

anticipated that the catch would be taken in 120–150 tows.

Previous research in this area has shown bycatch to be limited. It is expected that fish bycatch may consist of 5,000 lb (2,268 kg) of little skate, less than 50 lb (23 kg) of monkfish and approximately 300 lb (136 kg) of flatfish. All incidental catch would be returned to the sea. If there are interactions with sea turtles, the sea turtles would be handled in accordance with sea turtle resuscitation regulations at 50 CFR 223.206(d)(1). If any injured sea turtles are encountered, the researchers would arrange for transfer to authorized rehabilitation facilities. Observers from CFI would collect data on each trip.

The possession and landing restrictions for commercial vessels fishing under the General Category scallop vessel permit allow such vessels to harvest and land up to 400 lb (181 kg) of scallops on each trip, with up to one landing per calendar day. In order to improve the success of the research project, CFI has requested an EFP to authorize the commercial vessels involved to land 400 lb (181 kg) for each day that they fish, without requiring the vessel to return to port every day to offload the scallop catch. This would enable the vessel to stay in the vicinity of sea turtles that are encountered.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: July 5, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E5–3611 Filed 7–7–05; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Determination Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

June 30, 2005.

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

ACTION: Directive to the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection

SUMMARY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that certain textile and apparel goods from Ethiopia shall be treated as “handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles” and qualify for preferential treatment under the African Growth and Opportunity Act. Imports of eligible products from Ethiopia with an appropriate visa will qualify for duty-free treatment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 18, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anna Flaaten, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) (AGOA) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, including hand-loomed, handmade, or folklore articles of a beneficiary country that are certified as such by the competent authority in the beneficiary country. In Executive Order 13191, the President authorized CITA to consult with beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and to determine which, if any, particular textile and apparel goods shall be treated as being hand-loomed, handmade, or folklore articles. (66 FR 7272)

In a letter to the Commissioner of Customs dated January 18, 2001, the United States Trade Representative directed Customs to require that importers provide an appropriate export visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country to obtain preferential treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of the visa number corresponds to one of nine groupings of textile and apparel products that are eligible for preferential tariff treatment. Grouping “9” is reserved for handmade, hand-loomed, or folklore articles.

CITA has consulted with Ethiopian authorities and has determined that hand-loomed fabrics, hand-loomed articles (e.g., hand-loomed rugs, scarves, place mats, and tablecloths), handmade articles made from hand-loomed fabrics, and the folklore articles described in the annex to this notice, if produced in and exported from Ethiopia, are eligible for preferential tariff treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA. In the letter published below, CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection to allow duty-free entry of such products under U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule subheading 9819.11.27 if accompanied by an appropriate AGOA visa in grouping “9”.

James C. Leonard III,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

June 30, 2005.

Commissioner,
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,

Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA), pursuant to Sections 112(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of Pub. L. No. 106-200) (AGOA) and Executive Order 13191 of January 17, 2001, has determined, effective on July 18, 2005, that the following articles shall be treated as “handloomed, handmade, and folklore articles” under the AGOA: (a) handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles (e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats, and tablecloths), and hand-made articles made from handloomed fabrics, if made in Ethiopia from fabric handloomed in Ethiopia; and (b) the folklore articles described in the attached annex if made in Ethiopia. Such articles are eligible for duty-free treatment only if entered under subheading 9819.11.27 and accompanied by a properly completed visa for product grouping “9”, in accordance with the provisions of the Visa Arrangement between the Government of Ethiopia and the Government of the United States Concerning Textile and Apparel Articles Claiming Preferential Tariff Treatment under Section 112 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000. After additional consultations with Ethiopian authorities, CITA may determine that additional textile and apparel goods shall be treated as folklore articles.

Sincerely,
James C. Leonard III,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

ANNEX

CITA has determined that the following textile and apparel goods shall be treated as folklore articles for purposes of the AGOA if made in Ethiopia. Articles must be ornamented in characteristic Ethiopian or regional folk style. An article may not include modern features such as zippers, elastic, elasticized fabrics, or hook-and-pile fasteners (such as velcro or similar holding fabric). An article may not incorporate patterns that are not traditional or historical to Ethiopia, such as airplanes, buses, cowboys, or cartoon characters and may not incorporate designs referencing holidays or festivals not common to traditional Ethiopian culture, such as Halloween and Thanksgiving. Typical Ethiopian designs may use, but are not limited to, geometric shapes and diamond-shaped or modified diamond-shaped crosses.

