

forms of child labor as defined in paragraph (6) of section 507(4) of the Act; and (E) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

Requirements for Submissions

Comments must be submitted, in English, to the Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) as soon as possible, but not later than 5 p.m., Friday, October 17, 2008.

In order to facilitate prompt processing of submissions, USTR strongly recommends that comments be set out in digital files attached to e-mails transmitted to the following address: FR0711@ustr.eop.gov (Note: The digit before the number in the e-mail address is the number zero, not a letter). For security reasons, hand-delivered submissions will not be accepted. If you are unable to provide comments by e-mail, please contact Regina Teeter, USTR's GSP Office at (202) 395-6971 to arrange for an alternative method of transmission.

Comments should be provided in a single copy and must not exceed 30 single-spaced standard letter-size pages in 12-point type or a digital file size of three megabytes. E-mails should include the following subject line: "Designation of the Republic of Kosovo as a GSP Beneficiary Country." The transmittal message or cover letter accompanying a submission must be set out exclusively in the digital file attached to the e-mail transmission—not in the message portion of e-mail—and must include the sender's name, organization name, address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Digital files must be submitted in one of the following formats: WordPerfect (.WPD), Adobe (.PDF), MSWord (.DOC), or text (.TXT) files. Comments may not be submitted as electronic image files or contain embedded images, e.g., ".JPG", ".TIF", ".BMP", or ".GIF". Spreadsheet data may be submitted as Excel files, formatted for printing on 8½ x 11 inch paper. To the extent possible, any data accompanying the submission should be set out in the same file as the submission itself, and not in a separate file.

If a submission contains business confidential information that the submitter wishes to protect from public disclosure, the confidential submission must be marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" at the top and bottom of each page. In addition, the submission must be accompanied by a non-confidential version that indicates, with asterisks, where confidential

information was redacted or deleted. The top and bottom of each page of the non-confidential version must be marked either "PUBLIC VERSION" or "NON-CONFIDENTIAL". Business confidential comments that are submitted without the required markings or that are not accompanied by a properly marked non-confidential version as set forth above may not be accepted or may be treated as public documents.

The digital file name assigned to any business confidential version of a submission 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 person (government, company, union, association, etc.) making the submission.

Public versions of all documents relating to this review will be available for review approximately two weeks after the due date by appointment in the USTR public reading room, 1724 F Street, NW., Washington, DC. Appointments may be made from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, by calling (202) 395-6186.

Marideth J. Sandler,

*Executive Director for the GSP Program,
Chairman, GSP Subcommittee of the Trade
Policy Staff Committee.*

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Request for 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, Monday, October 20, 2008.

ADDRESSES: USTR prefers submission by electronic mail: FR0811@ustr.eop.gov. If you are unable to make a submission by e-mail, submissions should be made by facsimile to: 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 for countries meeting 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 2008, 41 countries have been designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. These countries, as well as the 7 countries currently ineligible, are listed below. Section 506A of the 1974

Act provides that the President shall monitor and review annually 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. 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 2008:

Angola
 Republic of Benin
 Republic of Botswana
 Burkina Faso
 Burundi
 Republic of Cape Verde
 Republic of Cameroon
 Republic of Chad
 Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros
 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 Liberia
 Republic of Madagascar
 Republic of Malawi
 Republic of Mali
 Republic of Mauritius
 Islamic Republic of Mauritania
 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
 Republic of Togo
 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 2007:

Central African Republic
 Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
 Republic of Equatorial Guinea
 State of Eritrea
 Somalia
 Republic of Sudan
 Republic of Zimbabwe

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Carmen Suro-Bredie,

Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/DS375]

WTO Dispute Settlement Proceeding Regarding European Communities— Tariff Treatment of Certain Information Technology Products

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative ("USTR") is providing notice that on August 18, 2008, in accordance with the World Trade Organization ("WTO") *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* ("DSU"), the United States, jointly with Japan and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, requested the establishment of a dispute settlement panel regarding the tariff treatment accorded by the European Communities ("EC") and its member States to set-top boxes with a communication function, flat panel displays, and certain multifunctional digital machines. That request may be found at www.wto.org contained in a document designated as WT/DS375/8. USTR invites written comments from