

their sea turtle protection programs are comparable to that of the United States: Belize, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Madagascar, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Suriname, and Venezuela.

The Department also certified 24 shrimp harvesting nations and one economy as having fishing environments that do not pose a danger to sea turtles. Sixteen nations have shrimping grounds only in cold waters where the risk of taking sea turtles is negligible. They are: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay. Eight nations and one economy only harvest shrimp using small boats with crews of less than five that use manual rather than mechanical means to retrieve nets, or catch shrimp using other methods that do not threaten sea turtles. Use of such small-scale technology does not adversely affect sea turtles. The eight nations and one economy are: the Bahamas, China, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Oman, Peru and Sri Lanka.

The 2009 recommendation for certification changes Costa Rica's status by de-certifying that country. For several years, OES/OMC has been accumulating data, both through certification visits and from credible third-party sources suggesting that Costa Rica's program did not provide sanctions for TED violations that served as an effective deterrent against the failure to use TEDs. In meetings with senior Costa Rican fisheries officials during the December 2008 certification visit, the State Department representative stressed that without rapid remedial action Costa Rica's certification might be compromised. Costa Rican officials were aware of the issue and promised to resolve it early in 2009. However, the United States Embassy in San Jose reports that since that December visit Costa Rican authorities have not taken all the action they promised. Additionally, third parties, including Costa Rican Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), have written OES/OMC saying that TED violations in Costa Rica still go unpunished. Because of Costa Rica's ineffective enforcement mechanism for TEDs violations, the State Department has concluded that Costa Rica's regulatory program governing the incidental take of sea turtles is not currently comparable to that of the United States.

The Department of State has communicated the certifications under Section 609 to the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

In addition, this **Federal Register** Notice confirms that the requirement for all DS-2031 forms from uncertified nations must be originals and signed by the competent domestic fisheries authority. This policy change was first announced in a Department of State media note released on December 21, 2004. In order for shrimp harvested with Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in an uncertified nation to be eligible for importation into the United States under the exemption: "Shrimp harvested by commercial shrimp trawl vessels using TEDs comparable in effectiveness to those required in the United States", the Department of State must determine in advance that the government of the harvesting nation has put in place adequate procedures to ensure the accurate completion of the DS-2031 forms. At this time, the Department has made such a determination only with respect to Brazil and Australia. Thus, the importation of TED-caught shrimp from any other uncertified nation will not be allowed. For Brazil, only shrimp harvested in the northern shrimp fishery are eligible for entry under this exemption. For Australia, shrimp harvested in the Exmouth, Northern Prawn Fishery and Torres Strait Fishery are eligible for entry under this exemption.

In addition, the Department has already made a determination with regard to wild-harvest shrimp harvested in the Spencer Gulf region in Australia. This product may be exported to the U.S. using a DS-2031 under the exemption for "shrimp harvested in a manner or under circumstances determined by the Department of State not to pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles." An official of the Government of Australia still also must certify the DS-2031.

Dated: April 30, 2009.

Margaret F. Hayes,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E9-10497 Filed 5-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6604]

Notice of Meeting

Title: Notification of a Public Meeting on Section 202 of the William

Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-457).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of State is holding a public meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 1 p.m. at the Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520, in the Loy Henderson Auditorium. The purpose of the meeting is to allow non-governmental organizations, and others with expertise on the legal rights of workers and victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons, to provide their expertise and input into the development and distribution of an information pamphlet on the legal rights and resources for aliens applying for employment- or education-based nonimmigrant visas. This is pursuant to the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, specifically section 202, *Protections for domestic workers and other nonimmigrants*. This Act defines "employment- or education-based nonimmigrant visa" as a nonimmigrant visa issued under subparagraph (A)(iii), (G)(v), (H), or (J) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)); and any nonimmigrant visa issued to a personal or domestic servant who is accompanying or following to join an employer. Organizations or individuals may also submit written comments to be considered by the Department of State as it develops this information pamphlet.

DATES: RSVP for the Public Meeting must be sent by COB May 18, 2009 to Dabrina Wills at: WillsDE2@state.gov in order to facilitate the security clearance process for entry into the Department of State. RSVP must include name, date of birth, and either a driver's license number or passport number; and any request for reasonable accommodation, if applicable. Requests for reasonable accommodation received after May 14 will be considered but might not be possible to fill. Attendees will use the C Street Entrance. Written comments must be submitted on or before May 25, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments to: TVPRainfopamphlet@state.gov or, if you have access to the internet, you may submit written comments electronically at the following address: <http://www.regulations.gov/search/index.jsp>. Please note that comments posted on [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) will be accessible to the general public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy O'Neill Richard, Office To Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S.

Department of State, oneillaw@state.gov or (202) 312-9642

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-457), section 202, *Protections for domestic workers and other nonimmigrants*, calls for the development and distribution of an information pamphlet on the legal rights and resources for aliens applying for employment- or education-based nonimmigrant visas, as defined in the Act. The contents of the information pamphlet will include information on the nonimmigrant visa application process; the legal rights of employment- or education-based nonimmigrant visa holders under Federal immigration, labor, and employment law; the illegality of slavery, peonage, trafficking in persons, sexual assault, extortion, blackmail, and worker exploitation in the United States; and the legal rights of immigrant victims of trafficking in persons and worker exploitation. It will also include information about non-governmental organizations that provide services for victims of trafficking in persons and worker exploitation.

Once completed, the information pamphlet will be translated into all relevant foreign languages to be determined by the Secretary of State based on the languages spoken by the greatest concentrations of employment-

or education-based nonimmigrant visa applicants. The information will then be posted on federal Web sites and made available to any government agency, non-governmental advocacy organization, or foreign labor broker doing business in the United States. If Consular officers conducting interviews with aliens in these visa categories cannot confirm that the alien has received, read, and understood the contents of the pamphlet, then the Consular Officer will go over the contents of the pamphlet with the alien during the interview and answer any questions the alien may have concerning the information discussed.

Dated: April 30, 2009.

Nan Kennelly,

Acting Office Director, Office To Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E9-10491 Filed 5-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-17-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) during the Week Ending April 25, 2009.

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and

Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (*See* 14 CFR 301.201 *et seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions To Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: DOT-OST-2004-19077, DOT-OST-2007-28567 and DOT-OST-2007-22228.

Date Filed: April 20, 2009.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: May 11, 2009.

Description: Application of Northwest Airlines, Inc. ("Northwest") requesting a renewal of the exemption and certificate authority set forth in Attachment A, which enable Northwest to offer scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between the United States and various foreign points.

Renee V. Wright,

Program Manager, Docket Operations, Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. E9-10474 Filed 5-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P