

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the AIDS Research Advisory Committee, NIAID.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

*Name of Committee:* AIDS Research Advisory Committee, NIAID; AIDS Vaccine Research Subcommittee.

*Date:* September 16–17, 2008.

*Time:* September 16, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To discuss the implication of recent vaccine trial results for future HIV vaccine development.

*Place:* National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Conference Rooms E1/E2, Bethesda, MD 20892.

*Time:* September 17, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to Adjourned

*Agenda:* To discuss the implication of recent vaccine trail results for future HIV vaccine development.

*Place:* National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Conference Rooms E1/E2, Bethesda, MD 20892.

*Contact Person:* James A. Bradac, PhD, Program Official, Preclinical Research and Development Branch, Division of AIDS, Room 5116, National Institutes of Health/ NIAID, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892–7628, 301–435–3754, [jbradac@mail.nih.gov](mailto:jbradac@mail.nih.gov).

In the interest of security, NIH has instituted stringent procedures for entrance onto the NIH campus. All visitor vehicles, including taxicabs, hotel, and airport shuttles will be inspected before being allowed on campus. Visitors will be asked to show one form of identification (for example, a government-issued photo ID, driver's license, or passport) and to state the purpose of their visit.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 15, 2008.

#### Jennifer Spaeth,

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2008–0885]

#### Public Meeting on Amendments to the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) Convention

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) will hold a public meeting on issues related to proposed amendments to the Convention of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO). Background documentation may be found on the Department of State's Web site: <http://www.state.gov/e/eeb/cip/imso/>.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. Room 6103.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant Commander Jason Smith at (202) 372–1376 or by e-mail to [jason.e.smith2@uscg.mil](mailto:jason.e.smith2@uscg.mil) or fax to (202) 372–1925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This public meeting will discuss proposed Amendments to the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) Convention to Improve Governance and Transparency of IMSO, to provide IMSO with the necessary legal authority to perform its role in the Congressionally-mandated Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) system and to provisionally apply those amendments in advance of their formal entry into force.

The amendments are intended to improve the governance and transparency of IMSO oversight and responsibilities that may affect U.S. and non-U.S. mobile satellite services providers. The IMSO is convening its biennial Assembly of Parties meeting September 29–October 3, 2008, in Malta, during which the 92 member governments (Parties) will have the opportunity to consider and act on U.S. proposals (1) to amend the intergovernmental IMSO Convention to improve the governance and transparency of (i) IMSO's performance of its role in oversight of providers for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and (ii) IMSO's performance of its role as Coordinator of Long Range Identification and Tracking of ships (LRIT) for the International

Maritime Organization's Maritime Safety Committee (IMO MSC); and (2) to consider whether to provisionally apply those amendments upon their adoption by the IMSO Assembly, pending their formal entry into force.

Currently, the IMSO's authority for oversight of GMDSS services applies exclusively to Inmarsat PLC. In September 2006, the IMSO Assembly adopted amendments to the IMSO Convention that were intended to extend IMSO's GMDSS oversight to include all mobile satellite service providers, not just Inmarsat PLC. Additionally, in the context of work that has been ongoing in the IMO, the IMSO Assembly of Parties at the same meeting adopted an amendment to the IMSO Convention that purports to authorize IMSO to perform certain review and auditing functions for a new vessel "LRIT" system being developed for maritime security. The United States, along with other Parties, objected to these amendments because they did not contain sufficient elements of transparency for IMSO's governance and do not provide an adequate legal foundation for IMSO to undertake functions as LRIT Coordinator. Further, at an extraordinary Assembly of Parties meeting in March 2007, a majority of Parties attending the Assembly decided to provisionally apply them, again over the United States' objection. In the meantime, the Congress has mandated that the Department of Homeland Security develop and implement, consistent with international treaties, conventions, and agreements to which the United States is a party, an LRIT system for all vessels equipped with GMDSS or equivalent technology. See 46 U.S.C. 70115. In a related development, over United States' objection, the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) decided to recommend, and the IMO Assembly adopted, a resolution mandating that new satellite providers admitted to the GMDSS by the MSC must be overseen by IMSO. See IMO Res. A.1001(25), which revoked and replaced IMO Res. A.888(21). Because of these latter developments, particularly the adoption by the IMO of Res. A.1001, and in order to put the IMSO on a sound legal foundation that will provide sufficient governance and transparency principles for IMSO's operations in these two new functions, the United States is planning to propose and negotiate a draft set of amendments to the IMSO Convention at the upcoming Assembly of Parties that will accomplish these purposes. The public meeting is intended to solicit public comment on that approach.