



**United States-Sub-Saharan Africa  
Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (AGOA Forum)  
September 22-26 2016, Washington, DC**

***“Maximizing AGOA Now to Prepare for the Future Beyond AGOA”***

**THURSDAY SEPT 22, 2016**

**4:00pm – 7:00pm**     **AWEP Panel Discussion on Post AGOA Sustainability & Networking Reception**  
*Meridian International Center, Washington, DC*  
*AWEP members, others by invitation only*

**1:30pm -5:15 pm**     **Trade & Labor Ministerial Roundtable**  
*(U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC—Invite Only)*  
**WELCOME REMARKS OPEN TO PRESS (14-1445)**

**Co-Chairs:**

U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez  
U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman  
African Co-Chair TBD

*This Ministerial Roundtable will bring together select African Ministers of Labor and Trade, executives from U.S. industry sourcing from or interested in sourcing from sub-Saharan Africa, and experts from USTR, DOL, and the International Labor Organization. The Ministerial will foster discussion about the importance of coordinating trade and investment efforts with policies*

that promote worker rights and inclusive economic growth. Participants will discuss how to improve internationally recognized labor standards to ensure the economic gains made under AGOA are inclusive and sustainable and to better prepare countries for post-AGOA trade initiatives. Participants will also discuss the role coordinated trade and labor policies play in building an enabling environment for foreign direct investment. The event will highlight coordinated actions on trade and labor that the participating country panelists intend to take over the next several years to improve internationally-recognized worker rights as a means to increase the benefits of AGOA utilization, and to prepare for future US-Africa trade initiatives beyond AGOA. The value of this panel is to share and discuss possible coordinated policy to benefit working people with AGOA beneficiary governments and stakeholders.

## FRIDAY SEPT 23, 2016

**09:00am – 5:00 pm Trade & Labor Ministerial Roundtable (Continued)**

*(U.S. Department of Labor—Invite Only)*  
CLOSED TO PRESS

**08:30 am – 5:00 pm Civil Society Forum**

*(Location TBD, Washington DC)*  
*Will be livestreamed at [video.state.gov](http://video.state.gov)*  
OPEN TO PRESS

Time TBD

**AGOA Health Session: Focus on Medical Devices & Technology**

*(Location TBD, Washington DC)*

**Co-Chairs:**

Deputy Assistant Administrator Oren Whyche-Shaw, USAID  
African Co-Chair TBD

*The AGOA Health Session will focus on how trade and investment can be used to combat the growing epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Africa.*

*Africa is expected to have the largest relative increase in NCD deaths in the next decade, and this will have a major effect on macroeconomic productivity. Medical devices and pharmaceuticals are crucial for the treatment and prevention of NCDs.*

*The primary objective of this health session is to discuss the importance of medical devices and pharmaceuticals in the fight against NCDs and how they can be regulated to best promote health, as well as the importance of health system investments and a strong regulatory system.*

**2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Power Africa: Galvanizing the Power Sector to Support Industry & Trade**

*Hunton & Williams, LLP (2200 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC)*  
CLOSED TO PRESS

**Co-Chairs:**

Andy Herscovitz, Power Africa Coordinator  
African Co-Chair TBD

**Panelists:**

Stephen Gardner, Chief Counsel, Commercial Law Development Program

*This session will address collaborative efforts between U.S. and African governments to improve the legal and regulatory environment necessary to spur private investment to meet the demand for project capital in African infrastructure. The panel will focus on Power Africa's consensus-based process to build the capacity of the local government and legal communities to understand, adapt, negotiate, and implement key power project contracts and agreements, as well as to regulate the power sector. Presenters will offer lessons learned, reflect on the impact on industry and trade, and consider opportunities for future efforts that can take a like-minded approach with local governments and attorneys in order to improve the environment for business and trade in Africa.*

## MONDAY SEPT 26, 2016

- 8:45 – 09:45 am**      **Ministerial Opening Ceremony**  
*OPEN TO PRESS & Livestreamed at state.gov*  
*(U.S. Department of State, Loy Henderson Auditorium – delegates only)*
- 8h45-0850: Seating of officials
  - 850 - 9h00: U.S. National anthem
  - 9h00-9h10: Introductory remarks by A/S Linda Thomas-Greenfield
  - 9h10-9h25: Remarks by Secretary Kerry (*invited*)
  - 9h25-9h40: Welcome remarks by Gabon (*2015 AGOA Forum host*)
- 09:40 - 09:45 am**      **Readout from African Trade Ministers' Consultative Meeting**
- 09:45 - 09:50am**      **Readout from Labor Ministerial**
- 09:50 – 09:55am**      **Readout from Commerce A/S Kumar on USABF Outcomes**
- 09:55 – 10:00 am**      **Readout from Civil Society** (*incorporating AWEF, Private Sector*)
- 10:00 – 13:30**      **Closed Ministerial Policy Dialogues**
- 13:30 - 15:00**      **WORKSHOP – Solutions for SME Trade Financing**  
*(Loy Henderson Conference Room – delegates only)*

*Livestreamed at video.state.gov*

**Co-Chairs:**

SBA Deputy Administrator  
African Co-Chair TBD

**Panelists:**

USAID Development Credit Authority  
African Development Bank  
IFC

*The availability of trade finance is essential for a healthy trading system as up to 80 per cent of trade is financed by credit or credit insurance. But trade finance is often difficult for African producers to access, and poses a significant barrier to trade. The estimated value of unmet demand for trade finance in Africa is US\$ 120 billion (one-third of the continent's trade finance market). SMEs have particular challenges in accessing affordable financing. Globally, over half of trade finance requests by SMEs are rejected, against just 7 per cent for multinational companies. Bridging these gaps would unlock the trading potential of many thousands of individuals and small businesses. This session will describe how to create a supportive financial regulatory framework; including financial institutions, non-bank lenders, and other technical assistance providers; to deliver services to SMEs in need of funding as well as technical assistance on how to manage funds. Getting government to work with private sector and provide lenders with tools to assist with SME export development can lead to stable companies, more stable communities, and economic growth.*

**1500 – 1815**

**Closed Ministerial Policy Dialogues**

**18:15 – 18:35**

**Closing Ceremony**

*(Loy Henderson Auditorium – delegates only)*

*OPEN TO PRESS & Livestreamed at video.state.gov*

**Remarks by:**

H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, African Union Commission Chairperson –*invited*  
Amb. Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

*Closing statements of summary and thanks, as well as the presentation of the 2017 AGOA Forum host.*