

pricing in their markets.⁶ Pursuant to that Order, the Commission has required the exchanges to submit proposed rule changes implementing a uniform decimals phase-in schedule. The purpose of the proposed rule change is to implement the decimalization phase-in schedule that the exchanges and other interested parties have adopted in the Decimals Plan.

2. Statutory Basis

The ISE believes that the proposal is consistent with the provisions of section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁷ which requires that an exchange have rules that are designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The ISE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- (i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- (ii) Impose any significant burden on competition; and
- (iii) Become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁹ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate

such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

The ISE has requested that the Commission accelerate the operative date. The Commission believes that it is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest and therefore finds good cause to designate the proposal to become immediately operative upon filing.¹⁰ Acceleration of the operative date will ensure that the ISE is able to operate in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Decimals Plan. For these reasons, the Commission finds good cause to designate that the proposal become operative immediately upon filing.¹¹

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the ISE. All submissions should refer to file number

¹⁰ The Decimals Plan contemplates that the options exchanges may wish to consider a pilot program for one-cent minimum price variations for quoting in a limited number of options ("Penny Pilot") at some point in the implementation process. The Commission expects that, before implementing a Penny Pilot, the options exchanges will carefully coordinate on such issues as the selection and number of options to be included in the pilot to ensure the continued orderly operation of the markets and clearing organizations. In particular, the Commission expects that the options exchanges will consult with the Commission regarding the impact on market-wide capacity. Before implementing a Penny Pilot, each options exchange should also submit appropriate rule filings to the Commission under Section 19(b) of the Exchange Act.

¹¹ For purposes only of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

SR-ISE-00-07 and should be submitted by September 26, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-22592 Filed 9-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3404]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Rembrandt Creates Rembrandt: Art and Ambition in Leiden, 1629-1631"

AGENCY: United States Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999, as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibition "Rembrandt Creates Rembrandt: Art and Ambition in Leiden, 1629-1631" imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, is of cultural significance. The objects are imported pursuant to loan agreements with the foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, Massachusetts, from on or about September 23, 2000 to on or about January 7, 2001 is in the national interest. Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Jacqueline Caldwell, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202/619-6982). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, S.W., Room 700, Washington, D.C. 20547-0001.

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

⁶ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42914 (June 8, 2000), 65 FR 38010 (June 19, 2000).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Dated: August 30, 2000.

Helena Kane Finn,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-22660 Filed 9-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3405]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Taoism And the Arts of China"

AGENCY: United States Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999, as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibition "Taoism And the Arts of China," imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. The objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Art Institute of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois from on or about November 2, 2000 to on or about January 7, 2001, and at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco, California from on or about February 21, 2001 to on or about May 12, 2001 is in the national interest. Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of the exhibit objects, contact Carol Epstein, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202/619-6981). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, S.W., Room 700, Washington, D.C. 20547-0001.

Dated: August 30, 2000.

Helena Kane Finn,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-22661 Filed 9-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3386]

Shipping Coordinating Committee, Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution; Notice of Meeting

The Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution (SPMP), a subcommittee of the Shipping Coordinating Committee, will conduct an open meeting on Tuesday, September 26, 2000, at 9:30 AM in Room 2415, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC.

The purpose of this meeting will be to review the agenda items to be considered at the forty fourth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 45) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). MEPC 45 will be held from October 2—October 6, 2000. Proposed U.S. positions on the agenda items for MEPC 45 will be discussed.

The major items for discussion for MEPC 45 will include the following:

- a. Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water;
- b. Implementation of the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol;
- c. Harmful effects of the use of anti-fouling paints for ships;
- d. Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments;
- e. Identification and protection of Special Areas and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas;
- f. Interpretation and amendments of MARPOL 73/78 and related Codes
- g. Prevention of air pollution from ships;
- h. Promotion of implementation and enforcement of MARPOL 73/78 and related Codes;
- i. Formal safety assessment including environmental indexing of ships; and
- j. Matters related to the 1973 Matters Protocol.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information or documentation pertaining to the meeting, contact Lieutenant Commander John Meehan, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G-MSO-4), 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; Telephone: (202) 267-2714; E-mail: jmeehan@comdt.uscg.mil; or On-line at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/gm/mso/mso4/mepc.html>

Dated: August 28, 2000.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-22658 Filed 9-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3387]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; International Maritime Organization Legal Committee; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 3, 2000, in Room 2415 at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare for the Eighty-Second Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee (LEG 82) and to also prepare for the next meeting of the Joint International Maritime Organization/International Labor Organization Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation Regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers (IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group).

IMO headquarters in London will host LEG 82, which will be held from 16 through 20 October 2000. The Legal Committee will continue work on a draft protocol to the Athens Convention Relating to the Carriage of Passengers and Their Luggage By Sea, and on the draft Wreck Removal Convention. The committee will also consider a proposal to increase the limits of compensation under the 1992 protocols to the 1969 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage and the 1971 International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage. The Legal Committee will then turn its attention to the implementation of the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection With the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, and time will also be allotted to address any other issues on the Legal Committee's work program on which there are questions or comments.

The IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group will meet at IMO headquarters from 30 October through 3 November 2000, and will continue to examine the issue of financial security for seafarers and their dependents with regard to compensation in cases of personal injury, death and abandonment. During this meeting, the group will review and analyze information received in response to a questionnaire sent to member states.

Members of the public are invited to attend the SHC meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information, or to submit views in