

your experiences and explain any problems encountered.

4. Please discuss issues of potential concern identified in Part IV of this notice. In your response, please include the following:

(a) Clearly identify the matter being addressed;

(b) Indicate whether the particular matter would create significant problems for United States applicants and, in particular, whether it would discourage use of an international system for the protection of industrial designs as proposed by the new Act of the Hague Agreement;

(c) Identify potential drawbacks and/or advantages of the particular matter addressed;

(d) Provide examples, where appropriate, that illustrate the matter addressed;

(e) Identify any relevant legal authorities applicable to the matter being addressed; and

(f) Provide suggestions regarding how the matter should be addressed by the United States.

5. Please discuss any related matters not specifically identified in the above questions. If this is done, parties are requested to:

(a) Label that portion of their response as "Other Issues";

(b) Clearly identify the matter being addressed;

(c) Provide examples, where appropriate, that illustrate the matter addressed;

(d) Identify any relevant legal authorities applicable to the matter being addressed; and

(e) Provide suggestions regarding how the matter should be addressed by the United States.

VI. Guidelines for Oral Testimony

Individuals wishing to testify must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Anyone wishing to testify at the hearing(s) must request an opportunity to do so no later than May 11, 1999. Requests to testify may be accepted on the date of the hearing if sufficient time is available on the schedule. No one will be permitted to testify without prior approval.

2. Requests to testify must include the speaker's name, affiliation and title, mailing address, and telephone number. Facsimile number and Internet mail address, if available, should also be provided. Parties may include in their request an indication as to whether they wish to testify during the morning or afternoon session of the hearing.

3. Speakers will be given between five and fifteen minutes to present their remarks. The exact amount of time

allocated per speaker will be determined after the final number of parties testifying has been determined. All efforts will be made to accommodate requests for additional time for testimony presented before the day of the hearing.

4. Speakers may provide a written copy of their testimony for inclusion in the record of the proceedings. These remarks should be provided no later than May 20, 1999.

5. A schedule providing the approximate starting time for each speaker will be distributed the morning of the day of the hearing. Speakers are advised that the schedule for testimony will be subject to change during the course of the hearings.

VII. Guidelines for Written Comments

Written comments should include the following information:

1. Name and affiliation of the individual responding; and

2. If applicable, an indication of whether comments offered represent views of the respondent's organization or are the respondent's personal views.

If possible, parties offering testimony or written comments should provide their comments in machine-readable format. Such submissions may be provided by electronic mail messages sent over the Internet, or on a 3.5" floppy disk formatted for use in either a Macintosh or MS-DOS based computer.

Machine-readable submissions should be provided as unformatted text (e.g., ASCII or plain text), or as formatted text in one of the following file formats: Microsoft Word (Macintosh, DOS, or Windows versions) or WordPerfect (Macintosh, DOS, or Windows versions).

Information that is provided pursuant to this notice will be made part of a public record and may be available via the Internet. In view of this, parties should not submit information that they do not wish to be publicly disclosed or made electronically accessible. Parties who would like to rely on confidential information to illustrate a point are requested to summarize or otherwise submit the information in a way that will permit its public disclosure.

Dated: April 12, 1999.

Q. Todd Dickinson,

Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Acting Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks.

[FR Doc. 99-9733 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Notice of Availability of the "Annual Report to Congress on the Status of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for Fiscal Year 1997"

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice is to inform the general public of the availability of the "Annual Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 1997." Single copies of the report may be obtained free of charge.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James D. Hilton, Operations Division, Office of the Chief of Engineers at (202) 761-8830 or fax (202) 761-1685.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Harbor Maintenance Fee was authorized under Sections 1401 and 1402 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-662. This law imposed a 0.04 percent fee on the value of commercial cargo loaded (exports and domestic cargo) or unloaded (imports) at ports which have had Federal expenditures made on their behalf by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers since 1977. Section 11214 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, Pub. L. 101-580, increased the Harbor Maintenance Fee to 0.125 percent, which went into effect on January 1, 1991. Harbor maintenance Trust Fund monies are used to pay up to 100 percent of the Corps eligible Operations and Maintenance expenditures for the maintenance of commercial harbors and channels. Section 201 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-303, expanded the use of Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund monies to pay Federal expenditures for construction of dredged material disposal facilities necessary for the operation and maintenance of any harbor or inland harbor; dredging and disposing of contaminated sediments that are in or that affect the maintenance of Federal navigation channels; mitigating for impacts resulting from Federal navigation operation and maintenance activities; and operating and maintaining dredged material disposal facilities.

