

Presidential Documents

Title 3—

Proclamation 7657 of March 28, 2003

The President

To Take Certain Actions Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act With Respect to the Republic of The Gambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. Section 506A(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “1974 Act”) (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)), as added by section 111(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (title I of Public Law 106–200) (AGOA), authorizes the President to designate a country listed in section 107 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3706) as a “beneficiary sub-Saharan African country” if the President determines that the country meets the eligibility requirements set forth in section 104 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3703), as well as the eligibility criteria set forth in section 502 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2462).

2. Section 104 of the AGOA authorizes the President to designate a country listed in section 107 of the AGOA as an “eligible sub-Saharan African country” if the President determines that the country meets certain eligibility requirements.

3. Section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)) provides special rules for certain apparel articles imported from “lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries.”

4. Pursuant to section 104 of the AGOA and section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act, I have determined that the Republic of The Gambia (The Gambia) meets the eligibility requirements set forth or referenced therein, and I have decided to designate The Gambia as an eligible sub-Saharan African country and as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

5. Pursuant to section 104 of the AGOA, I have determined that the Democratic Republic of Congo (DROC) meets the eligibility criteria set forth therein, and I have decided to designate DROC as an eligible sub-Saharan African country.

6. I have further decided to authorize the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to exercise the authority provided to the President under section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act with respect to DROC. The USTR shall announce any such exercise of authority in a notice published in the **Federal Register**.

7. The Gambia satisfies the criterion for treatment as a “lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country” under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA. DROC, if it is designated as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country, would also satisfy the criterion for treatment as a “lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country” under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA.

8. Section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

9. With respect to any designation of DROC as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country, I have decided to authorize the USTR to exercise the