

**PART 407—REGULATIONS GOV-
ERNING PUBLIC OBSERVATION
OF EX-IMBANK MEETINGS**

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AUTHORITY: Sec. (g) Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(g); secs. (b) through (f), 5 U.S.C. 552b.

SOURCE: 42 FR 12417, Mar. 4, 1977, unless otherwise noted.

§ 407.1 Purpose, scope and definitions.

(a) Consistent with the principles that: (1) The public is entitled to the fullest practicable information regarding the decision-making processes of the Federal Government, and (2) the rights of individuals and the ability of the Export-Import Bank of the United States to carry out its statutory responsibilities should be protected, this part is promulgated pursuant to the directive of section (g) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(g), and specifically implements sections (b) through (f) of said Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b (b) through (f).

(b) The term *meeting* means any meeting of the Board of Directors of Eximbank at which a quorum is present or any meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors where deliberations of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee determine or result in the joint conduct or disposition of official Eximbank business.

(c) The term *regularly scheduled meeting* means meetings of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee which are held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday of each week.

(d) The term *General Counsel* means the General Counsel and his or her designees.

[42 FR 12417, Mar. 4, 1977, as amended at 47 FR 12136, Mar. 22, 1982; 49 FR 41237, Oct. 22, 1984]

§ 407.2 Closing meetings.

(a) Except where Eximbank finds that the public interest requires otherwise, a meeting, or any portion thereof, may be closed to the public, where the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee determines that such meetings, or any portion thereof, or information pertaining to such meeting, or any portion thereof, is likely to:

(1) Disclose matters that are: (i) Specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or foreign policy and (ii) in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;

(2) Relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of Eximbank or any other agency;

(3) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552 of title 5 U.S.C.), provided that such statute: (i) Requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (ii) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(4) Disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(5) Involve accusing any person of a crime, or formally censuring any person;

(6) Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(7) Disclose investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, or information which if written would be contained in such records, but only to the extent that the production of such records or information would:

(i) Interfere with enforcement proceedings,

(ii) Deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication,

(iii) Constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy,

(iv) Disclose the identity of a confidential source and, in the case of a record compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security

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intelligence investigation, confidential information furnished only by the confidential source,

(v) Disclose investigative techniques and procedures, or

(vi) Endanger the life or physical safety of law enforcement personnel;

(8) Disclose information contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions;

(9) Disclose information the premature disclosure of which would:

(i) In the case of an agency which regulates currencies, securities, commodities, or financial institutions, be likely to: (A) Lead to significant financial speculation in currencies, securities, or commodities, or (B) significantly endanger the stability of any financial institution; or

(ii) In the case of Eximbank or any other agency, be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action;

except that paragraph (a)(9)(ii) of this section shall not apply in any instance where the agency has already disclosed to the public the content or nature of its proposed action, or where the agency is required by law to make such disclosure on its own initiative prior to taking final agency on such proposal; or

(10) Specifically concern Eximbank's issuance of a subpoena, or Eximbank's participation in a civil action or proceeding, an action in a foreign court or international tribunal, or an arbitration.

(b) Inasmuch as opening any regularly scheduled meeting, or any portion thereof, to public observation will be likely to result in the disclosure of the kind of information set forth in paragraph (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (a)(10) of this section, or any combination thereof, of paragraph (a) of this section, the Board of Directors expects to close all regularly scheduled meetings to the public.

(c) Any other meeting of Eximbank, or any portion thereof, will be open to public observation except where the Board of Directors determines that such meeting, or any portion thereof, is likely to disclose information of the kind set forth in any paragraph of

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§ 407.2(a). In the event that the Board of Directors closes such meeting, or any portion thereof, by virtue of paragraph (a)(4), (8), (9)(i)(A) or (a)(10) of this section, or any combination thereof, the procedure set forth in § 407.3 below will apply, and in the event that the Board of Directors closes such meeting, or any portion thereof, by virtue of any of the remaining paragraphs of § 407.2(a), or any combination thereof, the procedures set forth in § 407.4 will apply.

§ 407.3 Procedures applicable to regularly scheduled meetings.

(a) *Announcements.* Regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. every Thursday in the Board Room (Room 1141) of the Bank's headquarters. In the event that a regularly scheduled meeting is rescheduled, public announcement of the time, date and place of such meeting will be made at the earliest practicable time in the form of a notice posted in the Office of the Secretary. An agenda setting forth the subject matter of each regularly scheduled meeting will be made available in the Office of the Secretary (Room 935), telephone number (202) (566-8871) at the earliest practicable time, *Provided*, That individual items may be added to or deleted from any agenda at any time. Inquiries from the public regarding any regularly scheduled meeting shall be directed to the Office of the Secretary.

(b) *Voting.* At the beginning of each regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee will vote by recorded vote on whether to close such meeting. No proxy vote will be permitted. A record of such vote indicating the vote of each Director will be posted in the Office of the Secretary immediately following the conclusion of such meeting.

[42 FR 12417, Mar. 4, 1977, as amended at 47 FR 12136, Mar. 22, 1982; 49 FR 9560, Mar. 14, 1984; 49 FR 41237, Oct. 22, 1984; 50 FR 8606, Mar. 4, 1985]

§ 407.4 Procedures applicable to other meetings.

(a) *Amendments.* (1) For every meeting which is to be open to public observation or which is to be closed pursuant to any paragraph of § 407.2(a) other

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than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (10), or any combination thereof, public announcement will be made at least one week before the meeting of the time, place, and the agenda setting forth the subject matter of such meeting, and whether the meeting, or any portion thereof, is to be open or closed to the public.

