

summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 28, 2006.

**Gay M. Gilbert,**

*Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E6-15346 Filed 9-14-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### **Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Reporting and Performance Standards System for the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Under Title I, Section 167 of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the data collection for the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program, also known as the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP). A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice or at this Web site: <http://www.doleta.gov/Performance/guidance/OMBControlNumber.cfm>.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before November 14, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Gay M. Gilbert, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training

Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone: (202) 693-3980 (this is not a toll-free number); fax: (202) 693-3981, e-mail [ETAPerforms@dol.gov](mailto:ETAPerforms@dol.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

Each grantee administering funds under the NFJP program is required to submit a program planning report (ETA Form 9094), a budget information summary report (ETA Form 9093), and a quarterly program status report (ETA Form 9095). This latter form contains information related to levels of participation and service, related assistance activities, and actual placements in employment. In addition, each grantee submits a quarterly file of individual records on all participants who exit the program, called the Workforce Investment Act Standardized Participant Record (WIASPR).

In 2001, under the President's Management Agenda, OMB and other Federal agencies developed a set of common measures to be applied to certain federally funded employment and training programs with similar strategic goals. As part of this initiative, ETA issued Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 28-04, Common Measures Policy. The value of implementing common measures is the ability to describe in a similar manner the core purposes of the workforce system—how many people found jobs; did they keep those jobs; and what were their earnings. Implementing a set of common measures can facilitate the integration of service delivery, reduce barriers to cooperation among programs, and enhance the ability to assess the effectiveness and impact of the workforce investment system, including the performance of the system in serving individuals facing significant barriers to employment.

The common measures are an integral part of ETA's performance accountability system, and ETA will continue to collect from grantees the data on program activities, participants, and outcomes that are necessary for program management and to convey full and accurate information on the performance of workforce programs to policymakers and stakeholders.

The extension to the NFJP reporting system identifies a minimum level of information collection that is necessary to comply with Equal Opportunity requirements, holds grantees appropriately accountable for the Federal funds they receive, assesses progress against a set of common performance measures, and allows the

Department to fulfill its oversight and management responsibilities.

The three adult common measures that apply to NFJP grantees are Entered Employment; Employment Retention; and Average Earnings. Grantees currently collect and submit the data necessary to report on these performance measures.

##### **II. Review Focus**

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

##### **III. Current Actions**

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration.

*Title:* Reporting and Performance Standards System for the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) under Title I, Section 167, of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

*OMB Number:* 1205-0425.

*Recordkeeping:* Quarterly.

*Affected Public:* State, local or tribal governments; not-for-profit institutions.

*Total Respondents:* 53 States and grantees.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 70,562.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):* \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC this 8th day of September, 2006.

**Gay M. Gilbert,**

*Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment.*

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## MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

[MCC FR 06-15]

### Report on the Criteria and Methodology for Determining the Eligibility of Candidate Countries for Millennium Challenge Account Assistance in FY 2007

**AGENCY:** Millennium Challenge Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Section 608(d) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, Public Law 108-199 (Division D) requires the Millennium Challenge Corporation to publish a report that lists the countries determined by the Board of Directors of the Corporation to be eligible for assistance for Fiscal Year 2007. The report is set forth in full below.

Dated: September 11, 2006.

**William G. Anderson, Jr.,**

*Vice President & General Counsel (Acting), Millennium Challenge Corporation.*

### Report on the Criteria and Methodology for Determining the Eligibility of Candidate Countries for Millennium Challenge Account Assistance in FY 2007

#### Summary

This report to Congress is provided in accordance with Section 608(b) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, 22 U.S.C.A. 7701, 7707(b) (the "Act").

The Act authorizes the provision of Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) assistance to countries that enter into Compacts with the United States to support policies and programs that advance the prospects of such countries achieving lasting economic growth and poverty reduction. The Act requires the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to take a number of steps in determining the countries that, based on their demonstrated commitment to just and democratic governance, economic freedom and investing in their people and the opportunity to reduce poverty and generate economic growth in the country, will be eligible for MCA assistance during Fiscal Year 2007 (FY07). These steps include the submission of reports to the

congressional committees specified in the Act and the publication of Notices in the **Federal Register** that identify:

1. The countries that are "candidate countries" for MCA assistance during FY07 based on their per-capita income levels and their eligibility to receive assistance under U.S. law, and countries that would be candidate countries but for specified legal prohibitions on assistance (Section 608(a) of the Act);

2. The criteria and methodology that the Board of Directors of MCC (the "Board") will use to measure and evaluate the relative policy performance of the candidate countries consistent with the requirements of Section 607 of the Act in order to select "MCA eligible countries" from among the "candidate countries" (Section 608(b) of the Act); and

3. The list of countries determined by the Board to be "MCA eligible countries" for FY07, with justification for eligibility determination and selection for compact negotiation, including which of the MCA eligible countries the Board will seek to enter into MCA compacts (Section 608(d) of the Act).

This report sets out the criteria and methodology to be applied in determining eligibility for FY07 MCA assistance.

#### Changes to the Criteria and Methodology for FY07

MCC has received constructive input on the indicators since the announcement of FY06's selection criteria and methodology. That input has been taken into account in creating the criteria and methodology for the selection of eligible countries for FY07.

#### Natural Resource Management Indicators

In the FY06 report, MCC signaled interest in finding a better measure of a country's demonstrated commitment to " \* \* \* economic policies that promote \* \* \* the sustainable management of natural resources." To that end, MCC launched a public process, spearheaded by Governor Whitman, to seek broad input from the academic community, public and private sector practitioners, researchers at think tanks and NGOs. We conducted extensive consultations, hosted several public meetings and researched over 120 potential natural resource indicators. In June 2005, at a large meeting of experts co-hosted by The Brookings Institution, MCC announced a public "call for ideas" to seek suggestions for an indicator. We also assembled a group of economists and natural resources management experts to help us evaluate the ideas we

received. Eight ideas were evaluated, and two received high ratings from both the evaluators and MCC staff: a Natural Resources Management index from Columbia University's Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) and the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy (YCLEP) and an Access to Land indicator from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). As a result of technical consultations with experts in the environmental and land communities, MCC explored modifications to the original submissions and determined that the two indices, with some modifications, measure separate aspects of natural resources management and, thus taken together, represent a more comprehensive measurement of this criteria (as well as other criteria noted below).

To measure the sustainable management of natural resources for FY07, MCC has added the Natural Resources Management index and a Land Rights and Access index (IFAD's Access to Land indicator combined with the International Finance Corporation's (IFC's) Time and Cost of Property Registration indicators) as sources of supplemental information. MCC's Board will consider later this year incorporating natural resource management indicators as part of the formal selection matrix for the FY08 selection process. MCC strives for transparency and continuity between years in our selection process and the indicators in order to maximize the incentive effect of the country selection process. The addition of two new indicators is a significant modification of the overall evaluation of candidate country performance. By using these indicators as supplemental information for FY07, with full consideration later this year of formal adoption as selection indicators for FY08, MCC will provide notice to countries of their performance and an opportunity to learn how they are being measured. MCC will engage countries in a dialogue about performance and potential reforms in these areas and will encourage countries to seek feedback from the institutions that produce these indicators.

It is important to recognize that all of MCC's indicators have limitations, including these two additional indicators. For example, the Eco-Region Protection indicator described below attempts to measure the breadth and comprehensiveness of a government's commitment to habitat preservation and biodiversity protection but does not measure the effectiveness of such efforts. Therefore, MCC will continue to