

extent that it is exempt from disclosure under the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 708.6 Records of closed meetings.

(a) For every meeting of the Board of Directors closed pursuant to § 708.5, the General Counsel of the Corporation shall publicly certify prior to such meeting that, in his or her opinion, the meeting may be closed to the public and shall state each relevant exemptive provision. A copy of such certification, together with a statement from the presiding officer of the meeting setting forth the time and place of the meeting, and the persons present, shall be retained by the Secretary as part of the transcript, recording, or minutes required by paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The Secretary shall maintain a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to record fully the proceedings of each meeting, or portion of a meeting, closed to the public, except that in the case of a meeting, or portion of a meeting, closed to the public pursuant to § 708.5(a)(9), the Secretary shall maintain either such a transcript or recording, or a set of minutes. Such minutes shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed and shall provide a full and accurate summary of any actions taken, and the reasons therefor, including a description of each of the views expressed on any item and the record of any roll-call vote (reflecting the vote of each member on the question). All documents considered in connection with any Corporation action shall be identified in such minutes.

(c) The Secretary shall maintain a complete verbatim copy of the transcript, a complete copy of the minutes, or a complete electronic recording of each meeting, or portion of a meeting, closed to the public, for a period of at least two years after such meeting, or until one year after the conclusion of the proceeding of the Board of Directors with respect to which the meeting or portion was held, whichever occurs later.

(d) Within ten days of receipt of a request for information (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays), the Corporation shall make

available to the public, in the Office of Secretary of the Corporation, Washington, DC, the transcript, electronic recording, or minutes (as required by paragraph (b) of this section) of the discussion of any item on the agenda, or of any item of the testimony of any witness received at the meeting, except for such item or items of such discussion or testimony as the Secretary determines to contain information which may be withheld under the provisions of § 708.5. Copies of such transcript, or minutes, or a transcription of such recording disclosing the identify of each speaker, shall be furnished to any person at the actual cost of duplication or transcription.

(e) The determination of the Secretary to withhold information pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section may be appealed to the President of the Corporation, in his or her capacity as administrative head of the Corporation. The President will make a determination to withhold or release the requested information within twenty days from the date of receipt of the request for review (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays).

PART 709—FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1977

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 237(1), Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, added by Pub. L. 95-268.

SOURCE: 43 FR 36064, Aug. 15, 1978, unless otherwise noted.

§ 709.1 Authority and purpose.

(a) These regulations are issued under the general powers of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (“OPIC”) and pursuant to section 237(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, added by Pub. L. 95-268.¹ The Board of

¹Section 237(1) of that Act states:

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Directors of OPIC has authorized the President of OPIC to issue these regulations and to amend them as the President shall deem appropriate.

(b) These regulations prescribe the procedure under which individuals and companies may be suspended, as mandated by section 237(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, from eligibility for OPIC services because of conviction under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (Pub. L. 95-213) of an offense related to an OPIC-supported project.

(c) The purposes of the suspensions provided herein are to carry out the statutory requirements of Section 237(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, to protect the interest of the United States and to foster full and free competition in international commerce.

(d) The specific provisions of law under which OPIC operates and the general powers conferred on OPIC give OPIC broad discretion in the conduct of its programs. The issuance of these regulations is not to be construed as in any way limiting or derogating from the discretion of OPIC to determine whether or not to support the investment of a particular entity in a particular case.

(1) No payment may be made under any insurance or reinsurance which is issued under this title on or after the date of enactment of this subsection for any loss occurring with respect to a project, if the preponderant cause of such loss was an act by the investor seeking payment under this title, by a person possessing majority ownership and control of the investor at the time of the act, or by any agent of such investor or controlling person, and a court of the United States has entered a final judgment that such act constituted a violation under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

(2) Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Corporation shall adopt regulations setting forth appropriate conditions under which any person convicted under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 for an offense related to a project insured or otherwise supported by the Corporation shall be suspended, for a period of not more than 5 years, from eligibility to receive any insurance, reinsurance, guaranty, loan or other financial support authorized by this title.

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§ 709.2 Applicability.

These regulations take effect on the date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER and govern eligibility for OPIC services for which OPIC has not previously obligated itself.

§ 709.3 Definitions

(a) The *Act* means the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

(b) *Entity* means any individual, association, company, corporation, concern, partnership, or person.

(c) *Offense* means any act or omission to act which has been found by a United States court of competent jurisdiction to constitute, with respect to a particular entity, a violation of the Act, of section 13(b)(2), 13(b)(3) or 30A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (which were added in 1977 by the Act), or of any other provision of law derived from the Act.

(d) *Suspension* means the designation of an entity as ineligible to receive OPIC services through a suspension determination.

(e) *Suspension determination* means a determination by the President of OPIC pursuant to these regulations that an entity is ineligible to receive OPIC services.

§ 709.4 Cause for suspension of entities from eligibility.

Any entity which has been convicted of an offense related to a project insured or otherwise supported by OPIC may be suspended from eligibility for additional OPIC services for a period of not more than 5 years pursuant to a suspension determination.

§ 709.5 Procedure.