Eligible folklore articles:

(a) Shema Borsa (Hand-woven bag/pouch)
Shema Borsas are made of relatively thick cotton hand-woven fabric on the exterior with or without an inside lining that is generally machine-woven fabric, and may be hand- or machine-stitched together. The Shema Borsas are typically 10 - 14 inches wide and 10 - 14 inches tall decorated with features including typical small geometrical diamond-shaped patterns, which can be woven into the fabric itself or ornamented with strips of woven silk in geometric shapes, braided silk appliqués, small shells, nuts, silver jewelry, beads, or fringe. The Shema Borsa may or may not have a fold over

flap and have carrying strap(s) and may come with or without closures such as a small strip of decorative fabric looping around a shell, bead or nut.

(b) Sofa Trase Libse (cushion covers/pillow covers)

The Sofa Trase Libse is made of hand-woven material on the front face, often backed with machine made woven or non-woven fabric for support and machine-stitched together, typically 12 - 18 inches tall and wide. Sofa Trase Libses are decorated with typical geometric diamond-shaped designs, may be embroidered, and are slotted in the back as an opening or slotted with a closure of button(s).

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DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Notice of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission—Open Meeting (Washington, DC)

AGENCY: Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

ACTION: Notice; Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission—Open Meeting (Washington, DC).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission will hold an open meeting on July 18, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Hart Senate Office Building, Room 216, Constitution Avenue, Washington DC 20510. The delay of this change notice resulted from the short time-frame established by statute for the operations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission. The Commission requests that the public consult the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission Web site, <http://www.brac.gov>, for updates.

The Commission will meet to receive comment from the Secretary of Defense on why certain base realignment and closure actions were not included among the actions recommended by the Secretary on May 13, 2005 (<http://www.brac.gov/docs/Principi-Rumsfeld.pdf>), to hear testimony from the Comptroller General regarding the Government Accountability Office's analysis of the Department of Defense's 2005 selection process and recommendation for base closures and realignments (GAO-05-785, available at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05785.pdf>), and to hear testimony from the Commission on Review of Overseas Military Facility Structure of the United States (The Overseas Basing Commission) regarding that commission's Report to the President

and Members of Congress (available at <http://obc.gov/>). This meeting will be open to the public, subject to the availability of space. Sign language interpretation will be provided.

DATES: July 18, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hart Senate Office Building, Room 216, Constitution Avenue, Washington DC 20510.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please see the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission Web site, <http://www.brac.gov>. The Commission invites the public to provide direct comment by sending an electronic message through the portal provided on the Commission's Web site or by mailing comments and supporting documents to the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, 2521 South Clark Street Suite 600, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3920. The Commission requests that public comments be directed toward matters bearing on the decision criteria described in *The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990*, as amended, available on the Commission Web site. Sections 2912 through 2914 of that Act describe the criteria and many of the essential elements of the 2005 BRAC process. For questions regarding this announcement, contact Mr. Dan Cowhig, Deputy General Counsel and Designated Federal Officer, at the Commission's mailing address or by telephone at 703-699-2950 or 2708.

Dated: July 5, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,
Administrative Support Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-13472 Filed 7-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Notice of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission—Open Meeting (Washington, DC)

AGENCY: Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

ACTION: Notice; Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission—Open Meeting (Washington, DC).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission will hold an open meeting on July 19, 2005 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Hart Senate Office Building, Room 216, Constitution Avenue, Washington DC 20510. The Commission requests that the public consult the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission Web site,

<http://www.brac.gov>, for updates. The Commission will meet to deliberate and vote whether to consider certain base realignment and closure actions that were not included among the actions recommended by the Secretary of Defense on May 13, 2005 (<http://www.brac.gov/docs/Principi-Rumsfeld.pdf>). The delay of this change notice resulted from the short time-frame established by statute for the operations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission. The Commission will also deliberate and vote on a portion of the actions recommended by the Secretary of Defense on May 13, 2005. This meeting will be open to the public, subject to the availability of space. Sign language interpretation will be provided.

DATES: July 19, 2005 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hart Senate Office Building, Room 216, Constitution Avenue, Washington DC 20510.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please see the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission Web site, <http://www.brac.gov>. The Commission invites the public to provide direct comment by sending an electronic message through the portal provided on the Commission's Web site or by mailing comments and supporting documents to the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, 2521 South Clark Street Suite 600, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3920. The Commission requests that public comments be directed toward matters bearing on the decision criteria described in *The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990*, as amended, available on the Commission Web site. Sections 2912 through 2914 of that Act describe the criteria and many of the essential elements of the 2005 BRAC process. For questions regarding this announcement, contact Mr. Dan Cowhig, Deputy General Counsel and Designated Federal Officer, at the Commission's mailing address or by telephone at 703-699-2950 or 2708.

Dated: July 5, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,
Administrative Support Officer.

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