

eral Government on the industrial sectors and markets of foreign countries which are determined by the Secretary (after consultation required by section 4904 of this title) to be of the greatest interest to United States business firms that are engaged in export-related activities and to Federal and State agencies that promote exports, while providing for the confidentiality of proprietary business information, and shall be designed to use the most effective means of disseminating data and information electronically through the Department, or Department-designated offices, or through other available data bases in an accurate and timely manner. Such data system shall monitor, organize, and disseminate selected information on—

- (1) specific business opportunities in foreign countries;
- (2) specific industrial sectors within foreign countries with high export potential such as—
 - (A) size of the market;
 - (B) distribution of products;
 - (C) competition;
 - (D) significant applicable laws, regulations, specifications, and standards;
 - (E) appropriate government officials; and
 - (F) trade associations and other contact points; and
- (3) foreign countries generally, such as—
 - (A) the general economic conditions;
 - (B) common business practices;
 - (C) significant tariff and trade barriers; and
 - (D) other significant laws and regulations regarding imports, licensing, and the protection of intellectual property;
- (4) export financing information, including the availability, through public sources of funds for United States exporters and foreign competitors;
- (5) transactions involving barter and countertrade; and
- (6) any other similar information, that the Secretary determines to be useful in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5406, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1464.)

§ 4907. Operation of Data Bank

The Secretary shall manage the Data Bank to provide the most appropriate data retrieval system or systems possible. Such system or systems shall—

- (1) be designed to utilize data processing and retrieval technology in monitoring, organizing, analyzing, and disseminating the data and information contained in the Data Bank;
- (2) use the most effective and meaningful means of organizing and making such information available to—
 - (A) United States Government policy-makers;
 - (B) United States business firms;
 - (C) United States workers;
 - (D) United States industry associations;
 - (E) United States agricultural interests;
 - (F) State and local economic development agencies; and
 - (G) other interested United States persons who could benefit from such information;

(3) be of such quality and timeliness and in such form as to assist coordinated trade strategies for the United States; and

(4) facilitate dissemination of information through nonprofit organizations with significant outreach programs which complement the regional outreach programs of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5407, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1466.)

§ 4908. Information on service sector

(a) Service sector information

The Secretary shall ensure that, to the extent possible, there is included in the Data Bank information on service sector economic activity that is as complete and timely as information on economic activity in the merchandise sector.

(b) Survey

The Secretary shall undertake a new benchmark survey of service transactions, including transactions with respect to—

- (1) banking services;
- (2) information services, including computer software services;
- (3) brokerage services;
- (4) transportation services;
- (5) travel services;
- (6) engineering services;
- (7) construction services; and
- (8) health services.

(c) General information and index of leading indicators

The Secretary shall provide—

- (1) not less than once a year, comprehensive information on the service sector of the economy; and
- (2) an index of leading indicators which includes the measurement of service sector activity in direct proportion to the contribution of the service sector to the gross national product of the United States.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5408, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1466.)

§ 4909. Exclusion of information

The Data Bank shall not include any information—

- (1) the disclosure of which to the public is prohibited under any other provision of law or otherwise authorized to be withheld under other provision of law; or
- (2) that is specifically authorized under criteria established by statute or an Executive order not to be disclosed in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title V, § 5409, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1467.)

§ 4910. Nonduplication

The Secretary shall ensure that information systems created or developed pursuant to this chapter do not unnecessarily duplicate information systems available from other Federal agencies or from the private sector.