(a) Upon receipt of an application for OPIC services from any entity which OPIC has reason to believe may have been convicted under the Act the OPIC General Counsel shall ascertain whether a conviction has been entered against such entity under the Act and, if so, whether it was entered for an offense related to a project insured or otherwise supported by OPIC. If such an offense is found, the General Counsel shall advise the President of such finding and any known circumstances indicating that suspension would not be in the national interest of the

United States. If, after reviewing the submission from the General Counsel, the President determines that national interest considerations are not great enough to preclude suspension, OPIC shall furnish the subject entity with a written notice (1) specifying the offense and stating that suspension for the maximum duration is being considered and (2) inviting the subject entity to submit to OPIC any evidence of facts or circumstances which it deems appropriate to indicate that a suspension should not be imposed or that the duration of the suspension should be less than the maximum. Such notice shall further state that the subject entity must provide such evidence within 30 days of the date of such written notice or any extension of time granted in writing by OPIC. The General Counsel shall promptly review any evidence submitted by the subject entity and report his findings and recommendations to the President. The President shall determine whether the subject entity shall be suspended and, if so, the President shall issue a suspension determination specifying the duration of such suspension. Notice of such suspension determination shall be forwarded by registered mail to the subject entity and any entity so notified shall be advised that such suspension may be reduced as provided in section 5(b) or voided as provided in section 8.

(b) The duration of any suspension may be reduced by the President at any time for good cause, including the submission by the suspended entity of an application for relief, supported by evidence and setting forth appropriate grounds for granting such relief, such as the institution of measures designed to preclude the recurrence of the actions with respect to which the suspension was initially imposed. Notice of each such reduction shall be forwarded to the suspended entity by registered mail.

(c) The duration of any suspension may be increased by the President at any time for good cause, subject to providing the subject entity with notice and opportunity to submit evidence in accordance with section 5(a). In no event shall any such increase result in a period of suspension exceeding 5

years with respect to any single conviction.

§ 709.6 Suspension duration criteria.

Factors which the President may consider in setting or amending the duration of any suspension imposed pursuant to these regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Whether the offense with respect to which suspension has been imposed or is being considered was committed with the knowledge or consent of the board of directors or other group or officer or individual responsible for the overall management of the subject entity;

(b) Whether or not such offense was committed under pressure of extortion, political intervention, or other duress exerted by the government, or any official of the government, of the country in which such offense was committed;

(c) Quantitative factors relating to the seriousness of the offense, such as the amounts of any improper payments and the frequency with which, and period of time over which, they were made;

(d) The purpose of any such offense;

(e) Whether such offense violated the laws of the country in which it was committed;

(f) The extent to which the offense was related to the establishment or operation of a project supported by OPIC; and

(g) Any factors relating to the effect of suspension on the national interest of the United States.

§ 709.7 Effect of suspension.

(a) Any entity suspended pursuant to a suspension determination shall not, for the duration of such suspension, and subject to the provisions of section 7(b), be eligible to receive any additional insurance, reinsurance, guaranty, loan, or other financial support from OPIC.

(b) Suspended entities:

(1) May be retained on the OPIC mailing list only for the purpose of receiving informational mailings;

(2) May register projects with OPIC but may not submit project applications to OPIC;

(3) May continue to deal with OPIC with respect to agreements entered

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with OPIC prior to the suspension and may amend or be granted modifications of such agreements, including loan reschedulings and refinancings;

(4) May not be invited to participate in OPIC-sponsored investment missions or other similar activities; and

(5) May not receive indirectly, or beneficially, whether through the purchase of project participations, the use of intermediary entities or other such devices, any OPIC services which they would not be entitled to receive directly, and may not be the beneficiary of financial support advanced by a third party where such support, in turn, is guaranteed or insured by OPIC; provided, however that such suspended entity shall be entitled to all benefits and payments accruing to holders of negotiable instruments guaranteed by OPIC and acquired by such suspended entity pursuant to a public offering thereof by the original or any subsequent holder thereof.

§ 709.8 Procedure for voiding suspensions.

Upon receipt by OPIC from the subject entity of notice of the entry of a final judgment of reversal of the conviction or convictions on which a suspension was based, and subject to verification thereof by the General Counsel and to a finding by the General Counsel that no other convictions under the act are outstanding, the President shall void such suspension

PART 710—ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES OF POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS

Sec.

- 710.1 General.
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- 710.4 Notice.
- 710.5 Failure to request hearing.
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- 710.7 Time, date and place of hearing.
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- 710.13 Appropriate action.

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710.14 Judicial review.

710.15 Delegation of authority.

AUTHORITY: 18 U.S.C. 207(j).

SOURCE: 45 FR 5685, Jan. 24, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 710.1 General.

The following procedures are hereby established with respect to the administrative enforcement of restrictions on post-employment activities (18 U.S.C. 207(a), (b) or (c) and implementing regulations (44 FR 19987 and 19988, April 3, 1979) published by the Office of Government Ethics.

§ 710.2 Action on receipt of information regarding violation.

On receipt of information regarding a possible violation of the statutory or regulatory post-employment restrictions by a former OPIC employee and after determining that such information does not appear to be frivolous, the President of OPIC or the President's designee shall provide such information to the Director of the Office of Government Ethics and to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice. Any investigation or administrative action shall be coordinated with the Department of Justice to avoid prejudicing possible criminal proceedings. If the Department of Justice informs OPIC that it does not intend to institute criminal proceedings, such coordination shall no longer be required and OPIC shall be free to pursue administrative action.

§ 710.3 Initiation of administrative disciplinary proceeding.

Whenever the President of OPIC or the President's designee determines after appropriate review that there is reasonable cause to believe that a former OPIC employee had violated the statutory or regulatory post-employment restrictions, an administrative disciplinary proceeding shall be initiated.

§ 710.4 Notice.

The President of OPIC or the President's designee shall initiate an administrative disciplinary hearing by providing the former OPIC employee with notice of an intention to institute a