

partnership between Executive agencies, labor and human rights advocacy groups, industry representatives, and the public to promote effective enforcement of the law and to further the President's commitment to combat abusive child labor.

Objective, Scope and Description of the Committee

The Committee will advise the U.S. Treasury Department, the U.S. Customs Service, and other Executive agencies, on measures to enhance the effectiveness of enforcement of the import prohibition on merchandise manufactured in foreign countries with forced or indentured child labor. Among other matters, the Committee will assist in identifying specific information resources regarding, and avenues of productive inquiry into, prohibited child labor operations overseas. A major objective of the Committee is to share the expertise of private sector specialists regarding methods of operation employed, and international trade channels used, by manufacturers and distributors of merchandise produced with forced or indentured child labor. The ultimate purpose of this combined effort is to support a vigorous law enforcement initiative to stop illegal shipments of products of forced or indentured child labor and to punish violators.

Among other things, the Committee may make recommendations in the following areas. The Committee may consider additional governmental and nongovernmental measures to prevent child labor imports. The Committee may recommend measures and furnish information that will assist the Executive agencies in establishing a vigorous outreach and educational program calling upon industries and individuals in the private sector to promote voluntary compliance with the child labor prohibition. The Committee may explore avenues for encouraging the cooperation of both foreign governments and foreign nongovernmental organizations in nations where child labor is widely perceived to be a serious problem in order to enlarge the reach and effectiveness of U.S. enforcement efforts and resources.

Private sector members will be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury from persons with expertise in the subject of the use of child labor in foreign countries, particularly in the production of merchandise for international trade and/or who have commercial interests that may be affected by governmental enforcement measures. Members will be drawn from

such organizations as labor rights, human rights, and child welfare groups; labor unions; affected private firms and trade associations; academic experts and others who possess relevant expertise and/or who represent affected constituencies. Appointments will be made with the objective of creating a diverse and balanced body with a variety of interests, backgrounds, and viewpoints represented. In general, there will be at least twelve private sector members and not more than twenty. The Committee also will include ex officio members from relevant government agencies and entities.

The Committee will be chaired by the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement who may designate another official to serve in his absence as Acting Chairperson for purposes of presiding over a meeting of the Committee or performing any other duty of the Chairperson. The Committee will function for a two-year period before renewal or termination. It will meet periodically, but generally not more than four times per year, at the Treasury Department in Washington. The Committee may elect to hold a meeting(s) at another location if there is a consensus that this would further the objectives of the Committee.

The meetings are open to public observers, including the press, unless special procedures have been followed to close a meeting.

No person who is required to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act as an agent or representative of a foreign principal may serve on an advisory committee. Members shall not be paid compensation nor shall they be considered Federal Government employees for any purpose. No per diem, transportation, or other expenses are reimbursed for the cost of attending Committee meetings at any location.

Membership on the Committee is personal to the appointee. Regular attendance is essential to the effective operation of the Committee. However, in the event of an unavoidable absence, a member may designate an alternate to represent him or her at a meeting.

Application for Advisory Committee Appointment

Any interested person wishing to serve on the Treasury Advisory Committee on International Child Labor Enforcement must provide the following:

- Statement of interest and reasons for application;
- Complete professional biography or resume;

In addition, applicants must state in their applications that they agree to submit to preappointment security and tax checks. There is no prescribed format for the application. Applicants may send a cover letter describing their interest and qualifications and enclosing a resume.

The application period for interested candidates will extend to July 10, 1998. Applications should be submitted in sufficient time to be received by the close of business on the closing date and be addressed to Dennis M. O'Connell, Director, Office of Tariff and Trade Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary (Enforcement), Room 4004, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20220, Attention: CHILD 1998.

Dated: June 2, 1998.

Dennis M. O'Connell,

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Regulatory, Tariff and Trade Enforcement).*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the date and location of the next meeting and the agenda for consideration by the Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service.

DATES: The next meeting of the Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service will be held on June 26, 1998. The session will be held at the Marriott Financial Center, 85 West Street, New York, New York. (Tel. 212-266-6246, FAX: 212-385-9174) from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis M. O'Connell, Director, Office of Tariff and Trade Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary for Enforcement, Room 4004, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220. Tel.: (202) 622-0220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is the seventh meeting of the current two-year term of the Committee. The provisional agenda to be considered at the meeting is as follows:

1. Introduction of the Chief U.S. Textile Negotiator, Mr. Donald Johnson, and a discussion of the textile program.

2. Automated Export System: report of the subcommittee to develop industry recommendations.

3. Status and progress of Customs automation.

4. Current priorities in commercial enforcement.

5. The Merchandise Processing Fee and aggregation of entries: How can they be harmonized?

The foregoing provisional agenda may be modified prior to the meeting.

Members of the public may verify the final content of the agenda by calling the information number one week prior to the meeting. The Committee, in its discretion, may take up other matters, time permitting. The meeting is open to the public. However, participation in the discussion is limited to Committee members and Treasury and Customs staff. It is necessary for any person other than an Advisory Committee member

who wishes to attend the meeting to give notice by contacting Ms. Theresa Manning no later than June 19, 1998 at 202-622-0220.

Dated: June 2, 1998.

Dennis M. O'Connell,

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Regulatory, Tariff and Trade Enforcement).*

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