

been established, and 85 percent of the trade demand for OS raisins because the field price had been established. The preliminary crop estimates and preliminary free and reserve percentages were as follows: 335,118 tons, 50 percent free, and 50 percent reserve for NS raisins; 3,696 tons, 39 percent free, and 61 percent reserve for ZC raisins; and 2,197 tons, 40 percent free, and 60 percent reserve for OS raisins. The Committee authorized the Committee staff to modify the preliminary percentages to release 85 percent of the trade demand when the field prices were established for NS and ZC raisins. The preliminary percentages for NS and ZC raisins were adjusted soon thereafter to 65 percent free, 35 percent reserve, and 51 percent free and 49 percent reserve, respectively.

Also at that meeting, the Committee computed and announced preliminary crop estimates and preliminary free and reserve percentages for Dipped Seedless, Oleate and Related Seedless, Golden Seedless, Sultana, Muscat, and Monukka raisins. It determined that the supplies of these varietal types would be less than or close enough to the computed trade demands for each variety, and that volume control percentages would not be necessary to maintain market stability for these varietal types.

On January 12, 1996, the Committee recommended final percentages of 79 percent free, 21 percent reserve for NS raisins; 70 percent free, 30 percent reserve for ZC raisins; and 51 percent free, 49 percent reserve for OS raisins.

Pursuant to section 989.54(c), the Committee may adopt interim free and reserve percentages. Interim percentages may release less than the computed trade demand for each varietal type. The Committee also computed interim free and reserve percentages at the January 12, 1996, meeting.

Interim percentages were announced as 78.75 percent free, 21.25 percent reserve for NS raisins; 69.75 percent free, 30.25 percent reserve for ZC raisins; and 50.75 percent free, 49.25 percent reserve for OS raisins. That action released most, but not all, of the computed trade demand for NS, ZC, and OS raisins.

Under section 989.54(d) of the order, the Committee is required to recommend to the Secretary, no later than February 15 of each crop year, final free and reserve percentages which, when applied to the final production estimate of a varietal type, will tend to release the full trade demand for any varietal type.

The Committee's final estimate of 1995-96 production of NS raisins is

325,808 tons. Dividing the computed trade demand of 257,314 tons by the final estimate of production results in a final free percentage of 79 percent and a final reserve percentage of 21 percent for NS raisins.

The Committee's final estimate of 1995-96 production of ZC raisins is 3,158 tons. Dividing the computed trade demand of 2,208 tons by the final estimate of production results in a final free percentage of 70 percent and a final reserve percentage of 30 percent for ZC raisins.

The Committee's final estimate of 1995-96 production of OS raisins is 2,048 tons. Dividing the computed trade demand of 1,047 tons by the final estimate of production results in a final free percentage of 51 percent and a final reserve percentage of 49 percent for OS raisins.

The free and reserve percentages established by this interim final rule will apply uniformly to all handlers in the industry, whether small or large, and there are no known additional costs incurred by small handlers. Although raisin markets are limited, they are available to all handlers, regardless of size. The stabilizing effects of the percentages impact both small and large handlers positively by helping them maintain and expand markets.

Based on available information, the Administrator of the AMS has determined that the issuance of this interim final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

After consideration of all relevant information presented, including the Committee's recommendations and other information, it is found that this regulation, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, it is also found and determined that upon good cause it is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest to give preliminary notice prior to putting this rule into effect, and that good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register because: (1) The relevant provisions of this part require that the percentages designated herein for the 1995-96 crop year apply to all NS, ZC, and OS raisins acquired from the beginning of that crop year; (2) handlers are currently marketing 1995-96 crop raisins of these varietal types and this action should be taken promptly to achieve the intended purpose of making the full trade demand quantities computed by the Committee available to handlers; (3) handlers are aware of this action, which

was unanimously recommended by the Committee at an open meeting, and need no additional time to comply with these percentages; and (4) this interim final rule provides a 30-day period for written comments and all comments received will be considered prior to finalization of this interim final rule.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 989

Grapes, Marketing agreements, Raisins, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 989 is amended to read as follows:

PART 989—RAISINS PRODUCED FROM GRAPES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 989 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

2. Section 989.249 is added to Subpart—Supplementary Regulations to read as follows:

Note: This section will not appear in the annual Code of Federal Regulations.

§ 989.249 Final free and reserve percentages for the 1995-96 crop year.

The final percentages for standard Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Zante Currant, and Other Seedless raisins acquired by handlers during the crop year beginning on August 1, 1995, which shall be free tonnage and reserve tonnage, respectively, are designated as follows:

Varietal type	Free percent-age	Reserve percent-age
Natural (sun-dried)		
Seedless	79	21
Zante Currant	70	30
Other Seedless	51	49

Dated: February 20, 1996.

