



**2010 Ronald H. Brown African
Affairs Series**



**THE ANNUAL RONALD H. BROWN
AFRICAN AFFAIRS SERIES
SEPTEMBER 9 – 18, 2010**

**“Strategies for Engaging the African Diaspora
in Promoting Good Governance and Economic
Development on the Continent”**

FINAL AGENDA

Chairpersons:

Ambassador Amina Salum Ali
Ambassador of the African Union
to the United States of America

The Honorable Diane E. Watson
U.S. Congresswoman (D-CA)



2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series



The **Ronald H. Brown (RHB) African Affairs Series** is planned and organized by the **Constituency for Africa (CFA)** each year in conjunction with the **Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Annual Legislative Conference (ALC)**. The purpose of the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series is to: (1) educate, inform and engage the American public on critical challenges, issues and concerns facing Africa; (2) help link Members of the Congressional Black Caucus and their staff to African challenges, issues and concerns; and (3) promote a pro-active and sustainable U.S.-Africa foreign policy agenda. The core aim of the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series is to get African-Americans and Africans in the Diaspora talking about the most pressing political, economic, social and cultural issues and concerns affecting Africa's development.

This year, the Constituency for Africa (CFA) will partner again with the **Washington Office of the African Union (AU)** to organize and present the **2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series**. The 2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series will focus on how the African Diaspora can participate and support the African Union's Sixth Region initiative. Accordingly, this year's theme will be entitled **"Strategies for Engaging the African Diaspora in Promoting Good Governance and Economic Development on the Continent"**. The Co-Chairpersons named for this year's RHB Series are **Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, the African Union's Permanent Representative to the United States** and **Congresswoman Diane E. Watson (D-CA)**.

The **Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series**, named after the late **Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown**, acknowledges the significant contributions he made for forging U.S. ties with Africa. Secretary Ron Brown opened doors to the recognition of the importance of a U.S.-Africa relationship, highlighting trade and investment opportunities, and traveling to Africa and supporting organizations seeking to educate, advocate and build strategic ties with Africa. Both Americans and Africans owe a deep debt of gratitude for his visionary efforts.

CFA is a 501(c)3 non-partisan organization and its Board of Directors reflects some of the most respected voices on African affairs. For almost twenty years, CFA has worked tirelessly to educate Americans about critical challenges affecting Africa, and to encourage strong public and private partnerships that address issues and concerns on the continent. The United States has a tremendous opportunity to strengthen U.S. partnerships with Africa and CFA seeks to encourage the Obama administration to build upon the substantive progress made during the eight years of the Bush administration in formulating and executing a robust U.S. foreign policy towards Africa.

On behalf of the members of the **Board of Directors of the Constituency for Africa**, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to CFA's strategic partners and corporate sponsors in helping to make this year's **Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series** a tremendous success. We truly hope that our mission merits your continued support and financial assistance in the many years to come!

Melvin P. Foote,
President & CEO
Constituency for Africa



2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series



Celebrating the Legacy of Ronald H. Brown through the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series

Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown was a strong leader and forceful advocate on behalf of Africa. The Constituency for Africa acknowledges the significant contributions made by this champion for forging U.S. ties with Africa. Ron Brown fortified existing relationships and developed new partnerships between U.S. and African public and private sectors; assisted in the development of appropriate economic and foreign policy frameworks; and formed sustainable mechanisms to support sustainable linkages between business enterprises.

Ron Brown was the first African-American Chairman of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the first to travel to sub-Saharan Africa. During a trip in 1990, he talked about political development, but more importantly, the strategic relevance of trade and investment opportunities between the United States and Africa. When he became the Secretary of Commerce, he made good on his belief in the importance of economic development and commercial ties by leading numerous trade missions to Africa including one to South Africa a few days after sanctions were lifted by the United States. He also opened a U.S. commercial center in South Africa, now named after him; opened and expanded commercial offices in regional hubs throughout Africa; supported the passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); and rallied other U.S. government agencies around African issues and invited senior officials from those federal agencies to travel with him to Africa to develop solutions to challenges in a cooperative manner.

