

Agreements (CCAs) to satisfy commercial or DOD requirements. VISA provides a defense against antitrust laws in accordance with the DPA. CCAs must be submitted to the Maritime Administration for coordination with the Department of Justice for approval, before they can be utilized.

### Vessel Position Reporting

If VISA applicants have the capability to track their vessels, they must state which system is used in their VISA application and will be required to provide the Maritime Administration with access to their vessel tracking systems upon approval of their VISA application. If VISA applicants do not have a tracking system, they must indicate this in their VISA application. The VISA program requires enrolled ships to comply with 46 CFR Part 307, Establishment of Mandatory Position Reporting System for Vessels.

### Compensation

In addition to receiving priority in the award of DOD peacetime cargo, a participant will receive compensation during contingency activation for that capacity activated under Stage I, II and III. The amount of compensation will depend on the Stage at which capacity is activated. During enrollment, each participant must select one of several compensation methodologies. The compensation methodology selection will be completed with the appropriate DOD agency, resulting in prices in contingency contracts between DOD and the participant.

### Application for VISA Participation

New applicants may apply to participate by obtaining a VISA application package (Form MA-1020 (OMB Approval No. 2133-0532)) from the Director, Office of Sealift Support, at the address indicated below. Form MA-1020 includes instructions for completing and submitting the application, blank VISA Application forms and a request for information regarding the operations and U.S. citizenship of the applicant company. A copy of the VISA document as published in the **Federal Register** on March 24, 2010, will also be provided with the package. This information is needed in order to assist the Maritime Administration in making a determination of the applicant's eligibility. An applicant company must provide an affidavit that demonstrates that the company is qualified to document a vessel under 46 U.S.C. 12103, and that it owns, or bareboat charters and controls, oceangoing, militarily useful vessel(s) for purposes

of committing assets to the VISA program.

New VISA applicants are required to submit their applications for the VISA program as described in this Notice no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice. Applicants must provide the following:

- U.S. citizenship documentation;
  - Copy of their Articles of Incorporation and/or By Laws;
  - Copies of loadline documents from a recognized classification society to validate oceangoing vessel capability;
  - U.S. Coast Guard Certificates of Documentation for all vessels in their fleet;
  - Copy of Bareboat Charters, if applicable, valid through the period of enrollment, which state that the owner will not interfere with the charterer's obligation to commit chartered vessel(s) to the VISA program for the duration of the charter; and
  - Copy of Time Charters, valid through the period of enrollment, for tug services to barge operators, if sufficient tug service is not owned or bareboat chartered by the VISA applicant. Barge operators must provide evidence to MARAD that tug service of sufficient horsepower will be available for all barges enrolled in the VISA program.
- Approved VISA participants will be responsible for ensuring that information submitted with their application remains up to date beyond the approval process. Any changes to VISA commitments must be reported to the Maritime Administration and USTRANSCOM not later than seven days after the change. If charter agreements are due to expire, participants must provide the Maritime Administration with charters that extend the charter duration for another 12 months or longer.

Once the Maritime Administration has reviewed the application and determined VISA eligibility, the Maritime Administration will sign the VISA application document which completes the eligibility phase of the VISA enrollment process.

After VISA eligibility is approved by the Maritime Administration, approved applicants are required to execute a VISA Enrollment Contract (VEC) with DOD [USTRANSCOM]. USTRANSCOM will specify the participant's Stage III commitment, and appropriate Stage I and/or II commitments for the period October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013. Once the VEC is completed, the applicant completes the DOD contracting process with USTRANSCOM by executing a Drytime Contingency Contract (DCC), if

applicable, and for Liner Operators, a VISA Contingency Contract (VCC). The Maritime Administration reserves the right to revalidate all eligibility requirements without notice.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS CONTACT:** Jerome D. Davis, Director, Office of Sealift Support, U.S. Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone (202) 366-0688; Fax (202) 366-5904. Other information about the VISA can be found on the Maritime Administration's Internet Web Page at <http://www.marad.dot.gov>.