Sharon Bomer Lauritsen,
Deputy Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.
[FR Doc. 96-4180 Filed 2-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bureau of Consular Affairs, Overseas Citizens Services

[Public Notice 2337]

22 CFR Part 94

International Child Abduction

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule amends regulations regarding incoming parental abduction cases pursuant to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Incoming cases will be processed by a non-governmental organization with oversight by the Department of State.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 21, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie Rowe, Director of the Office of Children's Issues, Room 4811, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. Tele: 202-647-2688.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since 1988, the Bureau of Consular Affairs has served as the U.S. Central Authority under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. As U.S. Central Authority, the Office of Children's Issues is responsible for processing all Hague Convention applications seeking the return of children wrongfully removed or retained in the United States or any other Hague Convention contracting state. In addition, the U.S. Central Authority is responsible for facilitating access rights under the Convention. The Office of Children's Issues processes approximately 700 Hague Convention applications annually; roughly 300 of these cases are incoming cases, i.e., applications for the return of a child wrongfully removed to or retained in the United States.

The processing of incoming Hague applications requires case officers to communicate with foreign Central Authorities about incoming cases, to determine the whereabouts of children wrongfully taken to the United States, to attempt to promote voluntary return of abducted children, and to facilitate the initiation of judicial proceedings with a view toward securing the return of abducted children. Many of the case officer functions involve extensive contact with local law enforcement officials, social service agencies, legal aid organizations and local bar associations.

The Office of Children's Issues has recently entered into an agreement with the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (National Center). Under this agreement, the National Center will assist the U.S. Central Authority in fulfilling its responsibilities under the Hague Convention.

The National Center, a non-governmental organization, is a national resource center and clearinghouse that provides technical assistance to parents seeking to locate and recover children

missing in the United States. For more than ten years, the National Center has been performing case management and analysis functions for domestic abductions; it handles more than 1,200 parental child abduction cases annually. By agreement with the Department of Justice, the National Center provides legal technical assistance, maintains a toll-free hotline as well as an online information network, and operates a photo distribution service.

Transferring specified case officer functions to the National Center with respect to incoming Hague Convention cases will result in the provision of better service to parents seeking the return of children under the Convention. Parents will benefit from the National Center's expertise in finding missing children and liaising with contacts in the local law enforcement and social services communities.

This transfer of case officer functions to the National Center will not in any way alter the role of the State Department as U.S. Central Authority under the Hague Convention. The Office of Children's Issues will continue as the U.S. Central Authority under the Convention and will retain ultimate responsibility for all incoming cases. Under the agreement, all inherently governmental functions, including matters of Hague Convention interpretation and policy direction are to be carried out by the Department of State. Congressional and White House correspondence as well as media relations will continue to be handled by the Office of Children's Issues.

This rule was published as an interim rule in the Federal Register on December 21, 1995. Comments were requested, and none were received. It is being adopted without change. This rule was published as an interim rule rather than a proposed rule because the Department of State determined that publication of a proposed rule was unnecessary, as the transfer of responsibility over incoming Hague Convention cases to the National Center would primarily affect workload distribution and management of U.S. Central Authority functions. The Department of State's Office of Children's Issues will continue to perform all inherently governmental functions of the U.S. Central Authority.

This rule is exempt from E.O. 12866, but nonetheless has been reviewed and found to be consistent with the objectives and policies thereof. This rule is not expected to have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5. U.S.C.

605(b). In addition, this rule will not impose information collection requirements under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended. Nor does this rule have federalism implications warranting the preparation of a Federalism Assessment in accordance with E.O. 12612. This rule has been reviewed as required by E.O. 12778 and certified to be in compliance therewith.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 94

Infants and children.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the interim rule amending 22 CFR part 94 published on December 21, 1995 (60 FR 66073), is adopted as a final rule without change.

Dated: February 13, 1996.

Mary A. Ryan,

Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs.

[FR Doc. 96-4192 Filed 2-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-M

Office of the Legal Adviser

22 CFR Part 181

[Public Notice 2344]

Coordination and Reporting of International Agreements: Determination Not To Publish Certain Agreements

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is issuing final regulations providing that certain international agreements other than treaties will not be published in United States Treaties and Other International Agreements or in the Treaties and Other International Acts Series.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 26, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries should be sent to the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Office of the Legal Adviser, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Ghaffarkhan or Wynne Teel, Office of the Legal Adviser, (202) 647-2044.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In the Federal Register of October 23, 1995, the Department of State proposed regulations to amend 22 CFR Part 181 to list categories of international agreements that will not be published in