exclude from the trade reporting requirements any transfer of equity securities for the sole purpose of creating or redeeming an instrument that evidences ownership of or otherwise tracks the underlying securities transferred. FINRA explained that such transfers are not considered transactions for purposes of the trade reporting rules and thus are not reportable events.

FINRA represented that the proposed rule change codifies current guidance and practice in this area. The Commission believes that this codification of current practice will help reduce confusion with regard to what is required to be reported under FINRA’s trade reporting requirements and thus reduce reporting errors. FINRA stated that the proposed rule change will be effective 90 days following the date of Commission approval.

III. Commission’s Findings

After carefully considering the proposed rule change, the Commission finds that it is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association. In particular, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Commission believes that the proposal is reasonably designed to clarify the interpretation and application of the current exception from the trade reporting requirements for transactions that are part of a distribution. The Commission believes that the proposal will: (1) Enhance market transparency by helping to ensure that transactions that are not part of an “unregistered secondary distribution,” such as large block trades, are properly reported; and (2) clarify members’ obligations with respect to the reporting of transfers of equity securities to create or redeem instruments such as ADRs and ETFs under FINRA trade reporting rules.

In addition, FINRA will receive information regarding transactions that are part of an unregistered secondary distribution which will enhance FINRA’s ability to monitor compliance with the securities laws and rules.

IV. Conclusion

It is Therefore Ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR–FINRA–2011–027), be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.

Elizabeth M. Murphy,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 7544]

Announcement of Meeting of the International Telecommunication Advisory Committee

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the International Telecommunication Advisory Subcommittees (ITAC) on August 22, 2011, 10 a.m.–noon EDT, at the Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520, to seek advice from the telecommunications industry on: (a) The consultation of International Telecommunication Union, Telecommunication Standardization Sector Study Group 15, on whether draft Recommendation G.709 (Object Operations, Administration and Maintenance mechanism for MPLS-TP in Packet Transport Network (PTN)) should be approved as a policy-level document; and (b) what policy position the United States should take at the December 2011 Study Group 15 meeting on this issue.

This meeting is open to the public as seating capacity allows. The public will have an opportunity to provide comments at this meeting. People desiring further information on this meeting or wishing to request reasonable accommodation may contact the Secretariat at minardje@state.gov.

Dated: August 3, 2011.

Marian R. Gordon,
International Communications & Information Policy, U.S. Department of State.