In honor of his deep commitment towards forging a progressive U.S.-Africa foreign policy relationship, in the year 1996 the Constituency for Africa decided to dedicate its week-long Series on African Affairs in his name. Over the past fourteen years, the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series has established itself as a stellar colloquium committed to educating and mobilizing the U.S. public on matters pertaining to Africa. As a result, the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series has effectively fostered increased levels of cooperation and coordination amongst a broad-based coalition of American and African international organizations and individuals committed to the progress and empowerment of Africa and the African people.

Over the years, the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series has held more than two hundred roundtables and forums that have focused on advocacy, analysis of government policy initiatives, knowledge transfer, and the mobilization of public and private sector groups. Its publications, training programs and educational initiatives have addressed numerous Africa-focused topics including good governance, democratization and human rights, U.S.-Africa business and trade opportunities, health and human security, social diversity and cultural development and the influential role of civil society. Overall, it is estimated that the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series has directly reached more than three hundred thousand people and indirectly reached almost one million people since its inception.



2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series



FINAL AGENDA FOR THE 2010 RONALD H. BROWN AFRICAN AFFAIRS SERIES

September 9 – 18, 2010

Thursday, September 9th

Dr. Dorothy I. Height

Next Generation on Africa and the Diaspora Forum:

Next Generation Peace Corps

“Cultivating Today’s Leaders to Meet Tomorrow’s Challenges”

(Pre-Registration Required)

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Venue: U.S. Peace Corps Headquarters

1111 Twentieth Street, N.W.,

Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** and the **African American Unity Caucus (AAUC)**, in conjunction with the **U.S. Peace Corps**, will convene its annual Next Generation on Africa Forum, now renamed in her honor as the **Dr. Dorothy I. Height Next Generation on Africa and the Diaspora Forum** as a kick-off to the **2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series**. Dr. Height was a founding matriarch of the American civil rights movement whose tireless crusade for racial justice, gender equality and education covered more than six decades. Dr. Height expressed great interest in utilizing her influence to encourage educational and professional opportunities for the next generation of leaders in the civil rights movement. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Constituency for Africa she was particularly interested in building linkages between Africans in the Diaspora and Africans on the Continent towards making a difference for Africa and its people.

The **Next Generation on Africa and the Diaspora Forum** will feature an opportunity for young men and women, who share the Peace Corps’ mission of international peace, to network and learn from exceptional leaders in community service. The event will focus on international development work on the African continent and highlight the work of international development professionals and Peace Corps Volunteers. The forum will open with a keynote address from the US Executive Director of the World Bank followed by three expert-led panels featuring seasoned professionals from the development sector and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. The day-long forum will culminate later that evening with the **Franklin H. Williams Awards Ceremony** at the U.S. Peace Corps Headquarters between 6:00pm and 8:00pm. The Franklin H. Williams Award recognizes ethnically diverse Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who exemplify a commitment to community service and the Peace Corps’ Third Goal of promoting a better understanding of other peoples on

the part of Americans. The award will be presented to nine Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and the Director's Award will be presented to the 2010 recipient, Ambassador James A. Joseph.

For more information about and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact NextGeneration@PeaceCorps.gov.

Monday, September 13th

Dr. Dorothy I. Height
Next Generation on Africa and the Diaspora Forum
Follow-Up Strategy Meeting
(By Invitation Only)
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Venue: U.S. Peace Corps Headquarters
1111 Twentieth Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Note: The purpose of the **Next Generation on Africa and the Diaspora Forum Follow-Up Strategy Meeting** will be to further examine the mandate of the AAUC Next Generation Group to proceed with a strategic plan of action and milestones schedule designed to facilitate the implementation of several key initiatives to include, but not be limited to, the following: (a) Design and publish an AAUC Next Generation Plum Book; (b) Utilize social media applications within the AAUC Next Generation network, (c) Convene local and regional meetings for college/university students and young professionals, (d) Establish ongoing linkages with both academic and professional international development entities in order to expand outreach and build strategic partnerships and alliances with their mentoring networks, and (e) Convene an annual Next Generation Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. in 2011.

