

### Information and Communication Technology Trade Mission

Toronto, Canada, April 21–22, 2004. Recruitment closes March 8, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Viktoria Palfi, U.S. Commercial Service, Toronto, Tel: (416) 595–5412, ext. 229, E-mail: [viktoria.palfi@mail.doc.gov](mailto:viktoria.palfi@mail.doc.gov).

### Natural Health Products Trade Mission

Montreal, Canada, March 29–30, 2004. Recruitment closes March 8, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pierre Richer, U.S. Commercial Service, Montreal, Tel: (514) 398–9695, ext. 6–2261, E-mail: [pierre.richer@mail.doc.gov](mailto:pierre.richer@mail.doc.gov).

### Plastics Trade Mission to Canada

Toronto, Canada, May 3–4, 2004. Recruitment closes March 19, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Madellon C. Lopes, U.S. Commercial Service, Toronto, Tel: (416) 595–5412, Ext. 227, E-mail: [madellon.lopes@mail.doc.gov](mailto:madellon.lopes@mail.doc.gov).

### REPCAN 2004

Toronto, Canada, June 16–17, 2004. Recruitment closes April 23, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rita Patlan, U.S. Commercial Service, Toronto, Tel: (416) 595–5412, Ext. 223, E-mail: [rita.patlan@mail.doc.gov](mailto:rita.patlan@mail.doc.gov).

### Explore BC

Vancouver, Canada, June 22–23, 2004. Recruitment closes May 21, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cheryl Schell U.S. Commercial Service, Vancouver, BC, Tel: 604–642–6679, E-mail: [cheryl.schell@mail.doc.gov](mailto:cheryl.schell@mail.doc.gov).

### Women's Apparel Trade Mission to Europe

Dusseldorf, Germany, March 15–16, 2004, London, England, March 18–19, 2004, and Stockholm, Sweden, March 22–23, 2004. Recruitment closes February 4, 2004. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rachel Alarid, Trade Development, Washington DC, Tel: (202) 482–5154, E-mail: [Rachel\\_Alarid@ita.doc.gov](mailto:Rachel_Alarid@ita.doc.gov).

Recruitment and selection of private sector participants for these trade missions will be conducted according to the Statement of Policy Governing Department of Commerce Overseas Trade Missions dated March 3, 1997. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. John Klingelhut, U.S. Department of Commerce, telephone (202) 482–3304 or e-mail [John.Klingelhut@mail.doc.gov](mailto:John.Klingelhut@mail.doc.gov).

Dated: January 7, 2004.

**Kam Shah,**

*Office of International Operations.*

[FR Doc. 04–1767 Filed 1–27–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No.: 040113014–4014–01]

### NOAA Oceans and Human Health Initiative, FY 2004 Program Announcement

**AGENCY:** Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA publishes this notice to solicit extramural research proposals under NOAA's new Oceans and Human Health Initiative (OHH). The OHH is a competitive suite of programs designed to address the increasingly important role of the oceans on human health. From increased harmful algal blooms to beach closures, from infectious diseases to marine toxins and pathogens, from seafood safety and testing to sentinel species, and from drug discovery to pharmaceuticals, this new initiative is designed to build on the existing work throughout NOAA to enhance NOAA's expertise in the oceans and human health arena through partnerships across NOAA, with other Federal and State agencies, and with academia and the private sector. This funding opportunity is intended to engage the non-federal research community in interdisciplinary research combining the physical science, biological science, medical and public health communities in (1) taking an ecosystems approach to understanding and predicting the pathways through which ocean processes affect human health, or (2) promoting the ecologically sound discovery and use of marine organisms and bioactive agents for human health benefit. Building on NOAA's strengths in assessment, prediction, and exploration, research should be structured to provide useful information for public health and natural resource policy and decision-making on issues at the interface of ocean processes and human health outcomes related to NOAA's mission. Interested applicants should refer to the full text of the Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) for further criteria and submission details. The FFO is available at the addresses listed below in the section on Electronic

Access. This solicitation announces approximately \$3.0 Million available from FY03 appropriation for research projects funded under this OHH external, peer-reviewed, grants program. Pending FY04 appropriation and internal policy decisions, an additional \$3.0–\$4.0 Million may be available to supplement funds for awards made under this solicitation. Interested applicants should read the Federal Funding Opportunity for complete requirements. See section below on electronic access for web addresses.

**DATES:** Letters of Intent (LOI) should be received by 5 p.m. eastern time February 27, 2004. Full Proposals must be received at NOAA's Office of Global Programs by 5 p.m. eastern time April 23, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Full Proposals must be submitted to: Office of Global Programs (OGP), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1210, Silver Spring, MD 20910–5603. Letters of Intent should be submitted by e-mail to [ogpgrants@noaa.gov](mailto:ogpgrants@noaa.gov).

*General Information Contact:* Diane S. Brown, Grants Manager (see **ADDRESSES**), phone at 301–427–2089, ext. 107, fax to 301–427–2222, or e-mail at [ogpgrants@noaa.gov](mailto:ogpgrants@noaa.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Electronic Access:* Applicants should read the full text of the funding opportunity announcement, which can be accessed at OGP's Web site: <http://www.ogp.noaa.gov> or the central NOAA site: <http://www.ofa.noaa.gov/~amd/SOLINDEX.HTML>. This announcement will also be available through Grants.gov at <http://www.Grants.gov>. The standard NOAA application kit is available on the OGP Web site at: <http://www.opg.noaa.gov/grants/appkit.htm>.

