one week in advance for all meetings due to security and/or seating limitations (see below for information on pre-registration).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public wishing further information concerning these meetings or the Panel itself, or to pre-register for the meetings, should contact Ms. Laura Auletta, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at: *laura.auletta@gsa.gov,* phone/voice mail (202) 208–7279, or mail at: General Services Administration, 1800 F. Street, NW., Room 4006, Washington, DC 20405. Members of the public wishing to reserve speaking time must contact Mr. Emile Monette, AAP Staff Analyst, in writing at: *emile.monette@gsa.gov* or by Fax at 202–501–3341, or mail at the address given above for the DFO. Requests must be received no later than one week prior to the meeting for which speaking time is desired.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

(a) *Background:* The purpose of the Panel is to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy and Congress pursuant to Section 1423 of the Services Acquisition Reform Act of 2003. The Panel's statutory charter is to review Federal contracting laws, regulations, and governmentwide policies, including the use of commercial practices, performance-based contracting, performance of acquisition functions across agency lines of responsibility, and governmentwide contracts. Interested parties are invited to attend the meetings. Opportunity for public comments will be provided at the meetings. Any change will be announced in the **Federal Register**.

All Meetings—While the Panel may hear from additional invited speakers, the focus of these meetings will be discussions of and voting on working group findings and recommendations from selected working groups, established at the February 28, 2005 and May 17, 2005 public meetings of the AAP (see *http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html* for a list of working groups). The Panel welcomes oral public comments at these meetings and has reserved one-half hour for this purpose at each meeting. Members of the public wishing to address the Panel during the meeting must contact Mr. Monette, in writing, as soon as possible to reserve time (see contact information above).

(b) *Posting of Draft Reports:* Members of the public are encouraged to regularly visit the Panel's web site for draft reports. Currently, the working groups are staggering the posting of various sections of their draft reports at *http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html* under the link for ''Working Group Reports.'' The most recent posting is from the Commercial Practices Working Group. The public is encouraged to submit written comments on any and all draft reports.

(c) *Adopted Recommendations:* The Panel has adopted recommendations presented by the Small Business, Interagency Contracting, and Performance-Based Acquisition Working Groups as of the date of this notice. While additional recommendations from some of these working groups are likely and adopted recommendations from other working groups will be posted as recommendations are adopted, the public is encouraged to review and comment on the recommendations adopted by the Panel to date by going to *http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html* and selecting the link for ''Panel Recommendations To Date.''

(d) *Availability of Meeting Materials:* Please see the Panel's Web site for any available materials, including draft agendas and minutes. Questions/issues of particular interest to the Panel are also available to the public on this Web site on its front page, including ''Questions for Government Buying Agencies,'' ''Questions for Contractors that Sell Commercial Goods or Services to the Government,'' ''Questions for Commercial Organizations,'' and an issue raised by one Panel member regarding the rules of interpretation and performance of contracts and liabilities of the parties entitled ''Revised Commercial Practices Proposal for Public Comment.'' The Panel encourages the public to address any of these questions/issues when presenting either oral public comments or written statements to the Panel.

(e) *Procedures for Providing Public Comments:* It is the policy of the Panel to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The Panel Staff expects that public statements presented at Panel meetings will be focused on the Panel's statutory charter and working group topics, and not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements, and that comments will be relevant to the issues under discussion.

Oral Comments: Speaking times will be confirmed by Panel staff on a ''first-come/first-served'' basis. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, oral public comments must be no longer than 10 minutes. Because Panel members may ask questions, reserved times will be approximate. Interested parties must contact Mr. Emile Monette, in writing (via mail, e-mail, or fax identified above for Mr. Monette) at least one week prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the public speaker list for the meeting. Oral requests for speaking time will not be taken. Speakers are requested to bring extra copies of their comments and/or presentation slides for distribution to the Panel at the meeting. Speakers wishing to use a Power Point presentation must e-mail the presentation to Mr. Monette one week in advance of the meeting.

Written Comments: Although written comments are accepted until the date of the meeting (unless otherwise stated), written comments should be received by the Panel Staff at least one week prior to the meeting date so that the comments may be made available to the Panel for their consideration prior to the meeting. Written comments should be supplied to the DFO at the address/contact information given in this FR Notice in one of the following formats (Adobe Acrobat, WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files, in IBM–PC/Windows 98/2000/XP format).

Please note: Because the Panel operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, all public presentations will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection, up to and including being posted on the Panel's Web site.

(f) *Meeting Accommodations:* Individuals requiring special accommodation to access the public meetings listed above should contact Ms. Auletta at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Laura Auletta,

Designated Federal Officer (Executive Director), Acquisition Advisory Panel.

