may be sent to Natalie Donahue, Chief of Evaluation, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, who may be reached at (202) 632–6193 or DonahueNR@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
- **Title of Information Collection:** SAMS-Domestic Results Performance Module (SAMS-D RPM).
- **OMB Control Number:** None.
- **Type of Request:** New collection.
- **Originating Office:** Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA/P/V).
- **Form Number:** No form.
- **Respondents:** Implementing partners of ECA grants and cooperative agreements.
- **Estimated Number of Respondents:** 100.
- **Estimated Number of Responses:** 250 per year (most respondents report on a semi-annual basis; though there are some that will report more frequently, which has been factored into this figure).
- **Average Time per response:** 20 hours (regardless of frequency of reporting).
- **Total Estimated Burden Time:** 5,000 hours per year.
- **Obligation to Respond:** Voluntary. The State Assistance Management System Domestic (SAMS-D) database is the official system of record for grants reporting, this notice of proposed information collection pertains only to the SAMS-D RPM, which is an extension module within the larger SAMS-D database. The use of that module is voluntary.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:
- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

**Abstract of Proposed Collection**
As a normal course of business and in compliance with OMB Guidelines contained in Circular A–110, recipient organizations are required to provide, and the U.S. State Department required to collect, periodic program and financial performance reports. The responsibility of the State Department to track and monitor the programmatic and financial performance necessitates a database that can help facilitate this in a consistent and standardized manner. The larger SAMS-D database is already the Department of State’s system of record; the database enables monitoring of grants and cooperative agreements through standardized collection and storage of performance monitoring award elements, such as progress reports, workplans, grant agreements, and other business information related to ECA awards. The SAMS-D RPM (which this notice of information collection pertains to, specifically) is an extension module within the larger SAMS-D platform, designed to collect performance monitoring data in a format that will make analysis of program performance and monitoring of the award more efficient.

**Methodology**
Information will be entered into SAMS-D RPM electronically. For organizations that are unable to submit their reports online, they will be able to submit a word document or PDF as the report, which will then be uploaded to the SAMS-D RPM. ECA will seek to limit such situations.

Kristin Roberts,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.
[FR Doc. 2020–04843 Filed 3–9–20; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–05–P

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**


**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice of product exclusions.

**SUMMARY:** On August 20, 2019, at the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to modify the action being taken in the investigation by imposing additional duties of 10 percent ad valorem on goods of China with an annual trade value of approximately $300 billion as part of the action in the Section 301 investigation of China’s acts, policies, and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation. The additional duties on products in List 1, which is set out in Annex A of that action, became effective on September 1, 2019. On August 30, 2019, at the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to increase the rate of the additional duty applicable to the tariff subheadings covered by the action announced in the August 20 notice from 10 percent to 15 percent. On January 22, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to reduce the rate from 15 percent to 7.5 percent. The U.S. Trade Representative initiated a product exclusion process in October 2019, and interested persons have submitted requests for the exclusion of specific products. This notice announces the U.S. Trade Representative’s determination to grant certain exclusion requests, as specified in the Annex to this notice. The U.S. Trade Representative will continue to issue decisions on pending requests on a periodic basis.

**DATES:** The product exclusions announced in this notice will apply as of September 1, 2019, the effective date of the $300 billion action, and will extend to September 1, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general questions about this notice, contact Assistant General Counsels Philip Butler or Megan Grimball, or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395–5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions identified in the Annex to this notice, contact traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**A. Background**
For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see the prior notices issued in the investigation, including 82 FR 40213 (August 24, 2017), 83 FR 41906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 33608 (July 17, 2018), 83 FR 38769 (August 7, 2018), 83 FR 40823 (August 16, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018), 84 FR 20459 (May 9, 2019), 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019), 84 FR 57144 (October 24, 2019), 84 FR 69447 (December 18, 2019), and 85 FR 3741 (January 22, 2020).