Section 330 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-580, requires that the President provide an Annual Report to Congress on the Status of the Trust Fund. The release of this report is in compliance with this legislation.

Dated: April 8, 1999.

Eric R. Potts,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Executive Director of Civil Works.

[FR Doc. 99-9732 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend.

DATES: May 13-16, 1999.

TIME: May 13—Subject Area Committee #1, 1:30-2:20 p.m., (open); Joint Meeting of the Design and Methodology Committee and the Subject Area Committee, #1 and #2, 2:30-3:30 p.m., (closed); Design and Methodology Committee, 3:30-4:30 p.m., (open); Subject Area Committee #2, 3:30-4:30 p.m., (open); and Reporting and Dissemination Committee, 3:00-4:30 p.m., (open). May 14—Full Board, 8:30-9:00 a.m., (open), 9:00-10:30 a.m. (closed), 10:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., (open); May 15—Nominations Committee, 8:00-9:00 a.m., (closed); Full Board, 9:00-11:30 a.m., (open); adjournment, 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Lowe's New York, 569 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: May Ann Wilmer, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of 1994 (title IV of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994) (Pub. L. 103-382).

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The Board is responsible for selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, identifying

appropriate achievement goals for each grade and subject tested, and establishing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons. Under Public Law 105-78, the National Assessment Governing Board is also granted exclusive authority over developing the Voluntary National Tests pursuant to contract number RJ97153001.

On May 13, the Subject Area Committee #1 will meet in open session from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The Committee will discuss the new NAEP Foreign Language Consensus contract.

From 2:30-3:30 p.m., there will be a closed joint meeting of the Design and Methodology Committee and the Subject Area Committee #1 and #2. The Committee will discuss the results of a report about the feasibility of linking assessment instruments. This meeting must be closed because references will be made to specific items from the assessment and premature disclosure of the information presented for review would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. Such matters are protected by exemption (9)(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

The Design and Methodology Committee will meet in open session from 3:30-4:30 p.m., to consider technical issues related to the Voluntary National Tests, and hear a report from the National Academy of Sciences' studies on "market basket assessment", conduct of assessments below the state level.

Subject Area Committee #2 will meet in open session from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to discuss the NAEP mathematics assessment item development activities for 2000.

Also on May 13, the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will meet in open session from 3:00-4:30 p.m. Agenda items for this meeting include action on the revisions to NAGB Policy on Reporting and Dissemination of National Assessment Results; an update on the implementation of the Board decision on reporting private school results; sampling and reporting of students with disabilities and limited-English proficiency; and reporting Voluntary National Tests results to parents and schools.

On May 14, the full Board will convene in open session from 8:30-9:00 a.m. The Board will hear a report from the Executive Director of the National Assessment Governing Board, and an update on NAEP activities. From 9:00-10:30 a.m., the Board will meet in closed session to receive a report on the Achievement Level Setting for Civics and Writing Assessments and to discuss

the results. This portion of the meeting must be closed because references will be made to specific items from the assessment and premature disclosure of the information presented for review would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

The Board will convene in open session from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The agenda for this portion of the meeting includes a report and discussion on the Voluntary National Tests: Purpose, Definitions and Reporting Plans; NAEP Report on Accommodations; a discussion on the National Assessment Design 2000-2010; and a discussion on the NAGB plan and report to Congress on achievement levels. Final action of the day will be remarks from the New York State Commissioner of Education.

On May 15, there will be a closed meeting of the Nominations Committee from 8:00-9:00 a.m. The Committee will discuss nominees qualifications for Board membership. These discussions will relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and would disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption (2) and (6) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m., until adjournment, approximately 11:30 a.m., the full Board will reconvene to hear an update on the Voluntary National Tests and to receive reports from its various standing committees.

Also on May 15, the full Board will receive and consider the Nominations Committee recommendations for membership, in a partially closed session, beginning at 11:30 a.m. through adjournment, approximately 12:00 noon. The review and subsequent discussion of this information relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and will disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if conducted in open session.

Such matters are protected by exemptions (2) and (6) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

Summaries of the activities of the closed sessions and related matters, which are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and