

- *Average Hours Per Response*: 20.
- *Total Estimated Burden*: 5600 hours per year.

- *Frequency*: Quarterly.
- *Obligation to Respond*: Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

DATE(S): The Department will accept comments from the public up to 60 days from January 18, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail*: HibbenBA@state.gov.
- *Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions)*: Barbara Hibben, Acting Deputy Director, U.S. Department of State, Office of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (NEA/PI), Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, NEA Mail Room—Room 6258, 2201 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20520.
- *Fax*: 202-647-8445
- *Hand Delivery or Courier*: 2430 E St., NW. (23rd and D St., NW.), Navy Hill—SA-4—Central, Second Floor, Washington, DC 20037.

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information collection title, and OMB control number in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to George Wilson, U.S. Department of State, Office of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (NEA/PI), Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, NEA Mail Room—Room 6258, 2201 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20520, who may be reached on 202-776-8641 or at wilsongr@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

Abstract of proposed collection:

Since 2002, MEPI has obligated more than \$430 million to over 250 organizations, who carry out more than 370 projects in support of political, economic, education and women's rights reform in 20 countries of the

Middle East and North Africa. As a normal course of business and in compliance with OMB Guidelines contained in Circular A-110, recipient organizations are required to provide, and the U.S. State Department required to collect, periodic program and financial performance reports. The responsibility of the State Department to track and monitor the programmatic and financial performance necessitates a database that can help facilitate this in a consistent and standardized manner. The MEPI Performance Reporting System (PRS) enables enhanced monitoring and evaluation of grants through standardized collection and storage of relevant award elements, such as quarterly progress reports, workplans, results monitoring plans, grant agreements, financial reports, and other business information related to MEPI implementers. The PRS streamlines communication with implementers and allows for rapid identification of information gaps for specific projects.

Methodology:

Information will be entered into PRS electronically by respondents. Non-respondents will submit their quarterly reports on paper.

Additional Information:

Dated: December 20, 2007.

Barbara Hibben,

Acting Deputy Director, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, NEA/PI, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E8-901 Filed 1-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-31-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public notice: 6064]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: U.S. Department of State Driver License and Tax Exemption Card Application; OMB Collection Number 1405-0105; Forms DS-1972, DS-1972D & DS-1972T

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- *Title of Information Collection*: U.S. Department of State Driver License and Tax Exemption Card Application.
- *OMB Control Number*: 1405-0105.
- *Type of Request*: Extension of a currently approved collection.

• *Originating Office*: Diplomatic Security/Office of Foreign Missions (DS/OFM).

• *Form Numbers*: DS-1972, DS-1972D, DS-1972T.

• *Respondents*: Foreign government representatives assigned to the United States.

• *Estimated Number of Respondents*: 350 foreign missions.

• *Estimated Number of Responses*: 21,284 responses (DS-1972: 6,385), (DS-1972D: 4,470), (DS-1972T: 10,249).

• *Average Hours Per Response*: DS-1972 (30 minutes), DS-1972D (20 minutes), DS-1972T (15 minutes).

• *Total Estimated Burden*: 7,275 hours.

• *Frequency*: On occasion.

• *Obligation to Respond*: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

The Department will accept comments from the public up to 60 days from date of publication in the **Federal Register**. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *E-mail*: OFMInfo@state.gov.
- *Mail*: U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security, Office of Foreign Missions, 2201 C Street, NW., Room 2238, Washington DC, 20520.

You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and OMB control number in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to Attn: Jacqueline Robinson, Diplomatic Security, Office of Foreign Missions, 2201 C Street, NW., Room 2238, Washington DC, 20520, who may be reached on (202) 647-3416 or OFMInfo@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

Abstract of proposed collection: The forms associated with OMB Collection Number 1405-0105 are means by which foreign missions in the United States

request the issuance of a driver license and/or a sales tax exemption card for foreign mission personnel and their dependents. The exemption from sales taxes and the operation of a motor vehicle in the United States by foreign mission personnel are benefits under the Foreign Missions Act, 22 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.*, which must be obtained by foreign missions through the U.S. Department of State, Office of Foreign Missions (DS/OFM). The DS-1972, DS-1972D, and DS-1972T applications provide OFM with the necessary information required to administer the two benefits effectively and efficiently. Sales tax exemption is enjoyed under the provisions of international law but is granted on the bases of reciprocity. The administration of driver licenses at the national level helps the Federal Government identify operators who repeatedly receive citations. This also helps the Federal Government determine the necessary course of action that may be required against an individual's driving privilege. Accordingly, the Federal Government is able to provide consistency of enforcement to the diplomatic community on a national level through a uniform program. The respondents are foreign government representatives assigned to the United States.

