

U.S. commercial policy on trade with Sub-Saharan Africa.

The ACA will be composed of not more than 21 individuals representing companies, and will be chaired by Secretary of Commerce William M. Daley. To assure a balanced representation of interests, members will be selected based on the criteria set forth below, to obtain a balance in industry sectors, company size, location, gender and ethnic representation.

The Committee will function solely as an advisory body, and in compliance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Charter will be filed under the Act, fifteen days from the publication of this notice.

The inaugural meeting of the ACA is expected to take place during the first quarter of the year 2000. Meetings will be scheduled quarterly throughout the year at the Department's headquarters. Additional meetings may be called as determined by the Secretary.

#### Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Membership

##### Membership Obligations

Members will be expected to serve a term of two years. However, to set up a staggered membership renewal, one third of the private sector members from this initial appointment will serve for a two year term; a second third will serve for a three year term and a final third for a four year term. Each year, a third of the ACA membership will be replaced.

Nominations are now being sought for private sector members to serve for a two, three, or four year period from January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2001–2004, respectively. Members will serve at the discretion of the Secretary and shall serve as representatives of the business community and, specifically, the industry in which their business is engaged. They are expected to participate fully in implementing the Committee's work program. It is expected that private sector individuals chosen for ACA membership will attend not less than 75% of the ACA meetings each year.

Private sector members are fully responsible for travel, per diem, and personal expenses associated with their participation on the ACA.

The ACA will work on issues of common interest to encourage trade and investment, including the following:

- Resolving obstacles to trade and investment between the United States and Africa;
- Expanding commercial activity between the United States and Africa

and identifying commercial opportunities;

- Developing sectoral or project-oriented approaches to expand business opportunities;
- Identifying further steps to facilitate and encourage the development of commercial expansion between the United States and Africa; and
- Taking any other appropriate steps for fostering commercial relations between the U.S. and Africa.

##### Criteria

In order to be eligible for membership in the U.S. section, potential candidates must be:

- (1) U.S. citizens or permanent residents;
- (2) CEOs or other senior management level employees of a U.S. company or organization with demonstrated involvement in trade with and/or investment in Sub-Saharan Africa who will participate in not less than 75% of the meetings, which will be held in the United States. Representative nominated should be the individual who will actively participate in the ACA;
- (3) Not a Registered Foreign Agent; and
- (4) Actively doing business in Sub-Saharan Africa or actively developing entry plans for doing business in Sub-Saharan Africa.

To the extent possible, the Department of Commerce will strive to achieve membership composition that reflects U.S. entrepreneurial diversity. Therefore, in reviewing eligible candidates, the Department of Commerce will consider such selection factors as:

- (1) Depth of experience in the Sub-Saharan African market;
- (2) Export/investment experience;
- (3) Representation of industry or service sectors of importance to our commercial relationship with Sub-Saharan Africa;
- (4) Company size or, if an organization, size and number of member companies;
- (5) Location of company or organization; and
- (6) Contribution to the Committee's ethnic and gender diversity.

To apply for membership, please provide a company information sheet and a personal resume and any other pertinent information which demonstrate how the applicant satisfies the selection criteria identified.

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1979, 19 U.S.C. 2171 Note, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

**Sally Miller,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Africa.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-DA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

#### Announcement of a Partially Closed Meeting of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Board

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of partially closed meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Advisory Board (MEPNAB) will meet to hold a meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2000. The MEPNAB is composed of nine members appointed by the Director of NIST who were selected for their expertise in the area of industrial extension and their work on behalf of smaller manufacturers. The Board was set up, under the direction of the Director of the NIST, to fill a need for outside input on MEP. MEP is a unique program consisting of centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The centers have been created by state, federal and local partnerships. The Board works closely with the MEP to provide input and advice on MEP's programs, plans and policies. The purpose of this meeting is to cover areas of operation determined during the previous Board meeting. The agenda will include an MEP overview, an update for the new members, and a look at how MEP staff working with the centers can provide more of a consultant role. The agenda will also look at what products, services, and training the NIST MEP staff needs to provide strong assistance to Centers. The portion of the meeting, which involves personnel and proprietary budget information, will be closed to the general public. All other portions of the meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES AND ADDRESSES:** The meeting will convene on January 27, 2000, at 8 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:30 p.m. and will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 101, 10th Floor, Gaithersburg,