Dr. Phil Rutledge Africa Seminar Series
Solidarity with Haiti:
“From Survival to Dignity and Sovereignty”
(Pre-Registration Required)
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Venue: National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA)
900 Seventh Street, N.W., Suite 600, Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** and the **African American Unity Caucus** in partnership with the **National Organization for the Advancement of Haitians (NOAH)**, **TransAfrica Forum**, and the **Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS)** will convene a **Forum on Haitian Development** for the **Dr. Phil Rutledge Africa Seminar Series**. The Caribbean Island of Haiti was struck with a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on January 12, 2010 which killed an estimated 300,000 and left approximately 1.5 million homeless with another 2 million people on the island adversely affected. The international community, led by the United States has responded to the catastrophe with generous amounts of relief, recovery and reconstruction funding. Yet, despite the laudable response of the international community, the efficacy of the relief and recovery effort has been undermined by the scope of the disaster, structural inefficiencies, bureaucratic inertia and vested interests trying

to preserve privilege. Only three percent of the one billion dollars donated thus far has reached the people of Haiti. Conditions on the ground in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding communities remain atrocious as the cry for food, clean water and proper sanitation is still as desperate as the day after the earthquake.

This forum, in keeping with the ideals of social equity as promoted by the late Dr. Phil Rutledge, will provide an opportunity to hear perspectives on strategies for the redevelopment of Haiti. Haiti has been ravaged in recent years by hurricanes and floods that left it vulnerable to this year's devastating earthquake, which virtually destroyed the capital city of Port-au-Prince. International attention and humanitarian contributions reached new highs, but as time has passed, interest in Haiti has waned considerably. The international community's efforts to reconstruct Haiti while laudable have been scattered and disjointed leaving the government of Haiti even more weakened in the eyes of its populace than before the earthquake of January 12, 2010. Consequently, reconstruction efforts largely led by the international community run the risks of creating a new Haiti that serves the interests of the international community, and that lacks full buy-in from the people of Haiti and therefore may not be sustainable in the future.

This forum will discuss the way forward by contemplating an integral development framework that takes into account four key principles: (1) development of a New Haiti with a more inclusive approach; (2) Social Equity within all sectors of development for all Haitians; (3) Empowerment through providing access to Public Services and Capital for non-traditional investors; and (4) Increase accountability by elected officials. This forum will consist of one panel and a roundtable discussion. The roundtable discussion will elicit recommendations from the audience on how to develop a process which ensures the "Development of Social Equity". The goal of this forum will be to create the elements for a reconstruction process based on the integral development framework and thus effectively includes Haitians and takes into consideration their needs.

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact yyang@napawash.org.

**African Diaspora Stakeholders' Dinner:
"Strategies for Engaging the African Diaspora in Promoting
Good Governance and Economic Development on the Continent"
(By Invitation Only and Security RSVP Required)**

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Venue: The World Bank

1818 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Main Complex Building - Twelfth Floor (MC12) Gallery

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** and the **African American Unity Caucus** in partnership with the **African Union** and the **World Bank's Africa Region** will convene an **African Diaspora Stakeholders' Dinner** for members and friends of the **African American Unity Caucus** to hear the perspectives of visiting key African Diaspora and African Stakeholders working on the ground in Africa. The primary focus of the discussion will be on the **2010 RHB Series Theme: "Strategies for Engaging the African Diaspora in Promoting Good Governance and Economic Development on the Continent"**. Accordingly, this will be a frank discussion about the role and responsibility of Africans in the Diaspora to reconnect and partner with Africans on the continent for the improvement of government, business and social matters. Special remarks will be provided by H.E. Amina Salum Ali, the Ambassador to the African Union in Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, September 14th

**US – Africa Partnership to Increase Food Production in Africa Caucus:
“Critical Strategies for Agriculture Food Production and Market Acceleration”
(Pre-Registration Required)**

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Venue: Academy for Educational Development Globe Theater
1927 Florida Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Note: This caucus will bring together the **U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)**, the **African Development Bank (AfDB)**, the **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**, the **Academy for Educational Development (AED)** and the **African Union**, in order to discuss issues, ideas and strategies for increasing food production in Africa. There has been a clear shift in the United States government’s approach to global food security. The Obama administration’s “Whole of Government” approach calls for a multi-agency coordination and collaboration initiative to tackle hunger and malnutrition on the African continent. Known as “Feed The Future”, this new \$3.5 billion dollar food security initiative will assist twelve African focus countries. It will complement their own efforts under the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) to provide critical tools to farmers, allowing them to build local capacity to expand production. However, this new comprehensive commitment to food security is not just about addressing the immediate challenges posed by food shortages; it also aims to establish a lasting foundation by supporting country-driven agri-business developments and creating multi-stakeholder partnerships. This forum will be attended by a number of African-Americans and Africans who are currently involved in the agricultural sector on the African continent. The session will include meaningful discussions on the topics of promoting sustainable agricultural and food security through appropriate technology advances in food production, sustainable agriculture and agriculture and the environment (green food production).

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact <http://agriculturroundtable.eventbrite.com>.

African American Unity Caucus (AAUC)

African Partnership Luncheon

(By Invitation Only)

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Venue: Goodworks International (tentative)
1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 430, Washington, D.C.

Note: This important lunch discussion will provide an opportunity for the **African American Unity Caucus (AAUC)** core members to dialogue and hear directly from some of the prominent guests from Africa (business and policy leaders) who have come to participate in the 2010 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series. A prominent U.S. government official will also be invited to provide keynote remarks on the topic of the “roadmap for the way forward on U.S.-Africa economic and trade relations”. Please note that this is a closed and invitation only event.

**Dual Citizenship: The Diaspora Bridge to Africa
(Open To The Public And Registration Required)**

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Venue: African Union Mission

1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 7001
Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** and the **African American Unity Caucus** in partnership with the **African Union**, the **Leon H. Sullivan Foundation (LHSF)**, the **African Diaspora Ancestral Commemoration Institute (ADACI)**, and the **Universal Negro Improvement Association and Africa Communities League (UNIA/ACL)** will convene a forum on **Dual Citizenship** which is embodied in the concept of Pan-Africanism, which promotes the cooperation among and integration of the African people. As Pan-African leader Marcus Garvey notably said: "Africa for the Africans - those at home and those abroad." This would involve both elements of the African Diaspora: those involuntarily taken from Africa in the infamous Trans-Atlantic slave trade that comprise the historic African Diaspora and those who left their African countries voluntarily to emigrate elsewhere in the world that comprise the modern-day African Diaspora. This forum will consist of three panels as follows: The first panel will explain the concept of dual citizenship - its origins and its practical workings; The second panel will examine current efforts to implement dual citizenship and garner support for it throughout the Diaspora; and The third panel will consist of selected African diplomats who can explain what their respective governments are doing to allow members of the African Diaspora to obtain citizenship while still holding citizenship in the country of their birth.

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact intern_cfa@yahoo.com.

**Constituency for Africa (CFA)
Corporate Advisory Roundtable Dinner
(By Invitation Only)**

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Venue: Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP

1500 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** will convene a **Corporate Advisory Roundtable Dinner** in order to dialogue with American and African corporations and entrepreneurs attending the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series. This will be a frank discussion about the possibility for strategic partnerships necessary in order to successfully do business on the African continent. This will also be an opportunity to advance the dialogue on critical financial flows and innovative strategies to maximize access to capital to Africa in the wake of the global economic crisis. Please note that this is a closed and invitation only event.

Wednesday, September 15th
**Mobilizing the Faith-Based Community to Address
Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa
(Open To The Public And Registration Required)**

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Venue: Shiloh Baptist Church
1500 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Note: This forum is being organized by the **Constituency for Africa** in partnership with the **African American Unity Caucus (AAUC)**, **Leadership Africa USA**, **Harambee International Development**, **ONE, Water Advocates**, and **Radio One** to review safe drinking water and sanitation initiatives for Africa. This forum is designed to appeal to religious leaders serving the African-American community. The forum will assist the church to develop, support and implement safe drinking water intervention strategies and approaches for clergy to customize safe drinking water and sanitation plans for church members and the larger community. The forum has as its primary focus a clear exchange of experiences and ideas by the participants to establish a process going forward to develop and launch an International Safe Drinking Water Action Plan for Africa. Some startling facts about water and sanitation are as follows: (a) water and sanitation diseases collectively account for eighty percent of sickness in developing countries; (b) these diseases annually kill more than 2.2 million children – more than AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria combined; (c) unsafe water, coupled with poor sanitation and hygiene habits, results in countless deaths and a huge burden of diseases amongst children; and (d) half of the world's malnutrition is caused by these water and poor sanitation-related diseases. This will be the first concerted effort to involve African-American church leadership in making safe drinking water and sanitation an integral part of the African-American experience.

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact Rev. Yolanda Giles at (703) 981-1897 or yogiles@comcast.net.

**Pan-Africanism in the 21st Century Roundtable
(By Invitation Only)**

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Venue: African Union Mission
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 7001
Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Pan-Africanism in the 21st Century Roundtable** will be convened by the **Constituency for Africa** in partnership with the **African Union**. The purpose of this forum will be to provide an opportunity for African Americans and Africans who are attending the RHB Series to provide their insight and observations on how to move forward with establishing realistic and results-oriented opportunities for partnerships to advance the spirit of Pan-Africanism in the 21st Century. More importantly, it is imperative that the legacy of Pan-Africanism be strategically linked with the emergence and relevancy of the Next Generation of African Leaders through the African Diaspora. During the first week of April 2010, more than one hundred Americans of African descent traveled as an official delegation to Dakar, Senegal to participate in the 50th Anniversary on Independence

Celebrations, the unveiling of the African Renaissance Monument, that was commissioned by the Senegalese President, Abdoulaye Wade, and to participate in a colloquium on African Renaissance. The delegation was assembled by Dr. Djibril Diallo in his role as the chair of the U.S. FESMAN (World Festival of Black Arts) Committee. Among the many high profiled individuals that took part in the delegation were some of the best known and prolific proponents of Pan-Africanism including Dr. Julius Garvey, the son of Marcus Garvey; Dr. Maulana Karenga, the founder of KWANZAA and Professor of Africana Studies at California State University-Long Beach; Dr. Dudley Thompson, who assisted in a number of liberation movements on the African continent; Zakiya Uzoma-Wadada, Executive Director of the Emancipation Support Committee based in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; Professor Leonard Jeffries, Dr. Ali Mazrui, Dr. Ronald Walters and many others.

In the context of the visit, a number of extraordinary conversations took place between the Pan-African legends and Africa experts working on policy issues, trade and development. While there generally has been a serious disconnect between those who advocate a Pan-African agenda and those who work in the policy and advocacy arena in and around Washington, D.C., it is clear that there is benefit to promoting a stronger collaboration and a spirit of cooperation. Therefore, this forum will attempt to bring together a range of Africa policy and advocacy experts of African descent, to meet and dialogue with several distinguished Pan-African experts to search out common ground for unifying the African Diaspora.

Thursday, September 16th

**The Jack Kemp African Trade and Investment Roundtable:
“African Business Champions: New African Business Leaders and a
New Model for Trade and Investment with Africa in the 21st Century”
(Pre-Registration Required)**

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Venue: African Union Mission

1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 7001
Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa, African American Unity Caucus**, and the **African Union** will partner with the **“Africa Agenda & Action Forum”** (a leadership group of African professionals in Africa and around the world), to organize a roundtable to look at a new model for promoting the emergence of African Business Champions. The **African Trade and Investment Roundtable** will bring together Next Generation African Entrepreneurs from Africa and Europe to meet with entrepreneurs from the Diaspora, U.S. government agencies concerned with trade in Africa, and other interested parties, to explore new models for strengthening trade and investment between Africa and the United States. Investors are beginning to open their eyes to the reality that Africa is the most profitable place to invest; showing the best growth rates yielding the highest profits world-wide. Unfortunately, many global investors still shy away from Africa, falling victim to the continent's outdated image of war, corruption, political instability, financial chaos and universal poverty and suffering.

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) has served as a crucial engine of growth for Africa over the past decade, generating over three hundred thousand jobs on the continent and

nearly four hundred billion in exports from the region. This forum provides an appropriate time to discuss the future of AGOA and African economic policy imperatives for the Obama administration and Congress. The United States is committed to working with its African partners to maximize the opportunities created by the African Growth and Opportunity Act but realizes that fundamental changes will be necessary in order to achieve long term goals of economic stability and prosperity. Business people from all over the African Continent are expected to participate in this African Trade and Investment Roundtable as well as attend several other activities and events of the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference and Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series.

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact <http://tradeandinvestmentroundtable.eventbrite.com>.

Congressman Bobby Rush
Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Forum
“Africa and the Diaspora – From Slave Ships to Partnership”
(Open To The Public)
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Venue: Washington Convention Center
located between 7th and 9th Streets, N.W.
(Meeting Room 209-C)

Note: This **Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Forum** hosted by **Congressman Bobby Rush (D-IL)** will bring together a panel of leading African experts from the public, private and non-profit sectors to increase awareness about Africa’s growing importance in the global economy and the intensified U.S. competition with Brazil, Russia, India, China and Iran who are aggressively making efforts to gain access to African resources and advance their political and economic ties to the region. Additionally, the forum will discuss the role that the African Diaspora can play to strengthen U.S.-Africa economic relationships; examine how to increase minority participation in two-way trade and investment opportunities in Africa; and the methods that can be used to facilitate such partnerships.

For more information about this forum, please contact AngelleB.Kwemo@mail.house.gov.

Strategies for Diaspora Engagement Roundtable
“Africa Rising: The Diaspora’s Role in Development”
(Open To The Public And Registration Required)
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Academy for Educational Development
1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Academy Hall - Eighth Floor
Washington, D.C.

Note: This forum will be organized by the **Constituency for Africa** in partnership with the **US Agency for International Development (USAID)**, the **World Bank**, **Western Union** and the **Academy for Educational Development (AED)**, in order to discuss challenges and opportunities for Diaspora engagement in Africa. Topics of interest will include: Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) trade and investment, remittances, philanthropy, and volunteerism. It will also provide an

opportunity for the African Diaspora to learn more about several successful initiatives in the public and private sector that are facilitating opportunities for engagement in Africa as well as serve as a platform for sharing lessons learned and best practices on remittance bundling and matching funds.

For more information and/or to register to attend this forum, please contact <http://strategiesfordiasporaengagementroundtable.eventbrite.com>.

**African Leadership Reception
(Open To The Public)**

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Embassy of Angola
2108 Sixteenth Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Constituency for Africa (CFA)**, in partnership with the **Embassy of Angola** and the **African Union** will sponsor this **African Leadership Reception** in order to celebrate successful political, economic and civil society leaders on the African Continent. The reception will feature welcoming remarks from the **Ambassador of Angola, H.E. Josephina Diakite** and will bring together a broad cross-section of the African support group, including African Diplomats, US government administration officials, congressional staffers, NGO leaders, private sector representatives, AAUC Next Generation Leaders and several special guests from Africa. CFA strongly believes in Africa's promise and is committed to Africa's future and will continue to be a partner with Africa's people. Accordingly, CFA will recognize several individuals and organizations for their outstanding achievements and contributions towards promoting leadership, trade and investment opportunities, the emerging role of civil society, and humanitarian assistance in Africa.

To register to attend this reception please contact <http://africanleadershipreception.eventbrite.com>.

