

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[Docket No.; I.D.112197A]

Draft Comprehensive Research and Monitoring Plan for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed plan.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability of a proposed plan for research and monitoring to support the conservation and management of Atlantic highly migratory species as required by the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA). NMFS has prepared this draft plan based on extensive consultation with relevant Federal and state agencies, scientific and technical experts, commercial and recreational fishermen, and other interested persons, public and private. Members of the public are encouraged to respond to this opportunity for further comment on research and monitoring priorities for Atlantic highly migratory species.

DATES: Comments on the proposed plan must be submitted on or before May 11, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the proposed plan should be sent to: Rebecca Lent, Chief, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. This office will provide copies of the draft *Comprehensive Research and Monitoring Program for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species* upon request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Husted, telephone (301) 713-2347; FAX (301) 713-1917.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS currently undertakes a broad range of actions to address research and monitoring priorities, including rulemaking, scientific activities within the agency, and external partnerships that extend research capabilities. The agency has developed its existing research and monitoring program for HMS through a process of consultative reviews and public meetings with relevant Federal and state agencies, scientific and technical experts, commercial and recreational fishermen, and other interested persons, public and private. NMFS proposes to continue

following this same public process, which has proven to be an effective means of consulting all interested parties.

The proposed plan is based upon the existing research and monitoring program at NMFS as well as suggestions for future initiatives based on domestic and international priorities. It has been prepared pursuant to Section 971i(b) of ATCA, which directs the Secretary of Commerce to develop and implement a comprehensive research and monitoring program to support the conservation and management of Atlantic bluefin tuna and other highly migratory species. Section 971i(b) requires that the comprehensive research and monitoring program for HMS shall provide for, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Statistically designed cooperative tagging studies;
- (b) Genetic and biochemical stock analyses;
- (c) Population censuses carried out through aerial surveys of fishing grounds and known migration areas;
- (d) Adequate observer coverage and port sampling of commercial and recreational fishing activity;
- (e) Collection of comparable real-time data on commercial and recreational catches and landings through the use of permits, logbooks, landings reports for charter operations and fishing tournaments, and programs to provide reliable reporting of the catch by private anglers;
- (f) Studies of the life history parameters of bluefin tuna and other highly migratory species;
- (g) Integration of data from all sources and the preparation of data bases to support management decisions; and
- (h) Other research as necessary.

Dated: March 19, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-7799 Filed 3-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS
Amendment of Visa Requirements for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Apparel Produced or Manufactured in the Republic of Maldives

March 20, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs amending visa requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 15, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

In exchange of notes dated May 16, 1997 and February 19, 1998, the Governments of the United States and the Republic of Maldives agreed to amend the existing export visa arrangement to require that the quantity stated on the visa be listed in whole units. If the quantity exported exceeds one specific whole unit but is less than the next whole unit, visaed quantities will be rounded to the closest whole unit. Half units will be rounded up. Where the exported unit is less than one unit, the shipment will be rounded upwards to one unit.

Effective on April 15, 1998, apparel products, produced or manufactured in Maldives and exported on or after April 15, 1998 must be accompanied by a visa with the quantity stated in whole units, decimals and fractions will no longer be accepted. There will be a grace period from April 15, 1998 through May 14, 1998 during which products, produced or manufactured in Maldives, will not be denied entry if the quantity is stated in decimals and fractions. Shipments exported after May 14, 1998 will be denied entry unless the quantity is stated in whole numbers.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to amend the export visa requirements.

See 47 FR 36879, published on August 24, 1982.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

March 20, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on August 18, 1982, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive directed you to prohibit entry of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber apparel, produced or manufactured in the Republic of

Maldives for which the Government of Maldives has not issued an appropriate export visa.

Effective on April 15, 1998 apparel, produced or manufactured in Maldives and exported on or after April 15, 1998 must be accompanied by a visa with the quantity stated in whole units, decimals and fractions will no longer be accepted. There will be a grace period from April 15, 1998 through May 14, 1998 during which apparel, produced or manufactured in Maldives and exported during that period, will not be denied entry if the quantity is stated in decimals and fractions. Shipments exported after May 14, 1998 will be denied entry unless the quantity is stated in whole numbers.

If the quantity exported exceeds one specific whole unit but is less than the next whole unit, visaed quantities will be rounded to the closest whole unit. Half units will be rounded up. Where the exported unit is less than one unit, the shipment will be rounded upwards to one unit.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not accompanied by an appropriate export visa shall be denied entry and a new visa must be obtained.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 98-7721 Filed 3-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Textile and Apparel Categories With the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; Changes to the 1998 Correlation

March 20, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Changes to the 1998 Correlation

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori E. Mennitt, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Correlation: Textile and Apparel Categories based on the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (1998) presents the harmonized tariff numbers under each of the cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber categories used by the United States in monitoring imports of

these textile products and in the administration of the textile program. The Correlation should be amended to include the changes indicated below. These changes were effective on March 1, 1998:

Changes to the 1998 Correlation

These are new numbers and definitions for cooler bags:

Add 6307.90.9905 (369)—Cooler bags with an outer surface of textile materials, of cotton.

Add 6307.90.9907 (670)—Cooler bags with an outer surface of textile materials, of man-made fibers.

Add 6307.90.9909 (870)—Other cooler bags with an outer surface of textile materials.

These numbers were renumbered due to the creation of the statistical breakdowns for cooler bags in chapter 63. The categories and definitions remain the same:

4202.92.3015 (369) becomes 4202.92.3016 (369).

4202.92.3030 (670) becomes 4202.92.3031 (670).

4202.92.3090 (870) becomes 4202.92.3091 (870).

Additional change:

Replace 6505.90.9095 (859) with 6505.90.9085 (859)—Other hats and other headgear, knitted or crocheted, not elsewhere specified or included.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 98-7723 Filed 3-24-98; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

“FEDERAL REGISTER” CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 63 F.R. 10364.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 1998.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission changed the meeting to discuss a rule enforcement review to April 2, 1998 at 2:00 p.m.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 418-5100.

Catherine D. Dixon,

Assistant Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-7922 Filed 3-23-98; 11:26 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

[CPSC Docket No. 98-C0008]

In The Matter of Safety 1st, Inc., a Corporation; Provisional Acceptance of a Settlement Agreement and Order

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Provisional acceptance of a settlement agreement under the Consumer Product Safety Act.

SUMMARY: It is the policy of the Commission to publish settlements which it provisionally accepts under the Consumer Product Safety Act in the **Federal Register** in accordance with the terms of 16 CFR 1118.20. Published below is a provisionally-accepted Settlement Agreement with Safety 1st, Inc., a corporation, containing a civil penalty of \$175,000.

DATES: Any interested person may ask the Commission not to accept this agreement or otherwise comment on its contents by filing a written request with the Office of the Secretary by April 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to comment on this Settlement Agreement should send written comments to the Comment 98-C0008, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William J. Moore, Jr., Trial Attorney, Office of Compliance and Enforcement, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C., 20207; telephone (301) 504-0626.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the Agreement and Order appears below.

Dated: March 18, 1998.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Settlement Agreement And Order

1. Safety 1st, Inc. (“Safety 1st”) a corporation, enters into this Settlement Agreement and Order with the staff (“the staff”) of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (“the Commission”) in accordance with 16 CFR 1118.20 of the Commission’s Procedures for Investigations, Inspections, and Inquiries under the Consumer Product Safety Act (“CPSC”).

I. The Parties

2. The Consumer Product Safety Commission is an independent federal