

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**Federal Register Meeting Notice;
Advisory Committee on Veterans
Business Affairs**

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of open Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The SBA is issuing this notice to announce the location, date, time, and agenda for the next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 24–25, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Eisenhower Conference Room, 2nd floor, Washington, DC 20416.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), SBA announces the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs. The Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs serves as an independent source of advice and policy recommendation on issues of interest to veteran-owned small businesses to the President, Congress, SBA Administrator, and other policy makers.

The purpose of the meeting is scheduled as a full committee meeting. The agenda will include: (1) Status of the current committee; (2) Orientation for new members; (3) Discussion of the permanency of SBA's Advisory Committee; (4) A review of SBA's Programs and Services; and (5) Implementation steps of Public Law 110–186.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The meeting is open to the public; however, advance notice of attendance is requested. Anyone wishing to attend and/or make a presentation to the Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs must contact Cheryl Clark, Program Liaison, by June 19, 2008, by fax or e-mail in order to be placed on the agenda. Cheryl Clark, Program Liaison, U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Veterans Business Development, 409 3rd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416, Telephone number: (202) 205–6773, Fax number: 202–481–6085, e-mail address: cheryl.clark@sba.gov.

Additionally, if you need accommodations because of a disability or require additional information, please contact Cheryl Clark.

Dated: May 13, 2008.

Cherylyn Lebon,

SBA Committee Management Officer.

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BILLING CODE 8025–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 6229]****Bureau of Educational and Cultural
Affairs' Strategic Objectives**

DATES: The Department will accept comments from the public up to July 18, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by any of the following methods:

- Persons with access to the Internet may view this notice and provide comments by going to the regulations.gov Web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov/index.cfm>.
- Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions): U.S. Department of State, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Education and Cultural Affairs, SA–44, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 800, Washington, DC 20547.
- E-mail: ExchangesDirect@state.gov.

You must include the Title in the subject line of your message.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), under the authority of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended (Fulbright/Hays) and in furtherance of the official mission of the U.S. Department of State, fosters mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through international educational, professional and cultural programs. The Bureau does so by promoting personal, professional, and institutional ties between private citizens and organizations in the United States and abroad, as well as by presenting U.S. society and culture in all of its diversity to overseas audiences.

The strategic objective of the Bureau is to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic, and peaceful relations between the United States and other countries of the world by establishing and furthering common interests and common values between Americans and people of different countries, cultures and faiths. To this end, the Bureau designs and implements programs that build personal and institutional relationships and that engage educational institutions and the private sector as partners on key public diplomacy initiatives. An overview of significant current and emerging initiatives is set forth below and is offered to fully inform the public

and interested members of the philanthropic, corporate and NGO communities of our strategic objectives and priorities. We would like to encourage individuals, organizations and companies to consider ways in which they might provide support so that we can better achieve our goals and objectives. We would welcome initiation of independent programs supportive of our objectives, and partnerships in appropriate cases.

English Language and Youth Leadership: Our Academic programs place special attention on youth-focused English language initiatives. Demand for English language instruction is increasing around the world and matches young people's keen interest in expanding their horizons. Acquisition of English language ability not only makes young men and women more competitive in life, but guarantees them the ability to access materials on America and American values. Professional and Citizen Exchange programs, including cultural and sports programs, reach out directly to youth audiences as well as those individuals and institutions that work with young people.

We also increase cultural awareness and mutual understanding among successor generations by expanding youth exchanges to communities traditionally underserved by exchanges by conducting programs to help youth around the world learn about the values of a civil society, independent thinking, and citizen engagement. Our models for exchanges include: Youth Exchange and Study (YES), Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX), summer institutes, Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX), and the Global Connections school connectivity projects.

Partnerships for Latin American Youth: These initiatives bring students from underserved communities in the Western Hemisphere to U.S. community colleges; expand the English Access Microscholarship Program to Western Hemisphere countries; provide study opportunities for indigenous and disadvantaged undergraduate student leaders, including women, and for English-speaking youth from diverse communities who have emerged as leaders to learn about U.S. society, culture and values.

Promoting Foreign Languages—National Security Language Initiative (NSLI): The NSLI is designed to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical need foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi, and Farsi through new and expanded programs from kindergarten through university and