Maryland. The closed portion of the meeting is scheduled from 8–9:30 a.m.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Assistant Secretary for Administration with the concurrence of the General Counsel formally determined on July 15, 1999, pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that these portions of the meeting may be properly closed because they are concerned with matters that are within the purview of 5 U.S.C. 552© (4), (6) and (9)(b). A copy of the determination is available for public inspection in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6219, Main Commerce.

MEP's services to smaller manufacturers address the needs of the national market as well as the unique needs of each company. Since MEP is committed to providing this type of individualized service through its centers, the program requires the perspective of locally based experts to be incorporated into its national plans. The MEPNAB was established at the direction of the NIST Director to maintain MEP's focus on local and market-based needs. The MEPNAB was approved on October 24, 1996, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2., to provide advice on MEP programs, plans, and policies; to assess the soundness of MEP plans and strategies; to assess the current performance against MEP program plans, and to function in an advisory capacity. The Board will meet three times a year and reports to the Director of NIST. This will be the first meeting of the MEPNAB in 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Linda Acierto, Assistant to the Director for Policy, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone number (301) 975–5033.

Dated: January 4, 2000.

**Karen H. Brown,**

*Deputy Director, NIST.*

[FR Doc. 00–652 Filed 1–11–00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122199E]

#### Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Issuance of photography permit no. 954–1517

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Mr. Michael Kundu, Project SeaWolf, P.O. Box 987, Marysville, WA 98270–0987, has been issued a permit to take by Level B harassment several species of non-threatened, non-endangered marine mammals for purposes of commercial photography. ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,  
1315 East-West Highway, Room  
13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/  
713–2289);

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4213

(562/980–4015);

Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Bin C15700, Building 1, Seattle, WA 98115–0070 (206/526–6150); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, 709 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Federal Building Room 461, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (907/586–7235).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 27, 1999, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (64 FR 51960) that the above-named applicant had submitted a request for a permit to take several species of marine mammals by Level B harassment during the course of commercial photographic activities in California, Alaska, Washington waters, excluding the area west of 124° west longitude and north of 48° north latitude. The requested permit has been issued, under the authority of § 104(c)(6) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*).

Dated: December 30, 1999.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 00–716 Filed 1–11–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–F**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Defense Partnership Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting cancellation.

**SUMMARY:** On December 20, 1999, 64 FR 71124, the Department of Defense published a notice to announce a

meeting of the Defense Partnership Council to be held January 11, 2000. This notice is to announce that the meeting is cancelled due to conflicts in members' schedules.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Kenneth Oprisko, Chief, Labor Relations Branch, Field Advisory Services Division, Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service, 1400 Key Boulevard, Suite B–200, Arlington, VA, 22209–5144, (703) 696–1450.

Dated: January 6, 2000.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 00–658 Filed 1–11–99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001–10–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Defense Science Board Task Force on Patriot Anti-Cruise Missile

**ACTION:** Notice of advisory committee meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Science Board Task Force on Patriot Anti-Cruise Missile (PACM) will meet in closed session on February 1, 2000, at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), 4001 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense through the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and Director, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization on programmatic and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At this meeting, the Task Force will review and compile recommendations for the Secretary of Defense on how to best respond to the Congressional directive to assess the capability of the PACM to counter cruise missiles, including low-observable cruise missiles, compared to the capability of the Patriot PAC–3 missile and other upgraded versions of the Patriot missile to counter such threats, and the opportunity costs of PACM acquisition.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92–463, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. II, (1994)), it has been determined that this DSB Task Force meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1994), and that accordingly this meeting will be closed to the public.