In a notice published August 20, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative, at the direction of the President, announced a determination to modify the action being taken in the Section 301 investigation by imposing an additional 10 percent ad valorem duty
on products of China with an annual aggregate trade value of approximately $300 billion. 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019) (the August 20 notice). The August 20 notice contains two separate lists of tariff subheadings, with two different effective dates. List 1, which is set out in Annex A of the August 20 notice, was effective September 1, 2019. List 2, which is set out in Annex C of the August 20 notice, was scheduled to take effect on December 15, 2019.

On August 30, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative, at the direction of the President, determined to modify the action being taken in the investigation by increasing the rate of additional duty from 10 to 15 percent ad valorem on the goods of China specified in Annex A and Annex C of the August 20 notice. See 84 FR 45821. On October 24, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative established a process by which U.S. stakeholders could request exclusion of particular products classified within an 8-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading covered by List 1 of the $300 billion action from the additional duties. See 84 FR 57144 (the October 24 notice). Subsequently, the U.S. Trade Representative announced a determination to suspend until further notice the additional duties on products set out in Annex C of the August 20 notice. See 84 FR 69447 (December 18, 2019). The U.S. Trade Representative later determined to further modify the action being taken by reducing the additional duties for the products covered in Annex A of the August 20 notice from 15 percent to 7.5 percent. See 85 FR 3741 (January 22, 2020).

Under the October 24 notice, requests for exclusion had to identify the product subject to the request in terms of the physical characteristics that distinguish the product from other products within the relevant 8-digit subheading covered by the $300 billion action. Requestors also had to provide the 10-digit subheading of the HTSUS most applicable to the particular product requested for exclusion, and could submit information on the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer the requested exclusion. Requestors were asked to provide the quantity and value of the Chinese-origin product that the requestor purchased in the last three years, among other information. With regard to the rationale for the requested exclusion, requests had to address the following factors:

- Whether the particular product is available only from China and specifically whether the particular product and/or a comparable product is available from sources in the United States and/or third countries.
- Whether the imposition of additional duties on the particular product would cause severe economic harm to the requestor or other U.S. interests.
- Whether the particular product is strategically important or related to “Made in China 2025” or other Chinese industrial programs.
- Whether the particular product is subject to the action being taken in the investigation.
- Whether the request for exclusion is governed by the scope of the 10-digit HTSUS subheading as described in the Annex, and not by the product descriptions set out in any particular request for exclusion.

As set out in the Annex, the exclusions are reflected in 8 10-digit HTSUS subheadings, which cover 59 separate exclusion requests.

In accordance with the October 24 notice, the exclusions are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. Further, the scope of each exclusion is governed by the scope of the 10-digit HTSUS subheading as described in the Annex, and not by the product descriptions set out in any particular request for exclusion.

As stated in the October 24 notice, the exclusions will apply from September 1, 2019, the effective date of the $300 billion action, and will extend for one year to September 1, 2020. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

The U.S. Trade Representative will continue to issue determinations on pending requests on a periodic basis.

Joseph Barloon,
General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

BILLING CODE 3290-F0-P
ANNEX

A. Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 1, 2019, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is modified:

1. by inserting the following new heading 9903.88.39 in numerical sequence, with the material in the new heading inserted in the columns of the HTSUS labeled “Heading/Subheading”, “Article Description”, and “Rates of Duty 1-General”, respectively:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heading/Subheading</th>
<th>Article Description</th>
<th>Rates of Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9903.88.39</td>
<td>Articles the product of China, as provided for in U.S. note 20(rr) to this subchapter, each covered by an exclusion granted by the U.S. Trade Representative</td>
<td>![](The duty provided in the applicable subheading)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. by inserting the following new U.S. note 20(rr) to subchapter III of chapter 99 in numerical sequence:

“(rr) The U.S. Trade Representative determined to establish a process by which particular products classified in heading 9903.88.15 and provided for in U.S. notes 20(r) and (s) to this subchapter could be excluded from the additional duties imposed by heading 9903.88.15. See 84 Fed. Reg. 43304 (August 20, 2019), 84 Fed. Reg. 45821 (August 30, 2019), 84 Fed. Reg. 57144 (October 24, 2019) and 85 Fed. Reg. 3741 (January 22, 2020). Pursuant to the product exclusion process, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that the additional duties provided for in heading 9903.88.15 shall not apply to the following particular products, which are provided for in the following enumerated statistical reporting numbers:

1) 3401.19.0000
2) 3926.90.9910
3) 4015.19.0510
4) 4015.19.0550
5) 4818.90.0000
6) 6210.10.5000
7) 6307.90.6090
8) 6307.90.6800”

3. by amending the last sentence of the first paragraph of U.S. note 20(r) to insert “, except as provided in heading 9903.88.39 and U.S. note 20(rr) to subchapter III of chapter 99” after “heading 9903.88.15”.

