

## COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

### Amendment of Quota and Visa Requirements to Include a New Exempt Certification Arrangement for Chinese Floor Coverings Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

May 13, 1997.

**AGENCY:** Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements  
(CITA).

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the  
Commissioner of Customs amending  
quota and visa requirements.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 13, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Janet Heinzen, International Trade  
Specialist, Office of Textiles and  
Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce,  
(202) 482-4212.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Authority:** Executive Order 11651 of March  
3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the  
Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7  
U.S.C. 1854).

In a Memorandum of Understanding  
dated February 1, 1997, the  
Governments of the United States and  
the People's Republic of China agreed to  
a new exempt certification arrangement  
for Chinese floor coverings in HTS  
numbers 5701.10.1600, 5701.10.4000,  
5701.10.9000, 5702.10.9010,  
5702.51.2000, 5702.91.3000,  
5703.10.0020, 5705.00.2005 (Category  
465); 5703.20.1000, 5703.30.0020  
(Category 665) and 5702.99.1010  
(Category 369) which have been  
produced by hand knotting, hand  
weaving, hand tufting or hand  
needlepoint, and which contain a  
design produced through the use of  
yarns of different colors or through  
carving the face of the floor covering.

Chinese floor coverings in the  
aforementioned HTS numbers,  
produced or manufactured in China and  
exported on and after April 1, 1997 shall  
be exempt from levels of restraint, visa  
requirements and an ELVIS (Electronic  
Visa Information System) transmission.  
If the commodity is exported on and  
after April 1, 1997 without an exempt  
certificate, then a visa and ELVIS  
transmission are required prior to the  
release of any portion of the shipment  
by the U.S. Customs Service. If a visa  
and an ELVIS transmission are not  
submitted, then the goods will be  
denied entry.

A facsimile of the exempt certification  
stamp is on file at the U.S. Department  
of Commerce, 14th and Constitution

Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, room  
3100.

In the letter published below, the  
Chairman of CITA directs the  
Commissioner of Customs to amend the  
existing quota and visa requirements for  
textile products, produced or  
manufactured in China and exported on  
and after April 1, 1997.

A description of the textile and  
apparel categories in terms of HTS  
numbers is available in the  
CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel  
Categories with the Harmonized Tariff  
Schedule of the United States (see  
**Federal Register** notice 61 FR 66263,  
published on December 17, 1996). Also  
see 62 FR 6950, published on  
February 14, 1997; and 62 FR 15465,  
published on April 1, 1997.

Interested persons are advised to take  
all necessary steps to ensure that textile  
products that are entered into the  
United States for consumption, or  
withdrawn from warehouse for  
consumption, will meet the exempt  
certification requirements set forth in  
the letter published below to the  
Commissioner of Customs.

#### D. Michael Hutchinson,

*Acting Chairman, Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

#### Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

May 13, 1997.

Commissioner of Customs,  
*Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC  
20229.*

Dear Commissioner: This directive  
amends, but does not cancel, the directive  
issued to you on March 27, 1997, by the  
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation  
of Textile Agreements, that directed you to  
prohibit entry of certain silk apparel, cotton,  
wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other  
vegetable fiber textiles and textile products,  
produced or manufactured in China for  
which the Government of the People's  
Republic of China has not issued an  
appropriate export visa and ELVIS  
(Electronic Visa Information System)  
transmission.

Also, this directive amends, but does not  
cancel, the February 10, 1997 directive that  
concerns imports of certain silk apparel,  
cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and  
other vegetable fiber textiles and textile  
products, produced or manufactured in  
China and exported during the twelve-month  
period beginning on January 1, 1997 and  
extending through December 31, 1997.

Effective on May 13, 1997, you are  
directed, pursuant to a Memorandum of  
Understanding dated February 1, 1997,  
between the Governments of the United  
States and the People's Republic of China, to  
establish a new exempt certification  
arrangement for Chinese floor coverings in  
5701.10.1600, 5701.10.4000, 5701.10.9000,  
5702.10.9010, 5702.51.2000, 5702.91.3000,  
5703.10.0020, 5705.00.2005 (Category 465);

5703.20.1000 and 5703.30.0020 (Category  
665) and 5702.99.1010 (Category 369) which  
have been produced by hand knotting, hand  
weaving, hand tufting or hand needlepoint,  
and which contain a design produced  
through the use of yarns of different colors  
or through carving the face of the floor  
covering.