(2) Inquiries from the public regarding any such meeting shall be directed to the Office of the Secretary.

(3) The one-week period for the announcement required by paragraph (a)(1) of this section may be reduced if the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee determines by a recorded vote that Eximbank business requires such meeting to be called at an earlier date. Public announcement of the time, place, and subject matter of such meeting, and whether open or closed to the public, will be made at the earliest practicable time.

(4) The time or place of a meeting may be changed following the announcement required by paragraph (a)(1) of this section only if public announcement is made of such change at the earliest practicable time.

(5) The subject matter of a meeting or the determination of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee to open or close a meeting, or any portion thereof, to the public, may be changed following the announcement required by paragraph (a) of this section only if:

(i) A majority of the entire voting membership of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee determines by a recorded vote that Eximbank business so requires and that no earlier announcement of the change was possible; and

(ii) The Board of Directors or the Executive Committee announces such change and the vote of each Director upon such change at the earliest practicable time.

(6) Individual items may be added to or deleted from any agenda at any time.

(7) The announcements required pursuant to this section shall be made in the form of a notice posted in the Office of the Secretary. In addition, immediately following each announcement required by this section, notice

of: (i) The time, place and subject matter of a meeting which is to be open to public observation or which is to be closed pursuant to any section of § 407.2(a) other than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (10), or any combination thereof, (ii) the decision to open or close such meeting, or any portion thereof, or (iii) any change in any announcement previously made shall be submitted for publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(8) The information required by this subsection shall be disclosed except to the extent that it is exempt from disclosure under any section of § 407.2(a).

(b) *Voting.* (1) Action to close a meeting, or any portion thereof, pursuant to any section of § 407.2(a), other than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i), or (10), or any combination thereof, shall be taken only when a majority of the entire voting membership of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee votes to take such action.

(2) A separate vote of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall be taken with respect to each meeting, or any portion thereof, which is proposed to be closed to the public pursuant to any section of § 407.2(a) other than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (10), or any combination thereof, or with respect to any information which is proposed to be withheld under any section of § 407.2(a), other than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (10), or any combination thereof.

(3) A single vote of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may be taken with respect to a series of meetings, or any portion thereof, which are proposed to be closed to the public pursuant to any paragraph of § 407.2(a), other than paragraphs (a) (4), (8), (9)(i) or (10), or combination thereof, or with respect to any information concerning such series of meetings, so long as each meeting in such series involves the same particular matters and is scheduled to be held no more than 30 days after the initial meeting in such series.

(4) Whenever any person whose interests may be directly affected by any portion of a meeting which is to be open to public observation submits a request in writing to the Office of the Secretary that the Board of Directors

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or the Executive Committee close such portion to the public under paragraph (a) (5), (6) or (7) of § 407.2, the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, shall vote by recorded vote on whether to close such portion.

(5) No proxy vote will be permitted for any vote required under this section.

(6) A record of each vote indicating the vote of each Director pursuant to paragraphs (b) (1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section will be posted in the Office of the Secretary within one day after it has been taken, *Provided*, That if a meeting or portion thereof is to be closed, such record shall be accompanied by: (i) A full written explanation of the reasons for closing such meeting or portion thereof and (ii) a list of all persons expected to attend such meeting or portion thereof and their affiliation.

§ 407.5 Certification by General Counsel.

For every meeting closed pursuant to any paragraph of § 407.2(a), the General Counsel of Eximbank will be asked to certify prior to such meeting that in his or her opinion such meeting may properly be closed to the public, and to state which of the exemptions set forth in § 407.2(a) he or she has relied upon. A copy of such certification will be posted in the Office of the Secretary. The original certification together with a statement from the presiding officer of such meeting setting forth the time, date and place of such meeting and the persons present will be retained by Eximbank as part of the transcript, recording or minutes of such meeting described below.

§ 407.6 Transcripts, recordings and minutes of closed meetings.

Eximbank will maintain a complete transcript or electronic recording of the proceedings of every meeting or portion thereof closed to the public, *Provided, however*, That if any meeting or portion thereof is closed pursuant to paragraphs (8), (9)(i) or (10) of § 407.2(a), Eximbank may maintain a set of detailed minutes for such meetings in lieu of a transcript or electronic recording. The entire transcript, electronic recording or set of minutes of a

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meeting will be made promptly available to the public for inspection and copying in the Office of the Secretary. Copies of such transcript or minutes, as well as copies of the transcription of such recording disclosing the identity of each speaker, will be furnished to any person at the actual cost of duplication or transcription. However, Eximbank will not make available for inspection or copying the transcript, electronic recording or minutes of the discussions of any item on the agenda of such meeting which contains information of the kind described in § 407.2(a). Requests to inspect or to have copies made of any transcript, electronic recording or set of minutes of any meeting or item(s) on the agenda, thereof should be made in writing to the General Counsel and if possible, identify the time, date and place of such meeting and briefly describe the item(s) being sought. Eximbank will maintain a complete verbatim copy of the transcript, a complete electronic recording or a complete copy of the minutes of each meeting, or portion thereof, closed to the public for two years after such meeting or one year from the date of final action of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee on all items on the agenda of such meeting, whichever occurs later.

§ 407.7 Relationship to Freedom of Information Act.

Nothing in this part expands or limits the present rights of any person under part 404, except that the exemptions contained in § 407.2 shall govern in the case of any request made pursuant to part 404 to copy or inspect the transcripts, recordings or minutes described in § 407.6.

PART 408—PROCEDURES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Subpart A—General

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