4. by amending the article description of heading 9903.88.15 by deleting the word “Articles” and inserting “Except as provided in heading 9903.88.39, articles” in lieu thereof.
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket Number USTR–2020–0010]

Field Hearings Regarding Trade Distorting Policies That May Be Affecting Seasonal and Perishable Products in U.S. Commerce

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture will convene public hearings in Florida and Georgia to hear firsthand from interested persons regarding trade distorting policies that may be affecting seasonal and perishable products in U.S. commerce. The hearings are open to the public, but space may be limited. Accordingly, attendees will be accommodated on a first come, first served basis.

USTR invites comments and supporting documentation from interested persons on the following issues:

• Trade distorting policies that may be contributing to unfair pricing in the U.S. market and causing harm to U.S. seasonal and perishable producers in U.S. commerce.

• How the Administration can better support these producers and redress any unfair harm.

II. Hearing Participation—Submission Requirements

To appear and provide testimony at either of the field hearings, you must submit a request to do so by the March 19, 2020, 11:59 p.m. EST deadline.

All parties who wish to testify also must submit the statement they intend to present at the hearing by the March 26, 2020, 11:59 p.m. EST deadline. Remarks at the hearing will be limited to five minutes, and might be further limited if circumstances warrant, to allow adequate time for questions from the panel.

Interested parties who do not want to appear at the hearing may submit comments by the March 26 deadline.

To submit a request to appear and provide testimony, go to www.regulations.gov. To make a submission via Regulations.gov, enter docket number USTR–2020–0010 in the ‘search for’ field on the home page and click ‘search.’ The site will provide a search-results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice by selecting ‘notice’ under ‘document type’ in the ‘filter results by’ section on the left side of the screen and click on the link entitled ‘comment now.’ In the “comment” field on the next page, identify the hearing at which you would like to testify and provide the full name, address, email address, and telephone number of the person who wishes to present the testimony.

To submit a written statement, the Regulations.gov website allows users to provide comments by filling in a ‘type comment’ field or by attaching a document using the ‘upload file(s)’ field. USTR prefers that you provide submissions in an attached document. The file name should include the name of the person who will be presenting the testimony, or if not testifying, the name of the person submitting the statement. The name of the presenter also should be clear in the content of the file itself. All submissions must be in English and be prepared in (or be compatible with) Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) formats. Include any data attachments to the submission in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

For additional information on using the Regulations.gov website, please consult the resources provided on the website by clicking on ‘how to use this site’ on the left side of the home page.

You must clearly designate business confidential information (BCI) by marking the submission ‘BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL’ at the top and bottom of the cover page and each succeeding page, and indicating, via brackets, the specific information that is confidential.

A submitter requesting that USTR treat information in a submission as BCI must certify that the information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the submitter.

You must include ‘business confidential’ in the ‘type comment’ field, and must add ‘business confidential’ to the end of your file name for any attachments.

For any submission containing BCI, you also must attach a separate non-confidential version (i.e., not as part of the same submission with the BCI version), indicating where confidential information has been redacted. USTR will place the non-confidential version in the docket and it will be available for public inspection.

USTR may not accept BCI submissions that do not have the required markings, or are not accompanied by a properly marked non-confidential version, and may consider the submission to be a public document.

Submissions responding to this notice, except for information granted BCI status, will be available for public viewing at Regulations.gov upon completion of processing. You can view submissions by entering docket number USTR–2020–0010 in the search field at Regulations.gov.

Joseph Barloon,
General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.