

## § 2006.9

information provided by other parties, the Section 301 Committee will entertain rebuttal briefs filed by any interested person within a time limit specified in the public notice. Rebuttal briefs should be strictly limited to demonstrating errors of fact or analysis not pointed out in the briefs or hearing and should be as concise as possible.

### § 2006.9 Presentation of oral testimony at public hearings.

(a) A request by an interested person to present oral testimony at a public hearing shall be submitted in writing before the close of the period of submission announced in the public notice and shall state briefly the interest of the applicant. Such request will be granted if a brief has been submitted in accordance with § 2006.8.

(b) After consideration of a request to present oral testimony at a public hearing, the Chairman of the Section 301 Committee will notify the applicant whether the request conforms to the requirements of § 2006.8(a) and, if it does not, will give the reasons. If the applicant has submitted a conforming request he shall be notified of the time and place for the hearing and for his oral testimony.

### § 2006.10 Waiver of requirements.

To the extent consistent with the requirements of the Trade Act, the requirements of §§ 2006.0 through 2006.3 and 2006.8 may be waived by the Trade Representative or the Chairman of the Section 301 Committee upon a showing of good cause and for reasons of equity and the public interest.

### § 2006.11 Consultations before making determinations.

Prior to making a determination on what action, if any, should be taken in regard to issues raised in the petition, the Trade Representative shall obtain advice from any appropriate private sector advisory representatives, including committees established pursuant to section 135 of the Trade Act, unless expeditious action is required, in which case he shall seek such advice after making the determination. The Trade Representative may also request the views of the International Trade Com-

## 15 CFR Ch. XX (1-1-03 Edition)

mission regarding the probable economic impact of the proposed action.

### § 2006.12 Determinations; time limits.

On the basis of the petition, investigation and consultations, and after receiving the advice of the Section 301 Committee, the Trade Representative shall determine whether U.S. rights under any trade agreement are being denied, or whether any other act, policy, or practice actionable under section 301 exists and, if so, what action (if any) should be taken under section 301. These determinations shall be made:

(a) In the case of an investigation involving a trade agreement (other than the agreement on subsidies and countervailing measures described in section 2(c)(5) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979), within 30 days after the dispute settlement procedure concludes, or 18 months after the initiation of the investigation, whichever is earlier.

(b) In all other cases, within 12 months after initiating an investigation.

### § 2006.13 Information open to public inspection.

(a) With the exception of information subject to § 2006.15, an interested person may, upon advance request, inspect at a public reading room in the Office of the United States Trade Representative:

(1) Any written petition, brief, or similar submission of information (other than that to which confidentiality applies) made in the course of a section 302 proceeding;

(2) Any stenographic record of a public hearing held pursuant to section 302 or 304.

(b) In addition, upon written request submitted in accordance with section 308 of the Trade Act, any person may obtain from the Section 301 Chairman the following, to the extent that such information is available to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative or other Federal agencies:

(1) Information on the nature and extent of a specific trade policy or practice of a foreign government or instrumentality with respect to particular

goods, services, investment, or intellectual property rights;

(2) Information on United States rights under any trade agreement and the remedies which may be available under that agreement and under the laws of the United States; and

(3) Information on past and present domestic and international proceedings or actions with respect to the policy or practice concerned.

(c) An appropriate fee will be charged for duplication of documents requested under § 2006.13.

**§ 2006.14 Information not available.**

If the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative does not have, and cannot obtain from other Federal agencies, information requested in writing by any person, the Section 301 Chairman shall, within 30 days after the receipt of the request:

(a) Request the information from the foreign government involved; or

(b) Decline to request the information and inform the person in writing of the reasons for the refusal.

**§ 2006.15 Information exempt from public inspection.**

(a) The Chairman of the Section 301 Committee shall exempt from public inspection business information submitted in confidence if he determines that such information involves trade secrets or commercial and financial information the disclosure of which is not authorized by the person furnishing such information nor required by law.

(b) An interested person requesting that the Chairman exempt from public inspection confidential business information submitted in writing must certify in writing that such information is business confidential, the disclosure of such information would endanger trade secrets or profitability, and such information is not generally available. The information submitted must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page on each copy, and shall be accompanied by a nonconfidential summary of the confidential information.

(c) The Section 301 Chairman may use such information, or make such information available (in his own discre-

tion) to any employee of the Federal Government for use in any investigation under section 302, or make such information available to any other person in a form which cannot be associated with, or otherwise identify, the person providing the information.

(d) The Section 301 Chairman may deny a request that he exempt from public inspection any particular business information if he determines that such information is not entitled to exemption under law. In the event of a denial, the interested person submitting the particular business information will be notified of the reasons for the denial and will be permitted to withdraw the submission.

**PART 2007—REGULATIONS OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE PERTAINING TO ELIGIBILITY OF ARTICLES AND COUNTRIES FOR THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCE PROGRAM (GSP (15 CFR PART 2007))**

Sec.

2007.0 Requests for reviews.

2007.1 Information required of interested parties in submitting requests for modifications in the list of eligible articles.

2007.2 Action following receipt of requests for modifications in the list of eligible articles and for reviews of the GSP status of eligible beneficiary countries with respect to designation criteria.

2007.3 Timetable for reviews.

2007.4 Publication regarding requests.

2007.5 Written briefs and oral testimony.

2007.6 Information open to public inspection.

2007.7 Information exempt from public inspection.

2007.8 Other reviews of article eligibilities.

AUTHORITY: 19 U.S.C. 2461-65, 88 Stat. 2066-2071, as amended by Title V of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984, Pub. L. No. 98-573, 98 Stat. 3018-3024; E.O. 11846 of March 27, 1975 (40 FR 14291), E.O. 12188 of January 2, 1980 (45 FR 989).

SOURCE: 51 FR 5037, Feb. 11, 1986, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 2007.0 Requests for reviews.**

(a) An interested party may submit a request (1) that additional articles be designated as eligible for GSP duty-free treatment, provided that the article has not been accepted for review