Methodology: These applications/information collections are submitted by all foreign missions to the Office of Foreign Missions via the following methods: mail, personal delivery, and/or electronically.

Dated: December 27, 2007.

Claude Nebel,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Office of Foreign Missions, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E8-904 Filed 1-17-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6063]

Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs; List of November 8, 2007, of Participating Countries and Entities (Hereinafter Known as "Participants") Under the Clean Diamond Trade Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-19) and Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with sections 3 and 6 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-19) and section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29,

2003, the Department of State is identifying all the Participants eligible for trade in rough diamonds under the Act, and their respective Importing and Exporting Authorities, and revising the previously published list of August 31, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 169, page 50436-7) to include Republic of Congo.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sue Saarnio, Special Advisor for Conflict Diamonds, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Department of State (202) 647-1713.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act (the "Act") requires the President to prohibit the importation into, or the exportation from, the United States of any rough diamond, from whatever source, that has not been controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). Under section 3(2) of the Act, "controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme" means an importation from the territory of a Participant or exportation to the territory of a Participant of rough diamonds that is either (i) carried out in accordance with the KPCS, as set forth in regulations promulgated by the President, or (ii) controlled under a system determined by the President to meet substantially the standards, practices, and procedures of the KPCS. The referenced regulations are contained at 31 CFR Part 592 ("Rough Diamonds Control Regulations") (69 FR 56936, September 23, 2004).

Section 6(b) of the Act requires the President to publish in the **Federal Register** a list of all Participants, and all Importing and Exporting Authorities of Participants, and to update the list as necessary. Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003 delegates this function to the Secretary of State. Section 3(7) of the Act defines "Participant" as a state, customs territory, or regional economic integration organization identified by the Secretary of State. Section 3(3) of the Act defines "Exporting Authority" as one or more entities designated by a Participant from whose territory a shipment of rough diamonds is being exported as having the authority to validate a Kimberley Process Certificate. Section 3(4) of the Act defines "Importing Authority" as one or more entities designated by a Participant into whose territory a shipment of rough diamonds is imported as having the authority to enforce the laws and regulations of the Participant regarding imports, including the verification of the Kimberley Process Certificate accompanying the shipment.

List of Participants

Pursuant to section 3 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act (the Act), section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003, and Delegation of Authority No. 294 (July 6, 2006), I hereby identify the following entities as of November 8, 2007, as Participants under section 6(b) of the Act. Included in this List are the Importing and Exporting Authorities for Participants, as required by section 6(b) of the Act. This list revises the previously published list of August 31, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 169 50436-7).

Angola—Ministry of Geology and Mines.
 Armenia—Ministry of Trade and Economic Development.
 Australia—Exporting Authority—Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources; Importing Authority—Australian Customs Service.
 Bangladesh—Ministry of Commerce.
 Belarus—Department of Finance.
 Botswana—Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources.
 Brazil—Ministry of Mines and Energy.
 Canada—Natural Resources Canada.
 Central African Republic—Ministry of Energy and Mining.
 China—General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.
 Democratic Republic of the Congo—Ministry of Mines.
 Republic of Congo—Ministry of Mines.
 Croatia—Ministry of Economy.
 European Community—DG/External Relations/A.2.
 Ghana—Precious Minerals and Marketing Company Ltd.
 Guinea—Ministry of Mines and Geology.
 Guyana—Geology and Mines Commission.
 India—The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.
 Indonesia—Directorate General of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Trade.
 Israel—The Diamond Controller.
 Ivory Coast—Ministry of Mines and Energy.
 Japan—Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.
 Republic of Korea—Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy.
 Laos—Ministry of Finance.
 Lebanon—Ministry of Economy and Trade.
 Lesotho—Commissioner of Mines and Geology.
 Liberia—Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy.
 Malaysia—Ministry of International Trade and Industry.
 Mauritius—Ministry of Commerce.