

(3) to provide, if appropriate, and pursuant to section 2543 of this title, adequate United States representation in international standards-related activities; and

(4) to encourage United States exports through increased awareness of foreign standards-related activities that may affect United States exports.

No contract entered into under this section shall be effective except to such extent, and in such amount, as is provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

(b) Terms and conditions

Any contract entered into, or any grant made, under subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Trade Representative or Secretary concerned shall by regulation prescribe as being necessary or appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(c) Limitations

Financial assistance extended under this section shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs (as established by the Trade Representative or Secretary concerned, as the case may be) of the program or activity for which assistance is made available. The non-Federal share of such costs shall be made in cash or kind, consistent with the maintenance of the program or activity concerned.

(d) Audit

Each recipient of a grant or contract under this section shall make available to the Trade Representative or the Secretary concerned, as the case may be, and to the Comptroller General of the United States, for purposes of audit and examination, any book, document, paper, and record that is pertinent to the funds received under such grant or contract.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §415, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 246; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, §351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, §21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative” wherever appearing.

§ 2546. Technical assistance

The Trade Representative and the Secretary concerned may each, with respect to functions for which responsible under this subchapter, make available, on a reimbursable basis or otherwise, to any other Federal agency, State agency, or private person such assistance, including, but not limited to, employees, services, and facilities, as may be appropriate to assist such agency or person in carrying out standards-related activities in a manner consistent with this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §416, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 247; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, §351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, §21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative”.

§ 2547. Consultations with representatives of domestic interests

In carrying out the functions for which responsible under this subchapter, the Trade Representative and the Secretary concerned shall solicit technical and policy advice from the committees, established under section 2155 of this title, that represent the interests concerned, and may solicit advice from appropriate State agencies and private persons.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §417, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 247; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, §351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, §21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative”.

PART C—ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS REGARDING STANDARDS-RELATED ACTIVITIES

SUBPART 1—REPRESENTATIONS ALLEGING UNITED STATES VIOLATIONS OF OBLIGATIONS

§ 2551. Right of action

Except as provided under this subpart, the provisions of this part do not create any right of action under the laws of the United States with respect to allegations that any standards-related activity engaged in within the United States violates the obligations of the United States under the Agreement.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §421, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 247.)

§ 2552. Representations

Any—

(1) Party to the Agreement; or

(2) foreign country that is not a Party to the Agreement but is found by the Trade Representative to extend rights and privileges to the United States that are substantially the same as those that would be so extended if that foreign country were a Party to the Agreement;

may make a representation to the Trade Representative alleging that a standards-related activity engaged in within the United States violates the obligations of the United States under the Agreement. Any such representation must be made in accordance with procedures that the Trade Representative shall by regulation prescribe and must provide a reasonable indication that the standards-related activity concerned is having a significant trade effect. No person other than a Party to the Agreement or a foreign country described in paragraph (2) may make such a representation.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, § 422, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 247; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, § 351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, § 21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative” wherever appearing.

§ 2553. Action after receipt of representations

(a) Review

Upon receipt of any representation made under section 2552 of this title, the Trade Representative shall review the issues concerned in consultation with—

- (1) the agency or person alleged to be engaging in violations under the Agreement;
- (2) the member agencies of the interagency trade organization established under section 1872(a) of this title;
- (3) other appropriate Federal agencies; and
- (4) appropriate representatives referred to in section 2547 of this title.

(b) Resolution

The Trade Representative shall undertake to resolve, on a mutually satisfactory basis, the issues set forth in the representation through consultation with the parties concerned.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, § 423, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 247; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, § 351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, § 21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative” wherever appearing.

§ 2554. Procedure after finding by international forum

(a) In general

If an appropriate international forum finds that a standards-related activity being engaged in within the United States conflicts with the obligations of the United States under the Agreement, the interagency trade organization established under section 1872(a) of this title shall review the finding and the matters related thereto with a view to recommending appropriate action.

(b) Cross reference

For provisions of law regarding remedies available to domestic persons alleging that standards activities engaged in by Parties to the Agreement (other than the United States) violate the obligations of the Agreement, see section 2411 of this title.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, § 424, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 248.)

SUBPART 2—OTHER PROCEEDINGS REGARDING CERTAIN STANDARDS-RELATED ACTIVITIES

§ 2561. Findings of reciprocity required in administrative proceedings

(a) In general

Except as provided under subpart 1, no Federal agency may consider a complaint or petition

against any standards-related activity regarding an imported product, if that activity is engaged in within the United States and is covered by the Agreement, unless the Trade Representative finds, and informs the agency concerned in writing, that—

- (1) the country of origin of the imported product is a Party to the Agreement or a foreign country described in section 2552(2) of this title; and
- (2) the dispute settlement procedures provided under the Agreement are not appropriate.

(b) Exemptions

This section does not apply with respect to causes of action arising under—

- (1) the antitrust laws as defined in section 12(a) of title 15; or
- (2) statutes administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.

This section does not apply with respect to petitions and proceedings that are provided for under the practices of any Federal agency for the purpose of ensuring, in accordance with section 553 of title 5, that interested persons are given an opportunity to participate in agency rulemaking or to seek the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, § 441, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 248; Pub. L. 103-182, title III, § 351(b)(2)(A), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122; Pub. L. 104-295, § 21(b)(1), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3529.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-295 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103-182. See 1993 Amendment note below.

1993—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-182, as amended by Pub. L. 104-295, substituted “Trade Representative” for “Special Representative”.

§ 2562. Consideration of standards-related activities by an international forum

No standards-related activity being engaged in within the United States may be stayed in any judicial or administrative proceeding on the basis that such activity is currently being considered, pursuant to the Agreement, by an international forum.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, § 442, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 248.)

PART D—DEFINITIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 2571. Definitions

As used in this subchapter—

(1) Agreement

The term “Agreement” means the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade referred to in section 3511(d)(5) of this title.

(2) Conformity assessment procedure

The term “conformity assessment procedure” means any procedure used, directly or indirectly, to determine that relevant requirements in technical regulations or standards are fulfilled.

(3) Federal agency

The term “Federal agency” means any of the following within the meaning of chapter 2 of part I of title 5: