

# The AFRICA JOURNAL

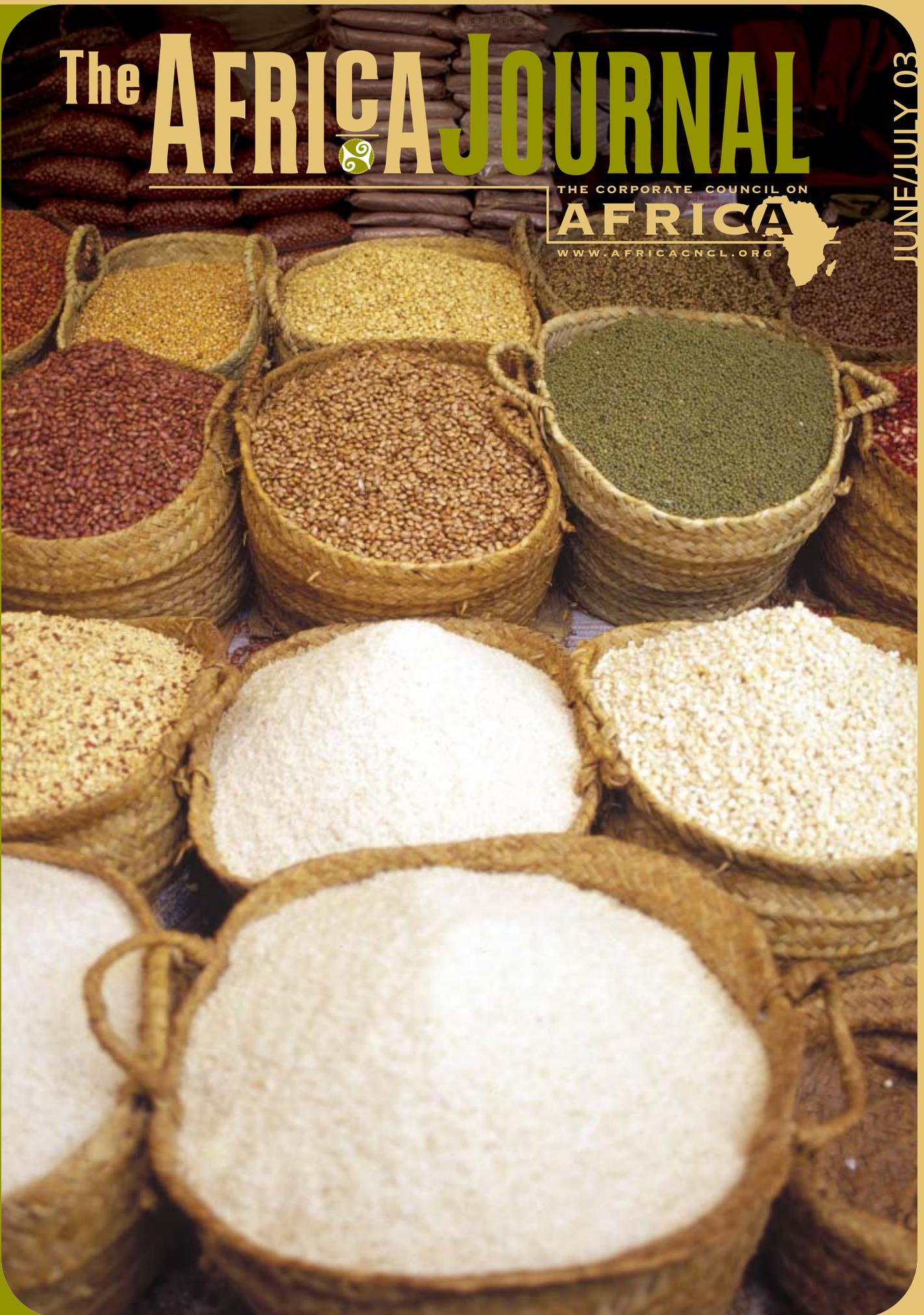
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JUNE/JULY 03





This issue of *The Africa Journal* does not simply serve as a newspaper for the 2003 CCA U.S.-Africa Business Summit, it also marks the transition to a more active public presence for the organization. It is our intention that *The Africa Journal* be an important bi-monthly magazine of and for U.S.-Africa business.

It will be one of several channels that we intend to use to develop more awareness of U.S.-Africa trade potential over the next two years.

*The Africa Journal* was the brainchild of Liberian-American Abdoulaye Dukule who founded the publication in newspaper fashion and carried the idea alone in its first few issues. CCA purchased all rights from Abdoulaye Dukule, who remains a contributing editor of *The Africa Journal*. We are grateful for his vision, perseverance and willingness to work with CCA. We have used his vision to move *The Africa Journal* into a, yes, true journal format.

CCA has broadened its mission over the past four years to not only serve its members, but to support those key efforts that allow Africa to develop stronger economies. These past two years we have focused on passing and strengthening AGOA legislation; developing partnerships; working with the African economic communities; seeking new ways to finance economic investment in Africa; and joining the fight against AIDS.

We have developed our own internal structure, and now we are ready to be an even more active partner to Africa and those organizations working positively for greater economic opportunity between and in the United States and Africa. *The Africa Journal* will be a voice for those involved in this cooperation. ●

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*The founder of The Africa Journal is Abdoulaye Dukule from whom The Corporate Council on Africa purchased all rights.*



Cover Photo: Kenya Tourist Board



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#### Upcoming CCA Events

##### November 17-18, 2003

Africa Oil and Gas Conference  
Location: Houston, TX

##### Fall 2003

China Investment in Africa: Can We Cooperate  
Location: Washington, DC

##### Fall 2003

Agriculture Trade with Africa  
Location: Chicago, IL

##### Fall 2003

Minority Suppliers: Partners for Investment in Africa  
Location: Detroit, MI

##### Winter 2003/2004

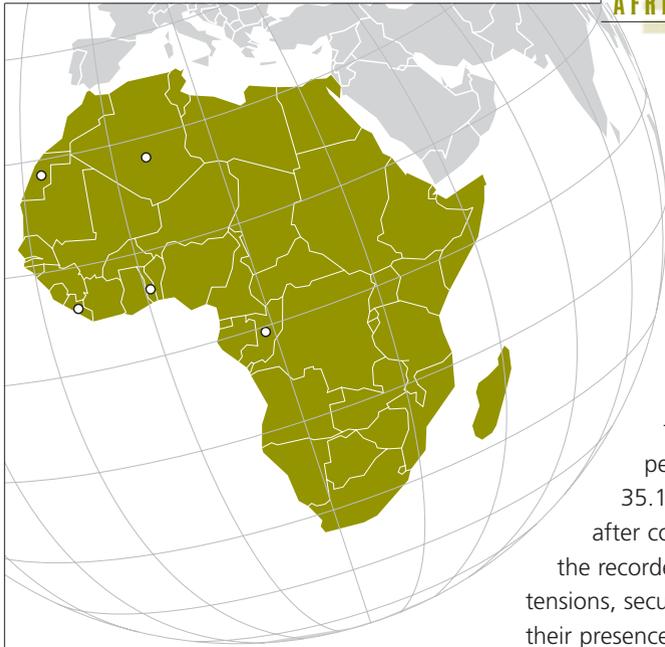
AIDS: The Corporate Response in Africa  
Location: Washington, DC

##### Spring 2004

Tourism in Africa  
Location: Philadelphia, PA

##### 2004

Annual Gala Awards Dinner  
Location: TBA



## ALGERIA

An earthquake that hit Algiers and its outskirts May 21, 2003 claimed 2,268 deaths and injured 10,000 others. According to the body count, the prefecture of Boumerdes (50km east of Algiers) recorded the highest number of victims. The earthquake measured 5.8 degrees on the Richter scale. It caused the collapse of many buildings, leading to the closure of some major roads. More than 500 aftershocks, some of which reached 4.3 degrees on the Richter scale were recorded. Political fallout from the quake emanated from its epicenter, Bordj Menaiel, where villagers were enraged by the lack of food, water, blankets and earth-moving equipment that could have been used to uncover trapped survivors. Emotion was heightened by ethnic tensions between the Arab-run government and minority Berbers who allege discrimination. Berbers in Bordj Menaiel accused the government of abandoning them after the disaster.

## TOGO

Protests erupted after the Togolese elections, held June 1, 2003. Protesters denounced the regime of incumbent President Gnassingbe Eyadema and claimed that opposition

candidate Emmanuel Akitani Bob won in the presidential poll. The National Independent Election Committee (CENI) published results gave the incumbent 59.13 percent of the votes and 35.15 percent to Akitani after counting 40 percent of the recorded ballots. Given the tensions, security forces stepped up their presence in the city, particularly on Houphouet Boigny and Notre Dame des Apotres Boulevards. Forces besieged Be District, where residents locked themselves up in their homes and shops closed for business.

Opposition candidate Emmanuel Akitani-Bob, who leads the Party of Forces for Change, is of the two candidates who proclaimed himself "president" of Togo on Monday, claiming he won the poll. The second candidate who has claimed the presidency is the Socialist Pact for Revival leader Maurice Dahuku Pere, who said he was ready to form a "government of public salvation," and invited Akitani's party to join him in this effort.

## CONGO

In a renewed effort to boost the peace process in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo), UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has recommended the extension of the mandate of multinational force in the country by one year. He also proposed in his latest report on the situation in DR Congo, that the strength of the military force authorized by the Security Council to restore peace in the troubled part of the country be raised. The immediate priorities, especially relating to the security arrangements in Kinshasa

and peace initiatives in the volatile Ituri district, clearly require further resources for MONUC, Annan said. Under the recommendation, MONUC's mandate would be extended for another year to June 30, 2004, and its military strength raised to 10,800. Annan also recommended that the number of police personnel be increased to 134 from the current level of 100, while additional officers numbering between six and 48 would be needed for training. An estimated 1,500 troops from France, Britain and South Africa will move in to quell the unrest. High level Belgium officials are also discussing troop deployment under the auspices of the UN or European Union. Belgium has not sent troops to its former colonies since ten of its paratroopers were killed in the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

## LIBERIA

Liberian president Charles Taylor flew home after the opening ceremony of the Liberia peace talks on June 4, 2003, in the wake of a warrant issued for his arrest by the United Nations War Crimes Court in Sierra Leone. President Taylor left on board the Ghanaian presidential jet. Taylor said in a speech at the opening ceremony that he would not seek re-election when his term expires in October of this year, as a compromise in reaching a peace deal with the rebels fighting his government. Ghana's foreign minister Nana Akufo Addo told reporters it was "an embarrassing situation that in the midst of a meeting that would bring peace to millions of Liberians, such an issue (warrant of arrest) should crop up." Addo restated that Ghana had not received any formal interdiction request from the UN Court, adding that even if it had,

*continued on page 5 >*



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it would have been difficult for Ghana to heed the request because it does not know its legal basis. He added that the onus would have been on Ghana either to carry out the request or reject it.

## G-8

The world's eight most industrialized countries (G-8) ended their summit in the French city of Evian, June 3, 2003 suggesting that discussions on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) be extended to other "interested" countries and international institutions. The extension would manifest itself through the naming by states and international bodies of new designees for the NEPAD, who would join a working group already comprising eight persons from the G-8 and five from the NEPAD executive board, the summit's final communiqué said. It pointed out that the G-8 discussions with members of the NEPAD pilot committee—the presidents of South Africa, Algeria, Nigeria and Senegal—"testify to our common will to contribute to Africa's development." The G-8 has also pledged that by 2005 at the latest, to draw up a report on progress achieved in implementing its plan of action for Africa decided in Kananaskis Canada in 2002. The plan was in response to the presentation of the new partnership by a group of African heads of state mandated by the continent to take the NEPAD concept to global partners. Speaking during a press conference, the French president Jacques Chirac asserted that the US and Great Britain, hosts of the 2004 and 2005 G-8 summits respectively, have assured him that "they will continue to support NEPAD." "African presidents have themselves, spontaneously taken the initiative to control each other in the framework of what they call the

peers' review. It is an act of courage and deserves our support," Chirac added. "I believe that the summit was one of opening up to the rest of the world, and solidarity with Africa," Chirac affirmed. ●

## News Provided by Panapress



## WESTERN SAHARA

On 30 May, the Security Council extended by two months the mandate of the United Nations mission responsible for organizing a referendum in the territory. The Council's unanimous adoption of a resolution to extend until 31 July the mandate of the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) follows its consideration earlier this week of Mr. Annan's latest report on the work of the Mission in which he proposes a new settlement option. He recommended the Council approve the peace plan, which was developed by his Personal Envoy, James Baker.

In his report, Mr. Annan said that the proposed peace plan—which combines elements of the draft framework agreement and agreed elements of the settlement plan—offers what could be an "optimum political solution" to the conflict. It would also provide the bona fide residents of Western Sahara, following an appropriate transitional period, the opportunity to determine their own future, which, in turn, would promote peace and stability in the region and would open the way to enhanced exchanges and

cooperation between the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union.

The draft framework favoured by Morocco, the territory's administering power, would give the Western Sahara the right to elect their own government. Within five years, a referendum on the final status of the territory would be held. The long-proposed settlement plan, favoured by Algeria and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Sagüía el-Hamra y del Río de Oro (POLISARIO Front), calls for a referendum to allow the people of the Territory to choose between independence or integration with Morocco.

The new peace plan represents a "compromise." It envisages a period of transition during which there would be a division of responsibilities between the parties before the holding of a referendum for self-determination. "And unlike the settlement plan," he added, "the peace plan does not require the consent of both parties at each and every step of its implementation."

Source: "UN Mission Extended By Two Months," UN News Centre, 30 May 2003.

# NATION BIDS FAREWELL TO

(*'Quiet Giant'  
of the Struggle*)

< By Ofeibea Quist-Arcton >

The 'quiet giant' of the South African liberation struggle against apartheid, Walter Sisulu, was laid to rest at Croesus Cemetery near Soweto, May 17, 2003 in the same way he lived his life—with quiet dignity and honour.

Earlier, thousands of mourners gathered at Orlando Stadium in Soweto to pay their last respects to Sisulu. In a dignified, emotional and nostalgic ceremony, tinged with grief and sadness, South Africans bid "hamba kahle" ("go well") to one of their country's foremost anti-apartheid heroes in a special funeral, witnessed by his grieving widow Albertina, 84, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as close friend and former jailmate Nelson Mandela.

Sisulu's death at home on May 5, two weeks short of his 91st birthday, leaves Mandela as the sole survivor of a core, the oldest generation of South African freedom fighters who fought to end white minority rule in their country.

They spent more than a quarter of a century in prison. Albertina Sisulu, an anti-apartheid activist in her own right, was left to bring up the couple's natural and adopted children during her husband's long imprisonment and absence from the family home.

*"What do I do now without you, Walter?"*

One of the younger female members of the Sisulu family delivered the widow's tribute—a love letter—which read, in part, *"What do I do now without you, Walter? You for whom I woke up every morning; you for whom I lived! The first time you were taken away from me, by the evils of the past, I was kept alive by the knowledge that we would one day overcome and our efforts would bring you back in my arms. We were victorious and indeed you*

# SISULU

MAY 5

Photo courtesy of ANC

*Albertina and Walter Sisulu*

*came back. But now the cruel hand of death has truly taken you for good. You have left an empty void in my heart and a pain so deep. I will sorely miss you, my beloved. Your wife, Tinie."*

Looking frail, vulnerable and full of grief, a visibly shaken Mandela also paid emotional homage to Sisulu, his friend of six decades. Mandela fondly called Sisulu "the patient one". In his glowing and heartfelt tribute, South Africa's first black president said of his fellow ANC comrade, "from the moment when we first met, he has been my friend, my brother, my keeper, my comrade."

Sisulu took Mandela under his wing and recruited the young man, seven years his junior, into the African National Congress (ANC), now South Africa's governing party. After the Rivonia Treason Trial of the early 1960s, they spent years together in prison on Robben Island and later in Pollsmoor. "All prisoners saw Xhamela (Sisulu's clan name) as the leader of all of us. He never asked of others what he was not prepared to do himself," Mandela said.

Sisulu's "greatness as a leader derived in his humility," said Mandela. He was always "a unifier, never a divider," continued Mandela's eulogy. "The spear of the nation has fallen.

Let us pick up the spear to build a country after the example that Walter Sisulu has set for us."

African leaders also attended the funeral, ranging from serving Presidents Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, Mozambique's Joaquim Chissano, the Malawian leader Bakili Muluzi and the Prime Minister of Lesotho, Mosilili Pakalitha, to former heads of state Ghana's Jerry John Rawlings and Zambian veteran Kenneth Kaunda, his eyes red from weeping.

Kaunda was in the vanguard of the support given to the fight against apartheid by the former frontline

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**WALTER SISULU: LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS**

1912	Born May 18, in Engcobo, Transkei, the year the African National Congress (ANC) was founded
1940	Recruited into the ANC by Alfred Mbele
1943	Founded the ANC Youth League with O.R. Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Anton Lembede, and others
1949	Elected the first full-time Secretary-General of the ANC at the 1949 ANC conference
1952	Joined the Joint Planning Council of the ANC and SAIC Campaign of Defiance against Unjust Laws
1953	Defiance campaign called off
1954	Forced to give up his office as Secretary-General of ANC
1956-1961	Defendant in the Treason Trial
1960-1961	Active in underground work and armed struggle as political commissioner for the ANC
1962	Placed under virtual house arrest, and charged for promoting the aims of the ANC after it was outlawed in 1960, and for reciting the 1961 strike
July 11, 1963	Charged with sabotage and other offenses in the Rivonia Trial
June 14, 1964	Sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island, where he completed a BA in art history and anthropology
Oct. 15, 1989	Released from prison
July 1991	Elected Deputy President at the ANC national conference
Jan. 9, 1992	Awarded the Isitwalandwe Medal by the ANC

states and his capital, Lusaka, played host to the ANC headquarters in exile.

Under a bright but wintry blue sky, mourners of all ages sang liberation songs, in a stadium made colourful with the ANC's black, green and yellow colours. The rich voices of choristers rang out as they sang hymns and tributes to Xhabela. At one point, Mandela rose to dance, lifting a clenched fist and smiling as he gently rocked back and forth in his trademark 'Madiba shuffle', prompting tumultuous applause and smiles all round.

The man who succeeded Mandela, current South African president Thabo Mbeki, reminded everyone of Sisulu's integrity, honesty and unflinching self-discipline, praised repeatedly during memorials to mark the passing of the ANC veteran.

Mbeki called Sisulu "a patriot who could never be bought or corrupted, or forced by fear or fashion or love of material things, to auction his soul." All speakers described Sisulu as the quiet, gentle and humble giant of the revolution, the popular hero who shunned publicity but was "the engine of the ANC."

Rather than a full state funeral reserved for past and present heads of state, Sisulu was accorded a 'special official ceremony'. After the first non-racial elections in South Africa, leading to Mandela's inauguration in 1994, Sisulu retired from politics and never took up high office, though he remained an active ANC stalwart till his death.

In his tribute, retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu, another anti-apartheid veteran, called Sisulu "heroically humble". Tutu said it was ironic that a man who was considered "public enemy No.2" during the apartheid era, was now being mourned so fulsomely.

Tutu said Sisulu had "refused to bask in the reflected glory" of Mandela but had made sure his own was an exemplary "life well lived" in a "spirit of magnanimity, altruism and unselfishness." The archbishop added that Sisulu "was not afraid and not diminished by having to play second fiddle"; he had always done things to help other people and used "power and position for the sake of others."

Hundreds of township schoolchildren lined the route flanking the funeral cortege as the gun carriage carried Sisulu's casket from the stadium to his final resting place. The bugle played the Last Post beside the grave.

Thousands of local residents joined the assembled dignitaries to ensure that Sisulu's funeral was as much a celebration of his extraordinary life and achievements as a fitting farewell to a liberation fighter committed to freedom for all South Africans, regardless of race or colour.

Mourners travelled from all over the country to give Comrade Sisulu a tearful, but tuneful and song-filled send-off. Reverend I.G. Swanepoel from Bloemfontein said, "We have lost a man and a hero, a man with dignity. He was a hero. He was a man of the people and a man who did not want positions."

Another young man said Sisulu was "a nation builder, the greatest. The best leadership ever in this country the comrade has left behind." A young law student also pointed to the legacy of the ANC giant, saying simply "Look at this comrade! Walter Sisulu has done a great job."

The same message echoed around the stadium as thousands sang "Walter Sisulu a huna a no vana nae," which, in the local Venda language, means, "there is no one like Walter Sisulu." ●

*Ofeibea Quist-Arcton is a reporter for allAfrica.com.*

## Coalition for AIDS Relief in Africa (CARA)

**CCA affiliate organization that successfully lobbied congress for passage of the Bush Administrations initiative to provide \$15 billion for HIV/AIDS relief in Africa.**

< By Neel Lattimore >

The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) membership sent a clear message in the creation of the Coalition for AIDS Relief in Africa (CARA) to encourage the United States Government to set a standard of leadership in addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. CARA served as a coalition, bringing together large and small companies,

non-governmental organizations, faith based organizations, African Ambassadors, foundations, historically black colleges and universities, individuals and the entertainment community that shared a commitment to ending the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa. Together they presented a unified voice in support of President Bush's State of Union pledge to provide \$15 billion in emergency aid relief for HIV/AIDS in Africa. The success of CARA's efforts was witnessed by more than 400 people as President Bush signed the congressionally approved bill on May 27, 2003.

President Bush's \$15 billion commitment, to be carried out over five years, is historic. The significance of such an act lies in the rapidity with which the United States Congress acted on the President's budget request. Equally significant is CARA's representation of so many diverse interests and philosophies joined to work hand-in-hand toward the passage of this global health initiative.

Stephen Hayes, President of CCA and President of CARA, commented on the May 27th signing. "The passage of this legislation, to provide funding for HIV/AIDS relief in Africa will echo around the world that the United States is taking an historic leadership role in funding for emergency aid relief in Africa and that it is now time for other countries to follow President Bush's example. This historic legislation for HIV/AIDS funding will certainly be a key area of discussion at the G-8 conference." ●

*Neel Lattimore is the Executive Director of CARA*



### CARA Leadership

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The Corporate Council on Africa  
*President of CARA*

**J.C. Watts, Jr.**, Former Representative  
*Co-Chairman*

**Eva Clayton**, Former Representative  
*Co-Chairman*

**Richard Arme**y,  
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**Ron Dellums**, Former Representative  
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**Julius E. Coles**, President, Africare  
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**Mary Kanya**,  
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**Dr. Vincent Bakeman**,  
President, HRDI  
*Vice Chair for Health Services*

**Neel Lattimore**  
Executive Director of CARA

## Sword of Hope

Designed by Ann Hand

As a symbol of solidarity in the world's vigorous campaign against AIDS, it is up to each of us to lift the sword and fight to save the lives of the millions of victims suffering from this indiscriminate disease.



The AIDS pin is available through the Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) website [www.africacncl.org](http://www.africacncl.org), at a cost of \$50 per pin (shipping included). Proceeds from sales of the pin will go to CCA's AIDS Initiative Programs.

The AIDS pin depicts the traditional AIDS ribbon with the Excalibur Sword as a sign of hope and faith for winning the battle against HIV/AIDS. Ms. Hand produced this pin pro-bono as sign of her commitment to ending the spread of HIV/AIDS.

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For more information about the Ann Hand collection visit [www.annhand.com](http://www.annhand.com)

## Nigeria:

### “Running an Administration that supports a market-oriented, private sector-led economy”

< By Maimouna Mills >

**Africa's** giant has just re-elected its first civilian president in decades. For a second term, the government of President Olusegun Obasanjo will face tremendous pressure to improve the economy, which experienced an oil boom in the 1970s, but which had been severely undermined by corruption and mismanagement. Nigeria is the world's 10th largest oil producer. Its leaders are keen to attract foreign investment, and to diversify an economy largely driven by the oil sector. For her television series titled “Nigeria Untold”, a companion to the recent elections, Maimouna Mills, recently traveled to Lagos and Abuja. In the administrative capital, she sat down with Dr. Magnus Kpakol, Chief Economic Advisor to President Obasanjo, and C.E.O of the National Planning Commission.

**Maimouna Mills:** *Dr. Kpakol, Nigerians expected practical things to come with the dividends of democracy, that is basic social services, healthcare, running water, electricity. Are you delivering them to the people?*

**Dr. Kpakol:** When this Administration came in, Nigerians expected to get certain things as a result of attaining democracy. They are, basically, economic growth, respect for human rights, the restoration of hope. In addition, before 1999, you would see long lines of people trying to get



Maimouna Mills

gasoline. You don't see that anymore in Nigeria, except for maybe minor situations at particular pumps. There's been a tremendous improvement in the delivery of basic infrastructure. We have built about 3,000 new boreholes between 1999 and today. We have raised electricity generation almost 300 percent. We have sought to maintain our roads better than we did before.

**Mills:** *You are limiting it to maintenance; you're not talking about building new roads?*

**Dr. Kpakol:** Well, we build new roads but in the past we've not even maintained what we built. If you look at the 2003 budget, we have a very strong emphasis on the maintenance of roads, maintenance of our infrastructure, which is a new kind of mindset.

**Mills:** *Yes, because I talked to some business people in Lagos, and they were telling me that one of the main hurdles for the country's economic development is the issue of infrastructure.*

**Dr. Kpakol:** If you just question people about the problems Nigeria is facing, they'll give you a litany of issues dating back to the beginning of time. But if you ask them: do you see any significant difference in your life today compared to three or four years ago? They'll be able to answer. For example, before 1999, we had only 400 telephone lines in this country. Today we have more than one million additional telephone lines.

Then, water supply, irrigation facilities and the creation of boreholes are also part of our priorities, as is power generation and distribution. We have managed to raise our electricity

generation from a paltry 1,500 kilowatts to well over 4,000 today. If we keep this progression going, in a matter of time everybody will notice the strides we have made.

For example, two years ago or so, Nigeria's capacity utilization in the manufacturing sector was about 30-something percent. The manufacturers tell me now that we're at about 60 percent, and we trust that we'll get to about 65 percent by the end of this year.

**Mills:** *What are the main policies of your Administration, of your Government, for a sustainable economic growth? Nigeria still counts only \$300 U.S. dollars per capita income for a country with so many vast mineral resources.*

**Dr. Kpakol:** That's true. I have to agree with you that \$300 a person is not a very large number. But when you multiply that by close to 125 million people, you get a big amount. And if I'm a businessperson, if I'm an investor, I'm looking at that large market. But, again you cannot change

the per capita income in just four years if the fundamentals have been very badly destroyed.

For example, the President has devised a program to diversify the economy that identifies six priority areas of production. We have said that agriculture and agribusiness is an important area and we're putting a lot of resources into that to try to stimulate it. The area of solid minerals development in fact, ranks as number two amongst the targets that we have in mind. We want to be able to not just extract the raw materials and export them, but to add value to them in the country so we can create jobs. We build services and expand our capacity to produce derivatives of petrochemicals. We want to do the same thing with gas...And then there is tourism, a largely untapped area.

**Mills:** *Another one of the criticisms is that your middle class is almost non-existent. That there are very rich Nigerians and then there are very poor Nigerians. As someone who has studied political economy, you know that it's the middle class that actually creates wealth and employment in any given country. So how do you bridge that gap?*

**Dr. Kpakol:** The numbers still favor you. We're trying to build a middle class and putting enormous energy and resources into that effort. But even in the interim, the opportunity is still huge because you have large numbers. We have shown a remarkable growth in the last three years: 27 percent growth rate in 2000, 52 percent growth rate in 2001 and 14 percent growth rate last year, when some people have said that if you look at some of the major markets around the world, they reminded you of the depression era numbers.

**Mills:** *I'm told that investment is not coming to Nigeria, especially foreign direct investment.*

**Dr. Kpakol:** Let me give you an example to the contrary: in 2000 and 2001, four foreign companies paid 285 million dollars just for telecom licenses, not to mention the other investments they made in the country. Our analysis of gross domestic product growth in 2002 showed well over 7.5 percent growth rate in the non-oil sector.

**Mills:** *Dr. Kpakol, let's go beyond the borders of Nigeria and talk about the role of your country on the continent...*

**Dr. Kpakol:** We're happy to go to other African countries and engage them, and we're happy for our brothers and sisters in other African countries to come to Nigeria and engage us. And we're ready to fight for Africa taking a very strong and decisive leadership role in that fight. As you know, President Obasanjo is one of the founding fathers of NEPAD, and the Chairman of its Implementation Committee. We've always taken a very strong leadership role in looking after the welfare of Africa and Africans

and we'll continue to do that. In economic terms, look at our role in the construction of the gas pipeline across West Africa, and at our role in cooperation and integration of the West African sub-region...

We are working with other African countries to reach a common currency by 2005. We want to empower the ordinary African to stand up and be an active and productive citizen.

If we have a strong Nigeria and we have a strong West Africa, then we can build a strong Africa, trusting that the same kinds of things are happening in other African countries. Our role in Africa is that we want to see an Africa that is strong, and that's in the spirit of NEPAD, an Africa in which we can transform ourselves from depending on aid to being engaged in trade. ●

*Maimouna Mills conducts interviews with key African government leaders for her program "Up Close with Maimouna Mills."*

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## CCA Promotes AGOA in the Congos

< By Ingrid White and Tony Carroll >

The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) presented two seminars last month on export opportunities under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) to the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo. U.S. imports from both countries is comparatively low, at about \$200 million per year each. This trade is heavily skewed to petroleum related products with small amounts of wood, folkloric items and minerals. Although



*H.E. Ambassador Faïda Mitifu addresses audience during Kinshasa conference.*

both economies have long been exporters of primary commodities, this data reflects the moribund status of the export sectors due to infrastructure weakness and civil strife.

With support from the U.S. Embassy Brazzaville and the Republic of Congo's Ministry of Commerce, Consumption, and Supply, the first AGOA seminar was held on May 19th and 20th in Brazzaville. Attendance included nearly 100 participants and a number of local and national media. The conference was opened by Her Excellency Mrs. Motumbo, Minister of Commerce, Consumption, and Supply; The Honorable U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Congo Robin Sanders;

and the president of the National Chamber of Commerce. The event's discussions commenced with presentations by Mr. Tony Carroll, Managing Director of Washington-based consulting group Manchester Trade. He briefed participants on the AGOA legislation, current AGOA trade statistics, and related trade protocols. Additional sessions discussed U.S. marketing options, specifically in relation to the AGOA sectors of textiles, agriculture, and hand-loomed and folkloric items. Additional presentations focused on the AGOA legislation itself, AGOA trade statistics, and related trade protocols.

Following a video presentation of CCA's AGOA Professional Development program administered to Africans over the past year, there was an enthusiastic discussion on ways that such trade capacity programs could benefit the Republic of Congo. Particularly strong support was given to the suggestion of reopening an American Cultural Center in Brazzaville to facilitate increased English language proficiency within the business community. In response to the recommendations of the visiting AGOA experts, the Director General of the National Chamber of Commerce agreed to engage in developing a unified business environment and create strong public-private partnerships.

The AGOA Conference in Kinshasa was held on May 22nd and 23rd. Her Excellency Madame Faïda Mitifu, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the U.S., presided over the opening which included welcoming remarks from the Honorable Aubrey Hooks, U.S. Ambassador to the DRC and Her Excellency Ngalula Wafwana, DRC's

Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Small and Medium Enterprises. Mr. Carroll began the conference with a presentation of basic AGOA legislation and the current trade statistics under AGOA. The audience seemed most affected by the trade success of the textiles and apparel industry under AGOA—a sector many remembered as once having thrived in the Congo. Discussion included a number of technical and trade capacity resources available to DRC companies, such as the recently established AGOA Linkages (ALINC) program in COMESA.

The afternoon sessions focused on issues related to the development of export trade, including finance, transportation and logistics, and legal regulatory issues. The finance panel featured a presentation by the operations manager of Stanbic Bank in Kinshasa. This session was particularly important as the banking sector is new to the majority of Congolese businesses. The need to reduce the high cost of transport, especially from the capital Kinshasa, was voiced by many of the presenters. One speaker noted that a shipment from Kinshasa to the port city of Matadi is the same cost as a shipment from Matadi to the eastern U.S. port of Newark, New Jersey. A legal regulatory panel featured presentations from the legal firm of Djunga & Risasi Counselors at Law, the Office of Control Congolese, and the national Customs Office. The majority of the discussion focused on the need to respect standards in order to reach the U.S. market and reduce the tax burden for international investors.

The following day's discussions focused on export possibilities that exist within the textiles and agriculture sectors. Although positive about the

general opportunity that AGOA represents for the country, the administrative director general of the largest private employer in the country, UTEXAFRICA, stated the need for government assistance to the textile industry to help increase trade capacity. The final panel focused on the potential of the agriculture industry in DRC. The discussion began with an overview of the current regulation and regulatory controls that the U.S. has in place for imported products. Representatives from the National Coffee Bureau and the Congolese entrepreneur Victor Ngezayo of Groupe Ngezayo discussed the potential for agriculture exports.

Ambassador Mitifu closed the conference by requesting that a committee of private and public sector representatives be put in place to continue the dialogue on some of the issues raised during the conference. She also reiterated the recommendation that a USAID-funded Global Competitiveness Hub be established in Kinshasa to cover the Central African region. CCA looks forward to supporting both countries in their future endeavors under AGOA.

*Ingrid White is the Program Manager for the AGOA Professional Development Program at CCA.*

## The Corporate Council on Africa's 1st Gala Awards Dinner:

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) is proud to host its first annual Gala Awards Dinner in conjunction with the 2003 U.S.–Africa Business Summit. The Gala Dinner honors three individuals for their outstanding contributions to Africa's economic development. Held on the opening night of the U.S.–Africa Business Summit, Tuesday, June 24, 2003, the dinner is expected to draw more than 1,500 attendees.

This year, CCA honors H.E. Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal; Mr. C. Payne Lucas, President Emeritus of Africare; and Mr. Maurice Tempelsman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lazar Kaplan International.

CCA salutes President Abdoulaye Wade of the Republic of Senegal for the key role he has played in the NEPAD initiative, as well the leadership he has demonstrated helping to transform Senegal into one of the

most stable and investment friendly nations in West Africa. Wade won the presidency in 2000, ending 40 years of one-party rule by the Socialist Party. A committed pan-Africanist, President Wade has actively participated in the work of the Organisation of African Unity and the African Union, and is president of the Economic Community of West African States.

Mr. Lucas is being recognized for a lifetime of work in the African non-profit sector. In addition to the 30 years he presided over Africare, Mr. Lucas's 40-year career in African development includes service in the Peace Corps, as well as active speaking, writing and grassroots involvement. Recognition for his efforts include decorations of the National Orders of Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Senegal and Zambia, as well as the 1984 U.S. Presidential End Hunger Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement.

CCA is honoring Mr. Tempelsman for his longstanding commitment to Africa's economic development. In addition to his role at Lazar Kaplan International, Tempelsman is senior partner in the firm of Leon Tempelsman & Son, a company active in mining, investment and business development and minerals trading in Europe, Africa, Latin America, Canada and the Far East. Mr. Tempelsman also serves on the International Advisory Council of the American Stock Exchange. He is former Chairman of The Corporate Council on Africa, and currently serves as director of several policy organizations including the Business Council for International Understanding and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs.

CCA will host its Gala Awards Dinner annually. Each year the organization will acknowledge individuals working to further integrate Africa into the global economy. We look forward to celebrating with you. ●

## Coming Soon: The AGOA Guide

A comprehensive business guide to trading under AGOA

- Overview of the legislation
- Eligibility criteria and provisions
- Import/export how-to for U.S. and African companies
- In-depth annexes providing detailed information relevant to U.S.–Africa trade



## U.S.-SACU Free Trade Agreement Builds on Success of AGOA

Trade and Investment Benefits will be Felt throughout sub-Saharan Africa

< by Florizelle B. Liser >

In early June, I had the privilege of leading the U.S. delegation to Pretoria for the first round of free trade agreement negotiations between the United States and the five countries of the Southern African Customs Union: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland.

This historic initiative - the first U.S. free trade agreement (FTA) with sub-Saharan African countries—is a direct outgrowth of the enhanced U.S.–African economic engagement brought about by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Not only did AGOA explicitly call for the negotiation of FTAs with interested African countries, but the increased

two-way trade and expanded policy dialogue that AGOA engendered helped to create an environment in which an FTA could be considered.

The U.S.–SACU FTA presents an opportunity to build on the success of AGOA and to move the growing commercial ties between southern Africa and the United States from one-way preferences to full partnership. An FTA will expand and lock in trade benefits for the SACU countries, increase investor confidence in the region, liberalize two-way trade in goods and services, and improve commercial competitiveness for both SACU countries and the United States.

It is especially important that developing countries, whose needs



Florizelle B. Liser

are greatest, be given the opportunity to boost economic growth and development through increased trade. Through participation in FTAs such as this one, our developing world trading partners are expanding their stake in the global trading system and helping to forge a new global coalition in support of open markets. That can only help to advance our common objectives in the World Trade Organization's Doha Development Agenda negotiations.

The five countries of SACU are well-positioned to make the most of the opportunities this FTA presents. Each is a leading beneficiary of AGOA and a member of the WTO. All five have taken important steps to open their economies and to improve the local environment for investment, for example by privatizing state enterprises and promoting good governance. SACU itself is a strong, effective customs union—in fact, the oldest customs union in the world—operating as a single, unified market.

These attributes make the SACU countries attractive markets for U.S. businesses and investors, who also have much to gain from these negotiations. Through an FTA, U.S. businesses would obtain guaranteed, preferential access to their largest export market in sub-Saharan Africa, worth more than \$3.1 billion in 2001.



An FTA would also level the playing field in areas where U.S. exporters were disadvantaged by the European Union's FTA with South Africa.

A successful U.S.-SACU FTA will pay dividends throughout sub-Saharan Africa, especially for other AGOA-eligible countries. The increased trade and investment flows that will result from this agreement will stimulate production in SACU's neighbors, too. Perhaps even more importantly, by strengthening the linkages between southern Africa and the largest, most dynamic economy in the world, the FTA will encourage renewed investor interest throughout sub-Saharan Africa and encourage other countries to pursue a path toward trade liberalization.

We see the U.S.-SACU FTA as a potentially groundbreaking agreement that can serve as a model for future trade and investment initiatives between developed and developing countries. The negotiation and implementation of this agreement present opportunities to think creatively, draw on best practices, and pair innovative solutions with regional development challenges.

Among these challenges is limited capacity, including gaps in infrastructure and human resources. Trade capacity building, therefore, is critical both to the crafting of the agreement and its implementation. To address this challenge, we have formed a special cooperative group on trade capacity building for these negotiations, to help identify needs and swiftly direct technical resources to meet those needs.

We also believe that there are opportunities through this FTA to help the SACU countries to tackle the HIV/AIDS epidemic, for example, by promoting partnerships between governments and the private sector to address AIDS in the workplace. Several U.S. firms in the region are

already working with local governments on AIDS prevention and treatment.

As we proceed with the negotiations, which we hope to conclude by the end of 2004, we will be looking for advice, ideas, and support from the private sector and civil society, both in the United States and in southern Africa. We were encouraged by the strong, positive response from businesses and NGOs during the public comment period late last year and look forward to continuing consultations with these groups through the negotiations and during the implementation of the agreement.

Congress has also taken a special interest in the prospective U.S.-SACU agreement. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas discussed the SACU FTA with African officials during his four-country, January 2003 visit to Africa, which included stops in South Africa and Namibia. At about the same time,

forty-one Members of Congress, including Ways and Means Ranking Member Charlie Rangel, wrote Ambassador Zoellick welcoming the President's decision to enter negotiations with SACU. We will continue to consult closely with Congress as the negotiations proceed.

The U.S.-SACU FTA presents a historic opportunity to strengthen the U.S.-African partnership and to craft new models for effective engagement between developed and developing countries on trade, investment and economic growth. All of sub-Saharan Africa will benefit from this enhanced partnership. We look forward to working with our SACU partners, the U.S. Congress, the private sector, and civil society to transform this opportunity into a brighter, more prosperous future for Americans and Africans alike. ●

*Florizelle B. Liser is the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa*

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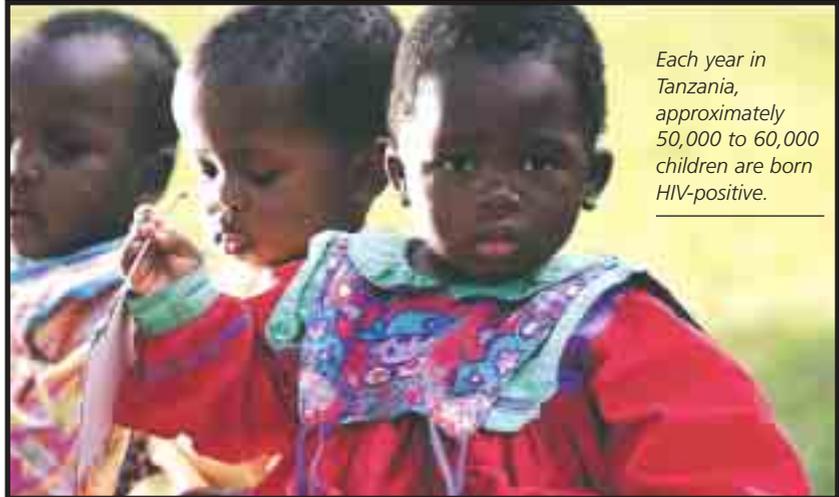
## Abbott Laboratories: Action Against AIDS

< By Caroline Hope >

**Nearly** 42 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS; 95 percent are living in developing countries. In order to effectively overcome the global AIDS pandemic, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and corporations must all make concerted efforts to aid in the research and development of treatment options, prevention measures and access to care for AIDS patients.

Abbott Laboratories, a global, broad-based health care company devoted to the discovery, development, manufacture and marketing of pharmaceuticals, nutritionals, and medical products, including devices and diagnostics, has been committed to the fight against HIV/AIDS since soon after the virus was first identified. In 1985, Abbott introduced the first licensed test to detect HIV in blood. In the years since, Abbott has continued its leadership in HIV diagnostics and expanded its scientific commitment into therapeutics, discovering and developing both Norvir® (ritonavir), one of the first HIV protease inhibitors (PIs), and Kaletra® (lopinavir/ritonavir), a second generation PI. Abbott remains committed to its research in the HIV/AIDS arena and is working on a next-generation protease inhibitor.

In addition to its scientific innovations, Abbott has contributed to humanitarian efforts to improve the lives of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The company has implemented a range of programs working with governments, NGOs, and industry partners. By 2007, Abbott will invest \$100 million in its humanitarian programs in the developing world, including key initiatives in Africa.



*Each year in Tanzania, approximately 50,000 to 60,000 children are born HIV-positive.*

### Abbott Access

Abbott Access, launched in 2001, is the company's direct contribution to the fight against AIDS through broadened access to Abbott's HIV treatments and tests. The company provides its HIV drugs at a loss and its rapid tests at no profit in 68 developing countries, including all of Africa. Abbott Access is available to any organization or institution that provides products to patients as part of a sound and sustainable program of care.

### Determine HIV Donation Program

One of the most effective interventions is the prevention of the transmission of HIV from pregnant women to their babies at birth. Enabling pregnant women to know their HIV status is the first step toward prevention. In 2002, Abbott made a commitment to donate up to 20 million of its Determine HIV rapid tests over five years to qualified prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) programs in 68 developing countries, including all of Africa.

### Step Forward...for the World's Children

Currently there are some 14 million children in the developing world orphaned by AIDS and the number is projected to rise 25 million by 2010. Abbott created Step Forward to improve the quality of the lives of AIDS orphans and vulnerable children

and help them become productive members of their societies. Working with international partners, local governments, and in-country NGOs, Step Forward addresses specific community needs in four core areas: health care; voluntary counseling and testing; education; and basic needs.

### Tanzania Care

In Tanzania, Abbott is working in partnership with the government to strengthen the capacity of the public health care system, which is critical to expanding treatment, care and support to people living with HIV. The scope of the project will cover hospitals and lab infrastructure; management systems; medical curriculum, training programs; and VCT services in regional hospitals. Abbott's support will help modernize Muhimbili National Hospital, the country's largest public health institution, with the construction of an HIV outpatient center.

Abbott's efforts are an indication of the significant impact that can be made by a single corporation in fighting the global AIDS crisis. The company is proud of its comprehensive programs addressing multiple issues and hopes to serve as a model in this field for other industry partners. ●

*Caroline Hope is currently working with The Corporate Council on Africa.*

*For more information on Abbott's action against AIDS, please visit [www.abbott.com](http://www.abbott.com).*

# The digital divide is a true reality for Africa, and it is becoming a new currency for measuring poverty.

< By Linord Moudou >

**Dr. Manny C. Aniebonam is the National President of the Nigerian IT Professionals in the Americas (NITPA), a U.S.-based organization of diverse Information Technology practitioners in the Diaspora. He is currently on the faculty of the George Washington University Computer Information Systems, Management Science Department, in Washington D.C. Dr. Aniebonam was a recent guest on the radio program Spotlight on Africa with host Linord Moudou.**

**Q:** Ms. Moudou: Today we hear a great deal about bridging the digital divide. Where does Africa fall on this issue?

**Dr. Aniebonam:** The digital divide deals with issue of those who have access to the Information Technology or digital resources, and those who do not. One parameter that measure the digital divide is tele-density, the quantity of telecommunication resources, especially telephone, wireless and land lines, that one area has compared to another. In the United States for example, tele-density is close to 95%. In Africa, depending on where you average it out among the 53 countries, tele-density is 7%, which is very low. Countries such as South Africa and recently Nigeria have higher tele-density, ranging between 10-15%. Other countries have even less than 7%.

Another parameter of the digital divide is computer ownership. In the U.S., 85 % of homes have at least one computer. The computer penetration in African homes is much less. In Nigeria for example, only 5% of homes have a computer. Other parameters are Internet access and computer knowledge. These are just few of the parameters, but the point is that the digital divide is a true reality for Africa, and it is becoming a new currency for measuring poverty.

**Q:** What are Africa's most fundamental needs in terms of technology?

We have foremost identified: capacity building, skills and technology transfer to Africa.

Secondly, we do not have enough infrastructures to sustain educational needs in some African countries; there is a lack of equipment. In the U.S., we average one computer per student in some universities. In Africa, you sometimes have one computer per 200 to 300 students.

**Q:** What steps are being undertaken by the Nigerian IT Professionals in the Americas to address these issues?

We have begun by mobilizing our resources. We started to hold conventions and conferences; four of them were held this year in Washington, D.C. We sponsored over 100 telecommunications and information technology experts from Africa to come and dialogue with experts in the Diaspora, to begin the process of understanding best practices in developmental system, support, and building deployment in different aspects of Information System.

Furthermore, we are doing "computer in school" programs, an effort undertaken in the past year to collect over 2,000 workstations for African schools. The computers are mostly Pentium 2 and above because we do not want Africa to be a dumping

ground. We have already received many donations.

For capacity building, we are doing a project we call "training the trainers," whereby we send experts to African universities to train in their areas of expertise.

**Q:** Realistically, what is the outlook for Technology in Africa?

I think the outlook is bright. Frankly, Africa is blessed with a lot of natural resources. But beyond the natural resources, are the human resources that we must develop. The outlook would improve if all of us, especially those in the African Diaspora throughout the U.S. and Europe, would collaborate. Let me also add that the recent NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development) initiative under the African Union is a very positive one. NEPAD has become a new reality of empowerment in all aspects of Africa's development, making Africans the pilots of development of Africa.

**Spotlight on Africa** is a weekly radio program in the D.C. metro area promoting the African continent, and profiling people working to improve Africa in the 21st Century. The show airs every Friday from 6pm to 7pm on New World Radio 1120 AM. [www.spotlightonafrica.com](http://www.spotlightonafrica.com)



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## Acrow Bridges

**Acrow Bridge** is an industry leader in the design and manufacture of prefabricated modular steel bridges. Acrow's principal business is the engineering, manufacturing, and supply of Acrow Panel Bridges. Acrow has been in business for over 50 years serving the transportation, construction, mining, oil exploration, timber, power generation, and other industries. Acrow, based in North America with representation in 45 countries, has supplied over 100 bridges to the African continent. Some of the African countries that have installed Acrow Bridges are the Democratic Republic of Congo, Botswana, Sierra Leone and Angola.

The Acrow Engineering Team details a bridge to comply with specified requirements. Bridges are designed and fabricated in accordance with the AASHTO Bridge Design Standard, American Institute of Steel Construction, American Galvanizing Association, and ISO9000 Quality Assurance Standards.

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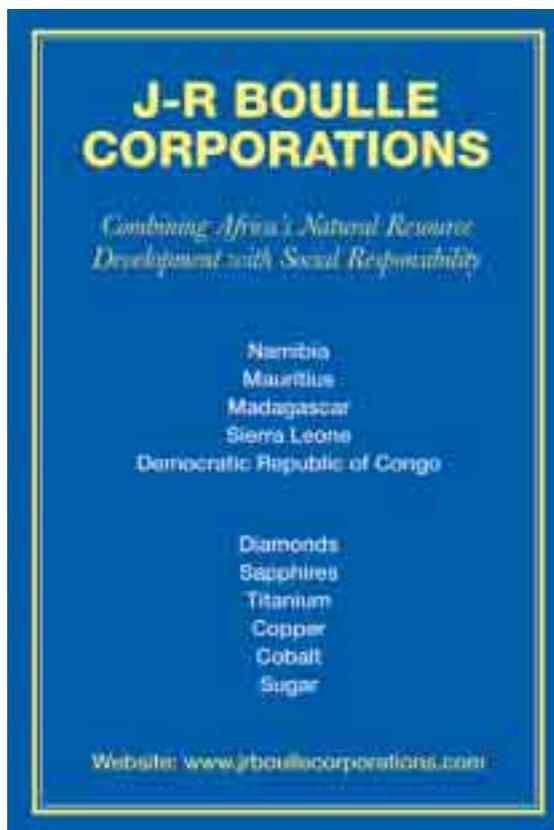
## Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

**Anadarko Petroleum Corporation** is one of the world's largest independent oil and gas exploration and production companies, with proved reserves of 2.3 billion barrels of oil equivalent and activities in roughly a dozen countries.

In North America, Anadarko's operations extend from deep water Gulf of Mexico and the prolific Texas, Louisiana and Mid-Continent basins, up through the Western U.S. and Canadian Rockies and onto the North Slope of Alaska.

Internationally, Anadarko has significant production in Algeria, Venezuela and Qatar, and is exploring in several other countries.

Anadarko is the largest non-government oil producer in Algeria, with production capacity of about 500,000 barrels a day (gross). The



company made its first discovery in the Berkine Basin of Algeria in 1993, and today is exploring for new oil and gas reserves on more than 4 million acres in the Sahara Desert. Since resuming its exploration drilling program in the fall of 2002, Anadarko has made two new oil discoveries there.

Elsewhere in Africa, Anadarko will drill high-potential exploration wells during 2003 in Tunisia and Gabon, and is actively pursuing additional exploration opportunities in other areas of West Africa. The company also is a partner in non-operated oil production in Egypt.

Houston-based Anadarko is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol APC. For more information, visit [www.anadarko.com](http://www.anadarko.com)

The Coca-Cola Company is committed to the future of the African continent, to the well-being of its people, communities and economic development.

Coca-Cola is at the heart of every community in Africa, working to create thousands of jobs, stimulating economic development, and implementing local community initiatives.

The Coca-Cola system has 60,000 African employees. Coca-Cola products are sold in over 900,000 retailers in Africa. The Coca-Cola Company and its Bottling partners have invested over US\$500 million in Africa over the last 5 years.

**Coca-Cola Africa**

## Enterprise Works Worldwide

### Enterprise Works Worldwide

is an international non-profit organization that fights poverty and assists post-conflict recovery through small business development.

EnterpriseWorks (formerly Appropriate Technology International) focuses on increasing the earning power, income, and quality of life for over 2 billion small producers, primarily in Africa and Asia.

In 2001 alone, EnterpriseWorks helped more than 242,000 people earn over \$13 million in additional income and savings, and assisted over 46,000 businesses.

Projects generally target the introduction of appropriate technologies or business advice that enable people to capture greater value for their products and to become more competitive in local and global markets. Program areas include small-scale irrigation, household energy, oilseeds and staple foods, tree crops and enterprise-based biodiversity conservation.

EnterpriseWorks was recently honored, winning the International First Prize Award for a Pioneering Development Project 2002 by the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations ([www.agfund.org](http://www.agfund.org)). The prize recognized EnterpriseWorks' successful small-scale irrigation program in Niger.

*For additional information see [www.enterpriseworks.org](http://www.enterpriseworks.org) or contact Luke Filose at 202-463-8456 or [FiloseL@enterpriseworks.org](mailto:FiloseL@enterpriseworks.org).*

## Goldwyn International Strategies LLC

Goldwyn International Strategies LLC is an international consulting firm that provides strategic advice on political risk assessment and risk management; government relations strategies and legislative analysis; business facilitation with and business intelligence on Africa, Latin America, East and South Asia, the Middle East, Russia and the New Independent States; and the design of corporate social responsibility programs.

GIS clients include Fortune 100 companies in the energy and power sectors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, the World Bank, Battelle National Laboratory, trade associations and nongovernmental organizations under contract to the U.S. Department of State. GIS assisted the negotiating parties in Sudan on wealth sharing options.

GIS founder David L. Goldwyn has nearly 15 years of international business, legal, diplomatic and foreign affairs experience operating at and with the highest levels of the U.S. government. Goldwyn, formerly the Assistant Secretary of Energy for International Affairs and National Security Deputy to UN Ambassador Bill Richardson, is familiar with senior ranks of the foreign affairs, energy and power, petroleum and economy ministries in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Russia and the New Independent States. GIS Senior Advisers are experienced in Congressional relations in the U.S., and political and economic analysis and diplomacy in Africa, Eurasia, and Latin America.

*For additional information see [www.goldwyn.org](http://www.goldwyn.org) or contact David L. Goldwyn at 202-223-3520.*

## Nationwide Equipment Company

**Nationwide Equipment Company (NWE)** was established in 1983 and specializes in the sale of quality new, used and reconditioned earthmoving, road building and mining equipment to over 40 countries worldwide.

Recognized as an industry leader in the export of earthmoving machinery, Nationwide was awarded the U.S. President's "E" Award for Exports in 2001. NWE stocks a wide variety of bulldozers, excavators, loaders, graders, cranes and other heavy equipment. Quality control is maintained through inspection of all equipment for export by trained NWE mechanics. Multi-lingual staff offers international customers a one-stop shop service by providing in house financing and transportation for all global equipment sales. Nationwide is committed to providing the developing world with an affordable means to purchase quality equipment.

Nationwide Equipment is especially committed to supporting infrastructure development in Africa, Latin America and throughout the world.

*For additional information contact Azalia Figueroa [azalia@nwe-usa.com](mailto:azalia@nwe-usa.com) or (904) 924-2500*

## J. D. Stark & Associates

**J. D. Stark & Associates** supplies services in healthcare, agriculture, timber and heavy equipment. The company takes most agricultural products or mineral resource in payment for imports.

**Healthcare:** J. D. Stark & Associates custom designs, supplies and equips fully self-contained small hospitals and clinics for primary care or for any specific requirements. The units are normally ready for shipment within

180 days. The company can supply medical equipment and refugee supplies and has access to donated medical equipment, soft goods and services. Custom formulated vitamins and pharmaceuticals can be supplied.

**Agriculture:** J. D. Stark & Associates grows, exports and markets nontraditional agricultural products. Training, technical assistance, financing and marketing for new or existing agricultural projects is available.

**Timber:** J. D. Stark & Associates plants hardwood plantations and market all timber products.

**Heavy equipment:** The company supplies heavy equipment for construction, road building, farming, ports etc. as well as pipes, generators and other industrial equipment.

For additional information see [www.artba.org](http://www.artba.org).

## Jean-Raymond Boule Corporations

**Jean-Raymond Boule** was the founder, Chairman, CEO and principle shareholder of the Canadian Company Diamond Fields Resources (TSE:DFR). In 1996 this company was acquired for over CDN\$4 billion by the worlds largest nickel mining company INCO (NYSE).

Mr. Boule is the largest shareholder of Vancouver based, Diamond Fields International (OF:TSE). DFI controls very significant marine diamond concessions in waters off Namibia with a total resource of over 1.1 million carats.

Another J.R. Boule company, Sierra Rutile Ltd. (SRL), in Sierra Leone, is the world's largest and highest grade Rutile deposit. Financing and final operation plans are underway to restart the mine in 2004, which will result in the employment of over 1,000 people.

Madagascar Resources and Gem Fields Resources Ltd. are two J.R. Boule corporate holdings exploring for titanium and precious gems in Madagascar.

Mr. Boule is the largest shareholder in American Mineral Fields (TSE:AMZ), which is focused on the rich copper and cobalt resources of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Mr. Boule is an active participant and board member of the Corporate Council on Africa. He has been actively engaged in the African Growth and Opportunity Act and was the key financial Sponsor of the AGOA Annual Meeting held in Mauritius in January 2003. Mr. Boule is also a founding Board member of the U.S./Madagascar Business Council of Washington D.C. ●

For additional information see [www.jrboullecorporation.com](http://www.jrboullecorporation.com).

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Over the past month Capitol Hill attention to Africa has included more than the \$15 billion AIDS bill. Both the Sudan and Uganda have been focal points of subcommittee hearings.

< By Josh Katz >

Eleven days after the Administration handed its six month periodic report to Congress on the National Emergency with Respect to Sudan, the House Subcommittee on Africa met to consider the issue. On May 12, 2003, the committee convened "Reviewing the Sudan Peace Act Report," featuring testimony by Andrew S. Natsios, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for

International Development (USAID), and Walter H. Kansteiner III, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

The Subcommittee's Chairman, Rep. Ed Royce opened the meeting restating that under the Sudan Peace Act, which President Bush signed last year, "it became the law of this land to recognize that the National Islamic Front government is committing genocide." He explained that while

some progress has been made in the peace negotiations between the Sudanese government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, these negotiations cannot be open ended, and the Administration may need to increase pressure to help seal a peace deal. He closed by sending a clear message: both peace in Sudan and cooperation in the fight against terrorism are of U.S. national interest, and the National Islamic Front

government will not be excused for violence against its own people by its efforts in fighting international terrorism.

Natsios's testimony focused on the improvement of services in post-conflict Sudan. He described progress since last October's Sudan Peace Act as "dramatic", specifically mentioning that the Sudanese government no longer denies access to humanitarian agencies working under the United Nations Operation Lifeline Sudan framework. At present, USAID is planning for the transition to development, and for the first time the Office of Transition Initiatives is working in Sudan. USAID plans to begin with projects for the pre-interim period, including construction of clinics, schools, rural roads and water points, and to follow up with longer term development projects. Both types of project will benefit from increased funding to the Sudan this fiscal year. Lastly, these projects are complemented by technical and logistical assistance to the future government leaders of Sudan.

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Kannsteiner discussed the Administration's reports on the Sudan Peace Act and other government efforts aimed at achieving peace in the Sudan. He spoke of great progress in the peace negotiations. The Assistant Secretary of State also reaffirmed the commitment of the U.S., U.K. and Norway to support General Sumbeiywo, the Kenyan mediator. He spoke of great hope in the country, particularly as new monitoring bodies, the Verification Monitoring Team (VMT), and the U.S.-led Civilian Protection Monitoring Team (CPMT), establish themselves. They have played a key role in reducing conflict, and Kannsteiner credited them for creating an environment suitable for effective negotiation.

On the Senate side, the Subcommittee on African Affairs convened to discuss "Fighting AIDS in Uganda: What Went Right?" Three witnesses testified before the committee, Dr. Anne

Peterson from USAID's Bureau for Global Health, Dr. Edward Green from the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, and Ms. Sophia Mukasa Monico from the Global Health Council.

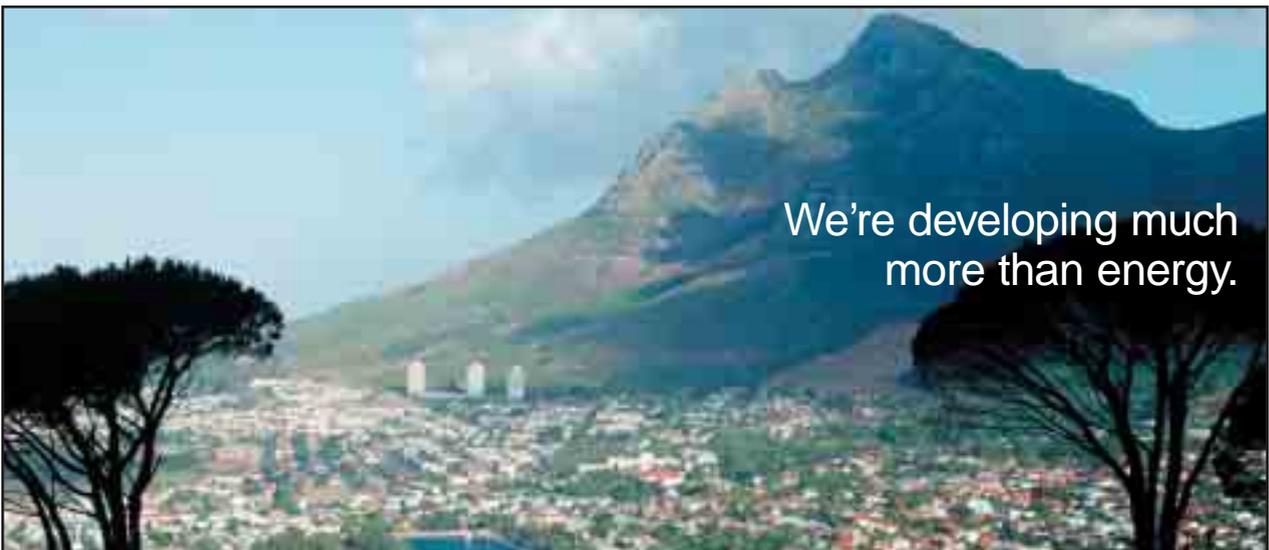
Dr. Peterson credited prevention measures for Uganda's dramatic decrease in its AIDS infection rate. She cited three trends: a decline in sexual activity among fifteen to nineteen year olds, a decline in non-regular sex partners, and increased condom use, as evidence of the success of prevention programs. USAID has been and continues to be a strong supporter of these programs not only in Uganda but elsewhere on the continent.

Dr. Green presented a slightly different interpretation of the decline in AIDS infections in Uganda. The primary cause for the reduction of AIDS prevalence in Uganda is fidelity, or the reduction in sexual partners. The

prevalence of abstinence, exhibited by the increased virginity rates of fifteen to nineteen year olds comes second. However, he stated that it has been the comprehensive approach, employing fidelity and abstinence as well as condom promotion, that has made Uganda such a success story.

Ms. Monico also credited the comprehensive approach for Uganda's successes in the fight against AIDS. In addition, she lauded, "an effective social mobilization effort that fostered an environment that was motivational, rather than judgmental." This produced a positive environment in which several bodies, from the Ugandan government to local NGOs to foreign governments, could work effectively. From this story, one key lesson arises according to Ms. Monico: programs to fight and prevent AIDS must be carefully tailored; "One size does not fit all." ●

*Josh Katz is currently working with The Corporate Council on Africa.*



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## President Signs HIV/AIDS Act

Excerpts of remarks by President George W. Bush on the signing of H.R. 1298, the U.S. Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003

**HIV/AIDS** is one of the greatest medical challenges of our time. The disease has killed more than 20 million people. Today, 42 million more are living with HIV. Across Africa, this disease is filling graveyards and creating orphans and leaving millions in a desperate fight for their own lives.

The legislation I sign today launches an emergency effort that will provide \$15 billion over the next five years to fight AIDS abroad. This is the largest, single up front commitment in history for an international public health initiative involving a specific disease.

This Act of Congress addresses one of the most urgent needs of the modern world. Because of the AIDS pandemic, a child born today in sub-Saharan Africa has a life expectancy of 47 years. This disease falls most heavily on women and children. Nearly 60 percent of those infected by HIV in sub-Saharan Africa are women. Three million African children under 15 have the AIDS virus, 3 million. And the disease has left 11 million orphans, more children than live in the entire state of California.

This is the daily reality of a continent in crisis, and America will not look away. This great nation is stepping forward to help. The fight against AIDS is difficult, but not hopeless. We know how to prevent AIDS, and we know how to treat it. The cost of effective medicines has fallen dramatically. And we made progress here in our own country where we have increased spending for domestic HIV prevention and care and treatment by 7 percent in next year's budget. We will also help the people across Africa who are struggling against this disease, and those who have proven on a day-by-day basis the battle can be won.

Under this legislation, America will provide additional money for the Global Fund for AIDS Relief, and additional funding for our efforts in many countries to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the disease. And we will focus our efforts on 12 African and two Caribbean countries where HIV/AIDS is heavily concentrated.

We will purchase low-cost anti-retroviral medications and other drugs that are needed to save lives. We will set up a

broad and efficient network to deliver drugs to the farthest reaches of Africa. Even by motorcycle, or bicycle. We will train doctors and nurses and other health care professionals so they can treat HIV/AIDS patients. We will renovate and, where necessary, build and equip clinics and laboratories. We will support the care of AIDS orphans by training and hiring child care workers. We'll provide home-based care to ease the suffering of people living with AIDS.

We'll provide HIV testing throughout all regions of the targeted countries. We'll support abstinence-based prevention education for young people in schools and churches and community centers. We will assist faith-based and community organizations to provide treatment prevention and support services in communities affected by HIV/AIDS. We are developing a system to monitor and evaluate this entire program, so we can truly say to people, we care more about results than words. We're interested in lives saved. And lives will be saved.

This comprehensive program has the potential in this decade to prevent 7 million new HIV infections, provide life-extending drugs to at least 2 million infected people, give humane care to 10 million HIV sufferers and AIDS orphans. This is a massive undertaking, and the dedicated men and women of the United States government are eager to get started.

To coordinate this effort, I will soon nominate a global AIDS coordinator who will have the rank of ambassador. This coordinator will work closely with the Departments of State and Health and Human Services, as well as with USAID and the Centers for Disease Control, to direct the efforts in the worldwide fight against AIDS.

The suffering in Africa is great. The suffering in the Caribbean is great. The United States of America has the power and we have the moral duty to help. And I'm proud that our blessed and generous nation is fulfilling that duty.

Now, it is my honor and high privilege to sign this life-saving piece of legislation. ●

## Freedom and Democracy

### The New South African has brought about economic reconstruction, development and nation-building.

< By Tshepo Mazibuko >

Much analysis of post-apartheid South Africa's performance begins and ends with AIDS and Zimbabwe. Missed are the remarkable improvements in living standards most South Africans have enjoyed since 1994.

The government, through a careful, brick-by-brick approach to development, is delivering on its slogan of "a better life for all." World-class economic management, which has delivered the longest period—ten years—of uninterrupted growth in South Africa's history, is bearing fruit.



Photo Courtesy of South African Embassy

*Entrepreneurship and the informal business sector are making a big contribution in the struggle against poverty in South Africa.*

Recent reports released by Statistics South Africa indicate these trends. An independent study by the South African Advertising Research Foundation supports these findings, concluding, "In most respects, the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Programme] is achieving its objectives. The only exception is Job-creation."

77% of South African households now own their own homes, up from two-thirds in 1994, according to a SAARF survey released at the end of last year—a figure all the more impressive given that the number of households grew by 1.5 million over the period.

Water is now piped into 76% of households, from 68% in 1994. This reflects the impact of government programmes, as a result of which over eight million rural South Africans have access to clean water who never had it before.

Three-quarters of South African households now have electricity. In 1994, the figure was only 58%. Progress has been particularly impressive for rural households, over half of which now have electricity, two million more than 1994's level. And with electricity come appliances. 61% of South Africans now own refrigerators, up from 48%. In urban areas, 84% of households own televisions. In rural areas, television penetration has nearly doubled to 45%. Spurred by the government's deregulation of the airwaves and the growth of community based radio stations that followed, 90% of the rural population now listens to the radio.

Today, one in five South Africans communicates by cell phone. Service is so good and affordable that the proportion of urban homes with landlines has actually fallen nationally from 53% to 45%.

Meanwhile, in education the government has made remarkable strides, given the apartheid inheritance. Today, 23% of South Africans have passed high school graduation exams, compared with 14% in 1994. The basic literacy rate has risen from 87% to 92%.

Such access to social infrastructure and services, including the Free Basic Services that have now been introduced, are a 'social wage' that reduces poverty and improves the lives, especially for the poor.

Reflecting on its findings, SAARF notes: "This is a clear indication of the success of government's roll-out of basic infrastructure such as water and electricity."

Bottom line: the governments of Presidents Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki have laid a solid foundation for continued growth, stability and investor opportunity. Government on its own cannot fully realize South Africa's economic potential to create jobs. Business is central to this, as are the country's international partners.

As these long-term partnerships unfold, government is responding to the challenge of unemployment by:

- Increasing social welfare protection for the poor
- Investing over R100 billion on infrastructure
- Expanding public works programmes through which government provides employment directly to the people
- Implementing skills development and education policies that will prepare people for participation in the newly emerging economic sectors
- Supporting small business with training and finance to unleash the economic potential of South Africans.

*Tshepo Mazibuko is Press Secretary at the South African Embassy in Washington D.C.*

## Investing Today in the Women Leaders of Tomorrow

### The Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program of the Education for Democracy and Development Initiative (EDDI)

< By Sarah Moten >

The Education for Democracy and Development Program (EDDI) is a Presidential Initiative that was established in 1998 to support greater access to education and to the technology that supports learning development. The EDDI program promotes greater inclusion of girls and young women in the African educational systems across the continent, primarily through the Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program (AGSP). Since EDDI began program operations in 1999, it has provided more than 26,000,000 scholarships, with an additional 11,000 poised for this fiscal year, to girls in more than 386 African countries.

The Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program's objective is to support African efforts to bridge the gender gap in education and social services through the promotion and advancement of female education. The AGSP accomplishes these objectives by providing primary and secondary school scholarships, technical assistance and capacity building support to local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs); supporting African-led efforts to provide educational opportunities for children and adolescents with special needs; and, perhaps most importantly, supporting mentoring programs.

Through its mentoring program, the AGSP develops and maintains solid networks of young women and girls who have a vested interest in supporting increased access to quality education for girls, and who promote increased female participation in all aspects of African society and African social development. AGSP Participants are matched with mentor/tutors who provide skills development in areas of academic weakness. In addition, mentors provide moral support, career orientation, life skills development and encouragement to girls who may be the first females in their families to attend school. The AGSP mentoring programs also foster support among families and communities to embrace the idea of educating girls for their greater benefit despite the girls' short term limitations to immediately bring financial resources into the home. By focusing on the community involvement of communities in the support of girls' education, particularly rural girls' education, the AGSP helps to deepen the pride of ownership communities experienced by communities when their girls achieve academically and socially. A deeper pride of ownership taken in the girls' academic and social accomplishments generally leads to a solid, community-wide commitment to insure equal access to quality education for girls.

EDDI's Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program supports increased girls'

participation in learning and social development, with an emphasis on providing program support that is complementary of both multi-lateral and African-led initiatives. The AGSP supports access to quality basic education, training and mentoring for girls, and complements efforts such as the human resource development initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), whose education program focuses on developing Centers of Excellence in African universities. The AGSP also promotes the goals of the Education For All (EFA) initiative, whose objective is to help realize universal quality basic education by 2015.

Working together, initiatives such as NEPAD, EFA and the AGSP will contribute to fostering a solid foundation of sustainable excellence in African basic education, as well as to the development of competent university student bodies. At the rural grassroots level, as well as at the urban level, increased educational opportunities for young girls today means increased positive impact on social development tomorrow.

The AGSP presently has active programs in the following countries: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea,

**The Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program's objective is to support African efforts to bridge the gender gap in education and social services through the promotion and advancement of female education.**

Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia.

The most encouraging aspect of the contribution to girls' education by the Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarship Program under EDDI is recognition of its impact. For the foreseeable future, this program will endure because President Bush has endorsed its continuation under the Africa Education Initiative (AEI). Supported too by both African Ambassadors to the United States and U.S. Ambassadors to Africa as a program that makes a difference, AGSP will expand its reach over the next five years. Under the new Initiative, 250,000 girls and other vulnerable children will be supported in their primary and secondary education.

*Dr. Sarah E. Moten, Ed.D. is the EDDI Coordinator and Chief, Africa Education Division, USAID.*

*For additional information on EDDI and the AGSP, visit [www.eddionline.org](http://www.eddionline.org).*

## AABWA Starts Strong!

< By Kadidia Thiero >

The American and African Business Women's Alliance (AABWA) members represent business and professional women from Africa and America engaged in trade and investment. AABWA was established in 2001 to foster business opportunities and access to markets through networks, linkages, mentoring and leadership development for women. AABWA seeks to increase international and intra-Africa trade and investment by encouraging business partnerships within the African continent and with the United States.

AABWA-U.S.A. established its secretariat in Washington, D.C., located in the offices of the Corporate Council on Africa (CCA). The new Program Director, Kadidia Thiero, previously served as Executive Assistant to the Botswanan Special Envoy of Diamonds for the "Diamonds for Development" campaign at the Embassy of the Republic of Botswana in Washington, D.C.

AABWA-Africa is located in Kampala, Uganda, in the offices of the Uganda Investment Authority, under the supervision of the Executive Director, Dr. Margaret Kigozi. Mrs. Martha Mugambi, Director of the International Development Centre for Africa, LTD was recently elected the new African Co-Chair.

Thus far, AABWA has had many successful initiatives in 2003. In January, AABWA participated in the private sector session of the U.S.—Africa Trade and Cooperation [AGOA] Forum in Mauritius. A workshop was organized which discussed issues relevant to women engaging in trade between the U.S. and Africa.

In late April, AABWA partnered with the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) for leadership training in Entebbe, Uganda for businesswomen from six east African countries: Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Over thirty businesswomen participated in *The Art of Leadership* program.

Immediately following, AABWA convened a joint steering committee meeting in Kampala, Uganda. The women representatives present were from Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia/ COMESA, as well as the U.S. The opening reception brought over 150 businesswomen, including the Minister of Energy and Minerals, Minister Bumba. The significant attendance is a clear testament to AABWA's success. AABWA continues to move forward.



*Kadidia Thiero, AABWA-USA Program Director, and Martha Mugambi, AABWA Africa Co-Chair address Opening Reception of Uganda's Women Entrepreneurial Network in Kampala*

AABWA is contributing to CCA's U.S.—Africa Business Summit this month. The excellent venue provides great opportunities for businesswomen. AABWA is hosting a workshop entitled, *Effective Partnerships for Women in Business*, sponsored by EastmanKodak Company. The session will focus on AABWA partners, and how those partnerships contribute to business development, education, networking, and strengthening women-owned businesses and women in business in Africa, as well as the U.S.

Directly following the Summit, AABWA in partnership with Vital Voices Global Partnership, will conduct a high-level training program for African business women, from June 30th through July 2nd, 2003. The program will be held at the Vital Voices training facilities in Washington, D.C., and on the campus of Georgetown University. Up to twelve English-speaking women will participate. The program will focus on honing women's skills in business, entrepreneurship, leadership and effective communication.

The year promises to remain fruitful for AABWA.

*Kadidia Thiero is the AABWA-USA Program Director*

## Board of Directors Appoints New Vice President for Africare

< By Angela Wiens >

The Africare Board of Directors has appointed a new Vice President to the Africare staff. Ms. Jeannine B. Scott has been selected to fill this position. She will begin her responsibilities with Africare on April 15, 2003.

Ms. Scott brings to the position nearly 20 years of experience in the field of African development, including job postings in Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire. She is currently the Principal, and Founder, of America to Africa Consulting, LLC, with an array of clients both in the U.S. and Africa.

Previously, Ms. Scott held a number of positions, including: an appointment from the U.S. Department of Treasury as Advisor and Alternate to the U.S. Executive Director at the African Development Bank Group, Principal Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) Coordinator for the African Development Bank (ADB), and program operations assignments for Southern Africa at the ADB.

Prior to joining the ADB, Ms. Scott spent seven years working with Africare as Program Manager for the Central Africa Region; Director,



Jeannine B. Scott

Food for Development; and Country Representative to Senegal, with responsibility for Cape Verde, The Gambia, and Mauritania.

Ms. Scott has made numerous presentations and has published papers on such issues as food security in Africa, microcredit, and NGO collaboration, to name a few. She holds a B.A. degree from Vassar College in Political Science and Africana Studies and a Master's degree in International Relations from Yale University. She has also undertaken studies at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton, England; the Sorbonne; the Institute of Political Science in Paris; the University of Paris I; and the University of Dakar, Senegal. She is fluent in French and has a basic knowledge of Portuguese.

Africare is a leader in aid to Africa as well as the oldest and largest African-American organization specializing in African aid. Over its 33-year history, Africare has delivered more than \$400 million in assistance-representing over 2,000 projects and millions of beneficiaries-to 35 countries Africa-wide. Today, Africare's 150-plus programs reach families and communities in 26 nations in every region of the African continent. ●

For additional information contact Angela Wiens at (202) 328-5371 or [awiens@africare.org](mailto:awiens@africare.org)

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- Preventing Famine in Africa, in partnership with the Corporate Council on Africa, on June 25 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.
- The first ever U.S.—Mali Teachers Symposium, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and the World Affairs Council of Washington DC, from June 25 through July 5, 2003. The Symposium will be an integral part of the upcoming Smithsonian Festival on the National Mall of the United States in Washington, DC.

For more information, go to [www.africasummit.org/fevents.htm](http://www.africasummit.org/fevents.htm)



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## Nigeria's Business Environment in Another Four Years: A Summary

< By A.A. Agada >

The successful completion of the 2003 elections in Nigeria is a clear testimony to the gradual entrenchment of democratic rule in Nigeria, and the attendant stability of the polity. Given this remarkable development, which translates into a peaceful political atmosphere, the Federal administration is poised to focus adequate and

required attention as well as tremendous energy on the economy.

Essentially, efforts in the next four years will be concentrated in strengthening the existing policies and structures that are essential to further revamp and rejuvenate the economy. The major objectives are to deregulate the economy and diversify its base. The private sector, in the developing

enabling environment, will be further propelled as the power-house for economic growth and development.

Importantly, the next four years will see a conclusive end to the privatization program of the Federal Government. Most significantly, the power sector will be completely transformed. The key element in the privatization exercise is that it would allow the release of scarce government resources for the provision of essential social services. Also the emergence of

new managements chosen by the core investors will guarantee profitability, eliminate waste and reduce corruption.

Government will also ensure the total rehabilitation of dilapidated infrastructures and the construction of new ones. The major areas of concern in this respect include roads and railways. Also, there will be the widening of the development in the aviation industry and inland waterways. The next four years will also witness the deepening of the major achievements in the telecommunications sub-sector.

The Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) is a one-stop government agency authorized to register new businesses in Nigeria. Nigerian Missions abroad, also have the mandate to issue visas to interested business applicants within 48 hours. The Embassy in Washington and our Consulates in New York and Atlanta are eager to assist with all inquiries from American citizens and corporate organizations who may wish to invest in Nigeria. ●

*Ambassador A.A. Agada is the Acting Chief of Mission of the Embassy of Nigeria  
[www.nigeriaembassyusa.org](http://www.nigeriaembassyusa.org)*



## The Bush Administration's Africa Policy: A Record of Delivering on Africa's Promise

< By Dr. Jendayi E. Frazer >

President Bush's vision for Africa is a continent where African people live in liberty, prosperity and peace. To realize this vision, the Administration has launched historic initiatives, pursued a focused strategy, and undertaken



Dr. Jendayi E. Frazer

unprecedented engagement with Sub-Saharan Africa's (SSA) key countries, sub-regional organizations, and other multilateral partners.

### A New Compact for Global Development.

President Bush at the outset of his Administration placed the advance of development as a central commitment of American foreign policy. His speech at the World Bank in June 2001 offers an early view of the guiding principles of this Administration's Africa policy: a world where some live in comfort and plenty, while half of the human race lives on less than \$2 a day, is a world that is neither just, nor stable. The terrorist attack of September 11th crystallized the Administration's goal to make the world both safer and better. The President subsequently announced the *Millennium Challenge Account (MCA)*, which increases USG core development

assistance over the next three years, resulting in a \$5 billion annual increase over current levels by fiscal year 2006. The goal of this MCA assistance is for nations to grow and prosper beyond the need for development aid since the vast majority of financial development comes not from aid (roughly \$50 billion annually), but from trade (\$2.4 trillion from exports) and domestic capital and foreign investment (\$200 billion in annual earnings). The MCA compact is defined by new accountability for both rich and poor nations that can make development both effective and lasting. The goal is to unleash the potential of those who are poor, instead of locking them into a cycle of dependence.

**Strategic Engagement.** Africa's great size and diversity require a strategy to engage countries that are delivering results through sound policies and reform, and those with major impact on their sub-region, especially Kenya in east Africa, Ethiopia in the Horn, Nigeria in west Africa, and South Africa in southern Africa. These countries represent approximately 40 percent of sub-Saharan Africa's

(SSA) population, 50 percent of those living with HIV/AIDS in Africa, 60 percent of SSA's Gross Domestic Product, 30% of its foreign direct investment inflows, 50 percent of its net trade with the world (exports plus imports), and 60 percent of its trade with the United States.

