-hearing briefs or statements will be accepted if

they conform with the regulations cited below and are submitted, in English, by 5 p.m., December 14, 2005. Parties not wishing to appear at the public hearing may submit post-hearing written briefs or statements, in English, by 5 p.m., December 14, 2005.

Modifications to the list of countries eligible for GSP benefits resulting from the 2005 Annual Review of Country Practice Cases will be announced on or about June 30, 2006, in the **Federal Register**, and any changes will take effect on the effective date announced.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 1724 F Street, NW., Room F-220, Washington, DC 20508. Telephone number is (202) 395-6971; fax number is (202) 395-9481.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The GSP statute, Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*) provides duty-free treatment to designated eligible articles that are imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. USTR has received a number of petitions requesting that certain practices in certain beneficiary developing countries be reviewed to determine whether such countries are in compliance with the eligibility criteria set forth in sections 502(b) and 502(c) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2462(a), 2462(b), and 2462(c)).

#### Petitions Accepted for Review Regarding Country Practices

Pursuant to 15 CFR 2007.0(b), the GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) has recommended, and the TPSC has accepted, certain country practice petitions (see Annex A) to be included in the 2005 Annual Review. Acceptance of a petition for review is not indicative of the ultimate disposition of the petition. Acceptance indicates only that the listed petitions warrant further consideration.

#### Opportunities for Public Comment

The GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC invites comments in support of or in opposition to any petition that have been accepted for review. Submissions should comply with 15 CFR Part 2007, except as modified below.

#### Requirements for Submission

In order to facilitate prompt processing of submissions, USTR will accept only electronic e-mail submissions in response to this notice. Hand-delivered submissions will not be accepted. These submissions should be single-copy transmissions in English with the total submission not to exceed

20 single-spaced standard letter-size pages. E-mail submissions should use the following subject line: "2005 GSP Annual Country Practice Review" followed by the subject country, case number, and, as appropriate "Written Comments", "Notice of Intent to Testify", "Pre-hearing brief", or "Post-hearing brief". Documents must be submitted in English in one of the following formats: MSWord (.DOC), WordPerfect (.WPD), or text (.TXT) files. Documents may not be submitted as electronic image files or contain imbedded images (for example, ".JPG", ".TIF", ".PDF", ".BMP", or ".GIF"). Supporting documentation submitted as spreadsheets are acceptable as Excel files, formatted for printing on 8½ x 11 inch paper. Any data attachments to the submission must be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

If the submission contains business confidential information, a non-confidential version of the submission must also be submitted that indicates where confidential information was redacted by inserting asterisks where material was deleted. In addition, the confidential submission must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" at the top and bottom of each page of the document. The non-confidential version must also be clearly marked at the top and bottom of each page (either "PUBLIC VERSION" or "NON-CONFIDENTIAL"). Documents that are submitted without any marking might not be accepted or will be considered public documents.

For any document containing business confidential information submitted as an electronic attached file to an e-mail transmission, the file name of the business confidential version should begin with the characters "BC-", and the file name of the public version should begin with the characters "P-". The "P-" or "BC-" should be followed by the name of the party (government, company, union, association, etc.) which is making the submission.

E-mail submissions should not include separate cover letters or messages in the message area of the e-mail; information that might appear in any cover letter should be included directly in the attached file containing the submission itself, including the sender's e-mail address and other identifying information. The e-mail address for these submissions is [FR0441@USTR.GOV](mailto:FR0441@USTR.GOV). Documents not submitted in accordance with these instructions might not be considered in this review. If unable to provide submissions by e-mail, please contact the GSP Subcommittee of the TPSC to