**Authority:** 49 CFR 1.66.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: August 27, 2012.

**Christine Gurland,**

*Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

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## U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

### Notice of Open Meetings To Prepare and Release 2012 Annual Report to Congress

*Advisory Committee:* U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meetings to be held in Washington, DC as follows: (1) Review-Edit 2012 Annual Report to Congress—August 1-2, September 12-13, October 11-12, and October 23-24, and (2) Official Public Release of Commission's Annual Report—November 14, 2012.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of meetings of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

*Name:* Dennis C. Shea, Chairman of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

The Commission is mandated by Congress to investigate, assess, evaluate and report to Congress annually on the U.S.-China economic and security relationship. The mandate specifically charges the Commission to prepare a report to Congress "regarding the national security implications and impact of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China [that] shall include a full analysis, along with conclusions and recommendations for legislative and administrative actions \* \* \*"

### *Purpose of Meetings*

Pursuant to this mandate, the Commission will meet in Washington,

DC on August 1–2, September 12–13, October 11–12, and October 23–24, 2012 to consider drafts of material for its 2012 Annual Report to Congress that have been prepared for its consideration by the Commission staff, and to make modifications to those drafts that Commission members believe are needed; and release the final Annual Report to the public on November 14, 2012.

The report review-editing sessions are for members of the Commission to review and edit staff drafts of sections of the Commission's 2012 Annual Report for submission to Congress. The Commission is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) with the enactment of the Science, State, Justice, Commerce and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 that was signed into law on November 22, 2005 (Pub. L. 109–108). In accord with FACA's requirement, meetings of the Commission to make decisions concerning the substance and recommendations of its 2012 Annual Report to Congress are open to the public.

#### *Topics To Be Discussed*

The Commissioners will be considering draft report sections addressing the following topics:

- The United States-China trade and economic relationship, including its bilateral investment and the role of state-owned enterprises, intellectual property protection and its 5-year plan, technology transfers, and outsourcing.
- China's activities directly affecting U.S. national security interests, including its area control military

strategy, space developments, and intelligence activities and capabilities.

- China's foreign and regional activities and relationships, including those pertaining to Taiwan and Hong Kong.
- China's foreign and national security policies.

#### *Dates, Times, and Room Locations (Eastern Daylight Time)*

- Wednesday, August 1, 2012 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)—Room 231
- Thursday, August 2, 2012 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)—Room 231
- Wednesday and Thursday, September 12–13, 2012 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)—Room 233
- Thursday and Friday, October 11–12, 2012 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)—Room 231
- Tuesday and Wednesday, October 23–24, 2012 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)—Room 231
- Wednesday, November 14, 2012—Official Press Conference to Release Final Report to the Public—Date, Time and Location will be announced in October on the Commission's Web site at [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** All report review-editing sessions will be held in The Hall of the States (North Bldg., 2nd Floor), located at 444 North Capitol Street NW., Washington, DC 20001. The location for the Official Press Conference to release the final Annual Report to the public will be announced on the Commission's Web site at [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov) in October 2012.

Public seating is limited and will be available on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Advanced reservations are not required. All participants must register at the front desk of the lobby.

#### *Required Accessibility Statement*

The entirety of these Commission editorial and drafting meetings will be open to the public. The Commission may recess the public editorial/drafting sessions to address administrative issues in closed session.

The open meetings will also be adjourned in the noon vicinity for a lunch break. At the beginning of the lunch break, the Chairman will announce the reconvening time for the Annual Report review and editing session so members of the public will know when they may return if they wish to do so.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gavin Williams, USCC Staff Assistant, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, 444 North Capitol Street NW., Suite 602, Washington, DC 20001; Phone: (202) 624–1407; Email: [gwilliams@uscc.gov](mailto:gwilliams@uscc.gov)

#### *Authority*

Congress created the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in 2000 in the National Defense Authorization Act (Pub. L. 106–398), as amended by Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Pub. L. 108–7), as amended by Public Law 109–108 (November 22, 2005).

Date: August 29, 2012.

#### **Michael Danis,**

*Executive Director, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.*

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