



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

“Maximizing U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment; AGOA and Beyond”

TUE SEPT 20, 2016

09:00-12:00

Corporate Council on Africa Private Sector Side Event

(Location TBD, New York City)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED at www.corporatecouncilonafrika.com

This event will emphasize AGOA success stories in business and manufacturing. Examples to be featured include: the recent AGOA-linked textile boom in Ethiopia, Namibia’s groundbreaking approval to export beef to the United States, and cocoa value-added processing in the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire.

THUR SEPT 22, 2016

1:00pm – 4:00pm

AGOA Civil Society Registration & Workshop on AGOA Utilization Strategies

International Republican Institute (1225 Eye Street NW Suite 800, Washington DC)

CLOSED TO PRESS

FRI SEPT 23, 2016

08:30 am – 5:00 pm

Civil Society Forum

International Republican Institute (1225 Eye Street NW Suite 800, Washington DC)

OPEN TO PRESS

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:

Andrew M. Herscovitz, Power Africa Coordinator, USAID

African Co-Chair: **H.E. Babatunde Fashola, Minister of Power, Works & Housing**
(invited)

Panelists:

John J. Beardsworth, Jr., Partner, Hunton & Williams, LLP
Stephen Gardner, Chief Counsel, Commercial Law Development Program, US
Department of Commerce
Sean T. Long, Founder & CEI, Endeavor Energy
Anthony Molle, Senior Counsel, The World Bank Group
Greg Ness, Executive Director, Project & Export Finance, Standard Chartered Bank
Nicholas Okafor, Partner, Udo Udoma & Belo-Osagie

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 highlight how attracting private investment in the energy sector spurs economic growth and supports the industrial base, creating a multiplier effect on trade and investment on the continent and about the policy reforms needed to attract that investment. Panelists will discuss Power Africa's consensus-based process to build the capacity of the local government, legal communities, and other stakeholders to attract and negotiate power project financing, 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 policy reforms that can take a like-minded approach with local governments and attorneys in order to improve the environment for business and trade in Africa.

5:30pm - 7:30 pm Civil Society Reception

MON SEPT 26, 2016

8:45 – 09:40 am Ministerial Opening Ceremony
OPEN TO PRESS & LIVESTREAMING ON VIDEO.STATE.GOV
(U.S. Department of State, Loy Henderson Auditorium)
8h45-0850: Seating of officials
850 - 9h00: U.S. National anthem
9h00-9h10: Introductory remarks by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Amb. Linda Thomas-Greenfield
9h10-9h25: **Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry** (*invited - Livestreamed on state.gov*)
9h25-9h40: Welcome remarks by Gabon Minister of Trade, SME, Handicrafts, Tourism & Services Development H.E. Madeleine Berre

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*)

WORKSHOP 3 – Solutions for SME Trade Financing
OPEN TO LIVESTREAMING ON VIDEO.STATE.GOV
(Loy Henderson Conference Room)

Co-Chairs:

Melvin Williams, General Counsel, U.S. Small Business Administration
H.E. Axel Marcel Addy, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Liberia

Panelists:

Dr. Frannie Léautier, Senior Vice-President, African Development Bank (AfDB)
Willy Foote, Founder & CEO, Root Capital
Stephennette Deddeh Snoh-Taylor, Manager, New World Finance / YALI Fellow
Michael Metzler, Director, USAID Development Credit Authority
Abdulai Abdul-Rahman, Head of SME Scale Enterprises, Ecobank Ghana

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.

6:15 – 6:35 pm

Closing Ceremony

(Loy Henderson Auditorium)

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Remarks by:

H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, African Union Commission Chairperson

Amb. Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

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

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