[FR Doc. 06–4070 Filed 4–28–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3110–01–P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Notice of Closure of Case 012–CP–05, Protection of Worker Rights in Swaziland and Closure of Case 015–CP–05, Protection of Intellectual Property in Kazakhstan, in the 2005 Annual Country Practice Review

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces closure of the review for cases 012–CP–05, Protection of Worker Rights in Swaziland and 015–CP–05, Protection of Intellectual Property in Kazakhstan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Marideth Sandler, Executive Director of the GSP Program, Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), Room F–220, 1724 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395–6971 and the facsimile number is (202) 395–9481.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The GSP program provides for the duty-free importation of designated articles when imported from beneficiary developing countries. The GSP program is authorized by Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461, *et seq.*), as amended (the ''Trade Act''), and is implemented in accordance with Executive Order 11888 of November 24, 1975, as modified by subsequent Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations.

In the 2005 Annual Review, the GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is reviewing petitions concerning the country practices of certain beneficiary developing countries of the GSP program. As a result of that review, the TPSC has decided to close the review for case 012–CP–05 regarding protection of worker rights in Swaziland and case 015–CP–05, protection of intellectual property rights in Kazakhstan. The Petitioners were the AFL–CIO and the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA), respectively. The results of other ongoing country practice reviews in the 2005 Annual Review will be announced in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

Marideth J. Sandler,

Executive Director, GSP Program.

[FR Doc. E6–6536 Filed 4–28–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190–W6–P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Personnel Demonstration Project; Alternative Personnel Management System for the U.S. Department of Commerce

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice of modification to the Department of Commerce Personnel Management Demonstration Project.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has authority to conduct demonstration projects that experiment with new and different human resources management concepts to determine whether changes in policies and procedures result in improved Federal human resources management. OPM approved a demonstration project covering several operating units of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC). OPM must approve modifications to demonstration project plans. This notice rescinds the demonstration project's independent authority pertaining to recruitment and retention payments. By so doing, it allows the demonstration project to take advantage of the expanded recruitment and retention flexibilities applicable to General Schedule and other employees.

DATES: This notice modifying the DoC Demonstration Project may be implemented upon publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Department of Commerce:

Joan Jorgenson, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 5004, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482–4233. Office of Personnel Management: Jill Rajaee, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415, (202) 606–0836.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approved the Department of Commerce (DOC) Demonstration Project and published the final plan in the **Federal Register** Volume 62, Number 247, Part II, on Wednesday, December 24, 1997. The project was implemented on March 29, 1998, and modified in the **Federal Register** on Thursday, September 30, 1999, Volume 64, Number 189 [Notices] [Pages 52810–52812], and on Tuesday, August 12, 2003, Volume 68, Number 155 [Notices] [Pages 47948–47949]. OPM approved a request to extend the DOC Demonstration Project for five years as stated in an administrative letter from OPM, dated February 14, 2003. The project was approved for expansion in the **Federal Register** Volume 68, Number 180 [Notices] [Pages 54505–54507], on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, to include an additional 1,505 employees. The demonstration project was again modified on Tuesday, July 5, 2005, Volume 70, Number 127 [Notices] [Pages 38732–38733]. This notice rescinds the demonstration project's independent authority pertaining to recruitment and retention payments. By so doing, it allows the demonstration project to take advantage of the expanded recruitment and retention flexibilities under 5 U.S.C. 5753 and 5754, and subparts A and C of 5 CFR part 575.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 4703; 5 CFR 470.315

Office of Personnel Management.

Linda M. Springer,

Director.

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I. Executive Summary

The Department of Commerce (DOC) Demonstration Project utilizes many features similar to those implemented by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Demonstration Project in 1988. The DOC Demonstration Project supports several key objectives: To simplify the classification system for greater flexibility in classifying work and paying employees; to establish a performance management and rewards system for improving individual and organizational performance; and to improve recruitment and retention to attract highly qualified candidates. The project is designed to test whether the interventions of the NIST project, which is now a permanent alternative personnel system, could be successful in other DOC environments. The current participating organizations include the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration (CFO/ASA), the Technology Administration, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, and units of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service.

II. Basis for Project Plan Modification

As part of the Commerce Demonstration Project plan, as published in the **Federal Register** notice (62 FR 67434), the recruitment bonus and retention allowance authorities under 5 U.S.C. 5753 and 5754, and subparts A and C of 5 CFR part 575, were waived for the DOC Demonstration Project and replaced with an independent authority to pay recruitment and retention payments. Based on independent evaluations, the recruitment and retention payment flexibilities have been underutilized in the demonstration project. The changes in statute made by section 101 of the Federal Workforce Flexibility Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108–411, October 30, 2004) provide robust recruitment and retention incentives in an effort to