**Africa Policy Priorities.** Combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic, alleviating widespread poverty, and ending regional wars are the most pressing Africa policy challenges. Of the world's 25 most affected countries, 24 are in Africa. The United Nations identifies 29 of the 36 low human development countries in SSA. Millions have died in the last decade in Africa's major wars in Sudan, Congo, Burundi, Angola and Sierra Leone. An Africa policy marked by bold leadership and targeted initiatives is necessary to transform the continent into one that is healthy and literate, free from the horrors of war and terror, and able to build prosperity through free trade and expanding markets.

**Combating HIV/AIDS.** The Administration's HIV/AIDS integrated strategy focuses on prevention, treatment, care, and building health



infrastructure to win the war against the AIDS pandemic. A HIV/AIDS Cabinet Council co-chaired by Secretary Powell and Health and Human Services Secretary Thompson was established in the first months of 2001 to ensure high level direction for the Administration's HIV/AIDS strategy. President Bush's personal commitment to the fight is reflected in his State of the Union address where he announced the *Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief*, a \$15 billion commitment that includes \$10 billion in new funding to treat 2 million infected people with life-extending antiretroviral drugs, care for 10 million AIDS orphans and prevent 7 million new infections. The \$15 billion also includes \$1 billion for the *Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria*, raising the USG pledge to the Fund from the first-ever pledge of \$200 million that launched the Fund in May 2001 to \$1.6 billion by January 2003, an eight-fold increase in under two years. The Emergency Plan builds on the President's \$500 million *Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative* designed to treat up to 1 million pregnant women annually with nevirapine to save future generations by preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission. Currently 60 percent of Africa's infected are women and roughly half a million infants are infected by their mothers each year.

**Literacy and Learning.** Improving life through literacy is the goal of the President's *Africa Education Initiative* launched in his address at the World Bank in 2001. The initiative will train more than 420,000 teachers, provide 250,000 scholarships for African girls and provide 4.5 million more textbooks and other learning materials for children in Africa. The \$200 million initiative will bring U.S. spending on basic education programs to more than \$630 million over five years, and will help lay the foundation for development and democracy in Africa.

**Expanding Trade.** *The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)* has been the centerpiece of our economic policy toward Africa. AGOA is stimulating new trading opportunities for African businesses and entrepreneurs, creating new jobs, and bringing much-needed investment to the region. The United States is now SSA's largest single country export market, accounting for more than one-fifth of the region's total exports. Roughly 94 percent of US imports from beneficiary countries now enter the US duty-free. Exports of non-fuel AGOA products have grown by more than 50 percent over the last two years. Just three years after AGOA was passed by Congress, these impressive results clearly establish the growing consensus that open trade and international investment are the surest and fastest way for Africa to make progress. The Bush Administration will build on the success of AGOA through passage of *AGOA II legislation, enhancing AGOA, and extending AGOA beyond its current end date of 2008*. In addition, the Administration is negotiating a *regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the Southern African Customs Union (SACU)*, the first-ever U.S. FTA in Africa. The Administration has also devoted \$345 million to trade capacity building programs in SSA and in the last 12 months, created three *regional trade hubs* in Botswana, Ghana, and Kenya to assist in utilization of AGOA. At the second AGOA Forum in Mauritius this year, the President announced the addition of US agriculture officials to these hubs to help African farmers export more food. The Administration has further called for action at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to eliminate trade-distorting farm subsidies. Finally, the President has proposed a \$200 million *Famine Fund* to increase US flexibility in responding to famine and a longer term *Initiative to End Hunger*

*in Africa* (IEHA) that focuses on harnessing science and technology to increase small-holder agricultural productivity.

**Ending Conflict and Crises.** The Administration is pursuing country-specific strategies to end wars and combat terror in Africa working closely with African mediators, allies in Europe, and the United Nations. Often a sub-regional strategy is needed, for example in the MANU River States where local conflicts and civil wars join to create a regional war zone. To confront transnational rebel and terrorist threats, the Bush Administration is working to form coalitions and cooperative security arrangements. The United States is fostering lasting peace and security throughout Africa by training African peacekeepers under the *African Contingency Operations Training and Assistance Program (ACOTA)*, conducting military education seminars at the *Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS)*, and building counter-terrorism capacity and growing cooperation with African states and regional organizations.

**Unprecedented Engagement.** President Bush will be the first US President to travel to Africa in his first term. He has already held meetings with 24 African heads of state. Seven members of the President's Cabinet—Secretary Powell, Secretary O'Neill, Secretary Thompson, Secretary Evans, Secretary Abraham, Secretary Rumsfeld, and Ambassador Zoellick—have traveled to Africa in their official capacities. This unprecedented level of engagement underscores the importance of the continent and the President's commitment to use American power in the service of preserving human dignity. ●

*Dr. Jendayi E. Frazer is Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the National Security Council*

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## "Mali: From Timbuktu to Washington, D.C."

The Republic of Mali will be highlighted at the 37th annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival from June 25-27 and July 2-6 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The festival will focus on the country's history dating back to the great West African empire, including its culture, food, music, and textiles as well as Mali's relationship with the United States. Nearly 200 Malians will give performances and demonstrations at the festival.

One of the exhibits will demonstrate how textiles, including "bogolan" (mudcloth), a cotton mud-dyed textile with black, brown and, more recently, blue designs, are created. Craftspeople will also show several processes of textile production, including embroidery by hand and machine. Traditional and contemporary Malian attire will be presented during daily fashion shows. Malians will beautify visitors through arts of personal adornment, such as henna decorations

and hair braiding. Other craftworking, including pottery, jewelry and basket making, as well as mat weaving, will be exhibited.

portrayed at the festival. In the 18th century, Malians experienced in traditional textile production, rice cultivation, harvesting and cooking



Since 1967, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival has celebrated traditional cultures from across the United States and around the world.

Visitors of the festival will experience Malian oral tradition through the epic songs of "griots," who will sing and play instruments including the "n'goni," a type of flute. Food will also be a key feature of the festival. Visitors will sample Malian grain-based dishes and learn about the role of food in Malian culture.

The relationship Mali has had with the United States over the years will be

were brought to Louisiana through the slave trade. More recent Malian traditions have been brought to the U.S. by new generations of immigrants in communities throughout the country.

*Mali: From Timbuktu to Washington* is made possible by support and funds from the Government of Mali (Office of the Prime Minister; Office of the President; Ministry of Tourism and Crafts; Ministry of Culture; Ministry of Women, Family and Youth Affairs; and Ministry of Education), the Banque Malienne de Solidarité, the Banque de l'Habitat du Mali, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Cooperating organizations include the Africa Society, Friends of Mali and the High Council of Malians in the United States.

Since 1967, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival has celebrated traditional cultures from across the United States and around the world. In addition to Mali, the 2003 festival will feature "Scotland at the Smithsonian" and "Appalachia: Heritage and Harmony." The festival is produced by the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage and co-sponsored by the National Park Service. ●

For additional information on the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, visit [www.folklife.si.edu](http://www.folklife.si.edu).



Elaborate temporary designs on hands are made with henna and are a favorite cosmetic practice among many women in Mali.

## In the 1960s, < By Banning Eyre >

a musician in Wassoulou named Alata Brulaye devised a way to circumvent the social restrictions surrounding the hunter's sacred harp (donso ngoni) and its music. He invented a smaller version of the instrument, and tuned it a fourth higher. The new instrument, kamale ngoni or "young man's harp," became enormously popular, and the groundwork was laid for the rise of Wassoulou music that followed in the 1980s and 1990s. By the time young Oumou Sangare set about composing songs for her debut cassette, *Moussoulou (Women)*, she worked with her kamale ngoni player the way a jazz singer might work with her pianist. It was the centerpiece of her sound. Sangare's nightingale voice and poignant, playful lyrics focused on the plight of women made her an overnight sensation in Mali. The cool sophistication and subtlety of her musical compositions also won her an international following. Sangare has maintained following with three subsequent releases and several international tours. Wassoulou musicians often distinguish themselves from griots by observing that they chose to become musicians, and are free to sing about whatever they like. Few singers have made such good use of that freedom as Sangare. Over the years, she has dramatized the anxieties of a girl facing marriage,

*Oumou Sangare, known as the Queen of Wassulu sings passionately about contemporary women's issues.*

## Profile of a Malian Musician

decried the cruelty of arranged marriages—a practice comparable with slavery for her-tweaked men for their misinterpretation of the Koran's allowance for polygamy, and explored the suffering common in polygamous households, all in the process of creating irresistibly beautiful music. Despite her rebelliousness, she defends tradition, and upholds it powerfully in her music. With a strong feel for her national culture and a well-managed international career, she has become an important role model for a new generation of Malian divas. ©

*By Banning Eyre, from the liner notes to 'Mali Lolo! Stars of Mali' (SF40508), courtesy of Smithsonian Folkways Recordings (www.folkways.si.edu). © 2003. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*



Photo: Kenya Tourist Board

# Kenya Launches New Western Tourist Circuit

< By Maisa Fernandez >

Kenya is keeping pace with the demands of the international tourism market, offering a diversified range of destinations beyond simply wildlife and beach safaris. While the country is known world wide for its game parks, reserves and idyllic tropical beaches, there are large areas of the country largely unknown and seldom visited, that Kenya is now encouraging visitors to explore and experience. Plans are underway to work with communities throughout the West of Kenya to publicize and develop the many geographic, cultural and diverse attractions that the region has to offer.

One such attraction is the small village of Si Galla Galla, near Kakamega, where one can catch a spectacular traditional bullfight. Such events are important for the local Luhya community. Held throughout the year, they are pitched battles between two bulls, each one representing an individual village. The bulls lock horns and fight until one bull turns and runs. The winning bull is led around the field in a victory lap, accompanied by a chanting, jubilant crowd. This impressive spectacle represents a significant cultural link between traditional African cattle culture and the art of bullfighting as practiced throughout Southern Europe.

Another Western Kenyan sight is the Kakamega forest reserve. It is a remnant forest once linked to the great Equatorial forests of the Congo, and home to a number of unique and endangered species, including butterflies, the rare red tailed monkey, chameleons and the Blue Turaco, a colorful and giant long-tailed bird. In

order to promote local conservation, a community group working with local children called the Kakamega Environmental Education Programme (KEEP) has been established to ensure that the forest and its resources are protected and preserved for the future. They also provide guiding services to local guesthouses and have constructed accommodation facilities for backpackers within the grounds of the forest station.

In the Western Highlands Tabaka is home to Kenya's finest stone carvers. The Kisii/Gusii community is renowned for their artistic skill with the local soapstone. They have a long tradition of carving ornate decorative art and jewelry, together with functional items such as plates and bowls. Kisii stone is sold worldwide, and several works by Tabaka artists have found a place in major international art collections. Tabaka soapstone graces the United Nations headquarters in New York, and the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, in the form of a massive 7- ton "bird of peace" or Enyamuchera.

Sports tourism is gaining popularity around the world, and the Western Highlands are home to some of the world's finest sportsmen. The

secret of this success lies in the hills. The average altitude in this area is well over 2000m, and these rarified conditions are ideal training conditions for runners. In the days preceding the Western Kenya launch, Kenyan runners dominated the international athletic scene, taking 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th place for men and 1st and 2nd for women in the Boston Marathon. Five separate highly specialized training camps for athletes have been established in the Iten and Kabarnet area, for both local and international athletes. ●

*To find out more about touring the forests, hills, and villages of the Western Highlands of Kenya, call 866-44-KENYA or visit [www.MagicalKenya.com](http://www.MagicalKenya.com), the official Kenya destination website.*

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