*Funding Availability:* Based on the approved OHH spending plan, this solicitation announces approximately \$3.0 Million available from FY03 appropriation for research projects funded under this OHH external, peer-reviewed, grants program. Pending FY04 appropriation and internal policy decisions, an additional \$3.0–\$4.0 Million may be available to supplement funds for awards made under this FFO. We anticipate that the cost of most funded projects will fall between \$50,000 and \$250,000 per year. The exact amount of funds that may be awarded will be determined in pre-award negotiations between the applicant and NOAA representatives. Proposals may be for up to a three-year period. It is anticipated that the funding instrument for most of the extramural

awards will be a grant; however, in some cases, if NOAA will be substantially involved in the implementation of the project, the funding instrument may be a cooperative agreement. Neither NOAA nor the Department of Commerce is responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program is not funded for whatever reason. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds.

**Statutory Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 44720 (b); 33 U.S.C. 883d; 15 U.S.C. 2904; 15 U.S.C. 2931–2934.

**CFDA:** 11.460—Special Oceanic and Atmospheric Projects

**Eligibility:** Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, hospitals, other nonprofits, commercial organizations, foreign governments, organizations under the jurisdiction of foreign governments, international organizations, State, local and Indian tribal governments. Federal agencies or institutions are not eligible to receive Federal assistance under this notice.

**Cost Sharing Requirements:** This program does not require matching share.

**Intergovernmental Review:** Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, “Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.”

**Evaluation and Selection Procedures:** NOAA published its first omnibus notice announcing the availability of grant funds for both projects and fellowships/scholarship/internships for Fiscal Year 2004 in the **Federal Register** on June 30, 2003 (68 FR 38678). The evaluation criteria and selection procedures contained in the June 30, 2003 omnibus notice are applicable to this solicitation. For a copy of the June 30, 2003 omnibus notice please go to: <http://www/ofa.noaa.gov/~amd/SOLINDEX.HTML>.

**The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements:** The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of October 1, 2002 (67 FR 49917), as amended by the **Federal Register** notice published on October 30, 2002 (67 FR 66109), are applicable to this solicitation.

**Paperwork Reduction Act:** This document contains collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The use of Standard Forms 424 and 424A, 424B, SF–LLL, and CD–346, have been

approved by OMB under the respective control numbers 0348–0043, 0348–0044, 0348–0040, 0348–0046, and 0605–0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Executive Order 12866:** This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

**Executive Order 13132 (Federalism):** It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

**Administrative Procedure Act/Regulatory Flexibility Act:** Prior notice and an opportunity for public comments are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for this notice concerning grants, benefits, and contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)). Because notice and opportunity for comment are not required pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are inapplicable. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis has not been prepared.

Dated: January 23, 2004.

**Richard D. Rosen,**

*Assistant Administrator, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 04–1783 Filed 1–27–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–KB–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

**Docket No. 040116021–4021–01**

### Rural Wireless Broadband Access in the 3650–3700 MHz Band

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Inquiry.

**SUMMARY:** The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) invites interested parties to review and comment on the questions presented in this Notice to assist NTIA in developing recommendations to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on the use of the 3650–3700 MHz band for unlicensed devices. NTIA’s specific interest is to ensure the continued

protection of operations of Government agencies in this band. In order to ensure that these Federal operations are not adversely affected, NTIA is seeking public comment to explore the merits of frequency and/or geographic avoidance technologies, and other interference-mitigation techniques, and to examine technical requirements to allow compatible unlicensed device usage in the 3650–3700 MHz band. NTIA believes that by making this band available with appropriate regulatory provisions, broadband wireless access would be facilitated in rural areas. NTIA supports the FCC in its efforts to introduce advanced communications to rural areas, and seeks to ensure that the interests of the Federal Government users of spectrum are adequately protected. NTIA has determined that it is important to examine the issues related to the use of unlicensed devices and wireless broadband, and to develop recommendations regarding specific regulations for the use of the 3650–3700 MHz band as a follow-on to the new spectrum allocated at 5 GHz for unlicensed broadband devices.<sup>1</sup> Some initial conclusions about the 3650–3700 MHz band are discussed in NTIA comments in *Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices Below 900 MHz and in the 3 GHz Band* proceeding.<sup>2</sup> Comments submitted in this proceeding will be posted on NTIA’s website.

**DATES:** Written comments and papers in response to this Notice are requested to be submitted on or before February 27, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit an original and two copies of written comments to the Office of the Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 4713, Attention: Unlicensed Devices Proceeding, Washington, DC 20230. Paper submissions should include a three and one-half inch computer diskette in HTML, ASCII, Word, or WordPerfect format (please specify version). Diskettes should be labeled with the name and organizational affiliation of the filer, and the name of the word processing program used to create the document. Alternatively, comments and papers may be submitted electronically

<sup>1</sup> *Revision of Parts 2 and 15 to Permit Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) Devices in the 5 GHz Band*, ET Docket No. 03–122, Report and Order, FCC 03–287 (released, Nov. 12, 2003).

<sup>2</sup> *Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices Below 900 MHz and in the 3 GHz Band*, ET Doc. No. 02–380, Notice of Inquiry, 17 F.C.C.R. 25632 (2002) (*Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices*). See also, *Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices*, 68 Fed. Reg. 2730 (Jan. 21, 2003).