OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC); Generalized System of Preferences (GSP); Notice of Time and Location of Public Hearings Conducted in Connection With the 1993 Annual GSP Review; Notice of Withdrawal of Petition Regarding Venezuela

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Announcement of time and location of public hearings in connection with the 1993 Annual GSP Review; announcement of withdrawal of a petition regarding intellectual property rights in Venezuela.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice on the 1993 GSP Annual Review is (1) to announce the time and location of public hearings to consider petitions accepted for review to modify the list of articles eligible for duty-free treatment under the GSP and to modify the status of countries as GSP beneficiary countries in regard to their practices as specified in 15 CFR 2007.0 (a) and (b); and (2) to announce the withdrawal of a petition requesting a review of Venezuela's intellectual property rights.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW., room 317, Washington, DC 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395-6971.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

1. Time and Location of Public Hearings

As announced in a previous notice of September 24, 1993 (58 FR 50690), public hearings are scheduled to be held by the GSP Subcommittee on November 3, 1993 as part of the reviews of El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malawi, Oman, and Thailand as GSP beneficiary countries in relation to their practices regarding worker rights, and as part of the review of Honduras in relation to its practices regarding intellectual property rights. Notice is hereby given that the hearings will commence at 9 a.m. in room 515, Department of the Interior Building, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC.

As announced in a previous notice of October 19, 1993 (58 FR 53950), the GSP Subcommittee will conduct public hearings as part of the reviews of Bahrain, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Maldives, Pakistan, Paraguay, and Peru as GSP beneficiary countries in relation to their practices regarding worker rights, and as part of the review of the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Poland, and Turkey in relation to their practices regarding intellectual property rights. Notice is hereby given of a change in the hearing date. The hearings will commence at 9 a.m. on November 16 in room N3497--ABC, Francis Perkins Building, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC. If necessary, the hearings will continue on November 19 in room S4215--ABC.

Public hearings in relation to the review of accepted petitions requesting modification of the list of articles eligible to receive duty-free treatment under the GSP will commence at 9 a.m. on November 22, 1993 in room 157A, Department of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC.

II. Announcement of the Withdrawal of a Petition Requesting a Review of Venezuela's Intellectual Property Rights

On June 1, 1993, the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIA) filed a petition seeking a review of Venezuela's status as a GSP beneficiary country in relation to its practices regarding intellectual property rights. On September 29, 1993, the IIPA informed the GSP Subcommittee that it would withdraw the petition upon Venezuela's enactment of its new copyright law. Venezuela's new copyright law entered into force on October 1, 1993. Accordingly, the IIPA petition has been withdrawn.

Frederick L. Montgomery
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee
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