Chinese floor coverings in the  
aforementioned HTS numbers in Categories  
369, 465 and 665, produced or manufactured  
in China and exported on and after April 1,  
1997 shall be exempt from quota and visa  
requirements and an ELVIS transmission for  
entry if properly certified by the Government  
of the People's Republic of China.

An exempt certification must accompany  
each commercial shipment for the  
aforementioned textile products. An original  
rectangular-stamped marking in blue ink  
must appear on the front of the original  
commercial invoice. The original copy of the  
invoice with the original exempt certification  
will be required to enter the shipment into  
the United States. Duplicate copies of the  
invoice and/or the exempt certification may  
not be used.

Each exempt certification stamp shall  
include the certificate number, exempt item  
in by the shipment, quantity, date of  
issuance, signature of the issuing official and  
name and code of the issuing authority.

An exempt certification should be issued  
prior to the exportation of the shipment.  
Should a shipment be accompanied by a  
certification that is incorrect (i.e., the date of  
issuance, signature or other information is  
missing, or illegible) then the correct exempt  
certificate is required prior to the release of  
the goods.

If the product does not meet the conditions  
described above (e.g., the product is  
misdescribed or misclassified), the exempt  
certification is unacceptable (i.e., the  
signature is crossed out or altered in any way  
or other information is altered), or the  
commodity is exported without an exempt  
certificate, then a visa and an ELVIS  
transmission should be submitted prior to the  
release of any portion of the shipment by the  
U.S. Customs Service and the merchandise  
shall be subject to existing quota  
requirements. If a visa and ELVIS  
transmission are not submitted, then the  
goods will be denied entry.

An invoice may cover visaed merchandise  
or exempt certified merchandise, but not  
both.

A facsimile of the exempt certification  
stamp is enclosed.

The actions taken concerning the  
Government of the People's Republic of  
China with respect to imports of textiles and  
textile products in the foregoing categories  
have been determined by the Committee for  
the Implementation of Textile Agreements to  
involve foreign affairs functions of the United  
States. Therefore, these directions to the  
Commissioner of Customs, which are  
necessary for the implementation of such  
actions, fall within the foreign affairs  
exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5  
U.S.C. 553(a)(1). This letter will be published  
in the **Federal Register**.

Sincerely,  
D. Michael Hutchinson,  
*Acting Chairman, Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*  
[FR Doc. 97-12927 Filed 5-16-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary of Defense

#### Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense, Advisory Group on Electron Devices.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Working Group C (Electro-Optics) of the DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held at 0900, Wednesday and Thursday, May 28-29, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center (NCCOSC), RDT&E Division/NRA d topside, Building A-33, Cloud Room, 53560 Silvergate Avenue, San Diego, CA 95152.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elise Rabin, AGED Secretariat, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective and economical research and development program in the area of electron devices.

The Working Group C meeting will be limited to review of research and development programs which the Military Departments propose to initiate with industry, universities or in their laboratories. This opto-electronic device area includes such programs as imaging device, infrared detectors and lasers. The review will include details of classified defense programs throughout.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of Pub. L. No. 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. Section 10(d)(1994)), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1)(1994), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.

Dated: May 13, 1997.  
**L.M. Bynum,**  
*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*  
[FR Doc. 97-12865 Filed 5-15-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary of Defense

#### Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense, Advisory Group on Electron Devices.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Working Group A (Microwave Devices) of the DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held at 0900, Tuesday, June 3, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Palisades Institute for Research Services, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22202.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eric Carr, AGED Secretariat, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective and economical research and development program in the area of electron devices.

The Working Group A meeting will be limited to review of research and development programs which the Military Departments propose to initiate with industry, universities or in their laboratories. This microwave device area includes programs on developments and research related to microwave tubes, solid state microwave devices, electronic warfare devices, millimeter wave devices, and passive devices. The review will include details of classified defense programs throughout.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. section 10(d) (1994)), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1994), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.

Dated May 13, 1997.  
**L. M. Bynum,**  
*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*  
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BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary of Defense

#### Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense, Advisory Group on Electron Devices.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held at 0900, Friday, June 6, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Palisades Institute for Research Services, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22202.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Eliot Cohen, AGED Secretariat, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective and economical research and development program in the area of electron devices.

The AGED meeting will be limited to review of research and development programs which the Military Departments propose to initiate with industry, universities or in their laboratories. The agenda for this meeting will include programs on Radiation Hardened Devices, Microwave Tubes, Displays and Lasers. The review will include details of classified defense programs throughout.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. section 10(d)(1994)), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1)(1994), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.