Friday, September 17th

**Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)
Foreign Affairs Braintrust
(Open To The Public)**

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Venue: Washington Convention Center
located between 7th and 9th Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

(Meeting Room To Be Announced)

Note: The **Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Foreign Affairs Braintrust**, hosted by **Congressman Donald Payne (D-NJ)**, is part of the **Annual Legislative Conference (ALC)** of the **Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)**. It is designed to cut across the political, social and economic challenges and opportunities facing Africa and the role that the Diaspora can play. This will include a discussion on a new paradigm within the U.S. State Department for engagement of the United States and Africa: Partnering for Progress. Accordingly, the five key pillars of the Obama administration's priorities for U.S.-Africa policy are as follows: (a) to help build strong and stable

democracies; (b) to support economic growth and development; (c) to strengthen public health; (d) to help prevent, mitigate and resolve armed conflicts; and (e) to address transnational challenges. Basically, the Obama administration seeks to build strong and stable democracies on the African continent by working closely with the international community and civil society in Africa to strengthen democratic institutions, including independent election commissions, and to preserve the democratic and civil society gains made in recent years.

The Obama administration is also helping to prevent, mitigate and resolve armed conflicts. Africa contains many fragile states. Somalia remains locked in a state of war while the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to struggle to defeat rebel forces operating in the eastern part of the country. Tensions are mounting in Southern Sudan while terrorists attacks are occurring in Uganda. President Obama has demonstrated his commitment to ending armed conflict on the continent by appointing a Special Envoy for Sudan and a Special Advisor for the Great Lakes region. The United States is also committed to supporting the African Union's vision of an African Peace and Security Architecture, including the African Standby Force.

Likewise, the Obama administration is actively working to address transnational challenges. Many problems – including narcotics trafficking, climate change, trafficking in persons, and violent extremism – jump across national borders and defy easy solutions. The United States is working to help address transnational challenges by bolstering African maritime security and supporting the fight against violent extremism through programs like the Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Partnership and the East Africa Regional Strategy Initiative. The United States is also committed to working with Africans to find viable solutions to the severe consequences of climate change and to build a sustainable, clean-energy global economy.

Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)
Trade and Investment in Africa Braintrust
“Investing in Africa – The Outlook for Growth”
(Open To The Public)
10:30 a.m. to 12 noon
Venue: Room 147-A
Washington Convention Center
located between 7th and 9th Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) African Trade and Investment Braintrust**, hosted by **Congresswoman Diane Watson (D-CA)**, will be well-attended by a number of African-Americans who are currently involved doing business in Africa. The session provides meaningful discussions on U.S.-Africa trade and investment opportunities and how the African-American community can and should positively impact this issue and create business opportunities for U.S. and African small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) and women-owned firms. The participants will also discuss trade and investment challenges on the African continent and how the African Diaspora can assist in addressing those challenges as well as taking advantage of opportunities.

Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
African Energy Braintrust
“Stimulating Trade, Investment, Technology Transfer and Development:
Making the Case for U.S. and Africa Energy Partnership”

(Open To The Public)

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Venue: Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel
(Meeting Room To Be Announced)
999 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Note: The **Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies**, in partnership with the **Constituency for Africa (CFA)** and the **American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE)**, will convene a session on **“Stimulating Trade, Investment, Technology Transfer and Development: Making the Case for US and Africa Energy Partnership”**. Energy is a crucial aspect of climate change. Dependence on fossil fuel combustion for energy has significantly increased global carbon emission levels, but without corresponding investment in less environmentally harmful renewable energy technology, populations with limited resources not only lose revenue but also suffer from lost opportunities for business and economic development. Given the untapped potential to expand energy infrastructure in African nations and improve energy capacity among low-income African-Americans, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies realizes the significance of information sharing through partnerships in order to convey best practices and harness the collective power of these communities. This session will provide meaningful discussions on U.S.-Africa Energy development and how the African-American community can and should positively impact this issue and create business opportunities in the energy sector for U.S. and African small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) and women-owned firms. The participants will also discuss energy challenges on the African continent and how the African Diaspora can assist in addressing those challenges.

For more information and/or to register for this roundtable session please contact gwood@jointcenter.org.

Saturday, September 18th

**“A Race for the Race”
Supporting Good Health for
African-Americans and Africans Around the World**

Venue: East Potomac Park (near the tennis courts)

Washington, D.C.

Time: 8:30 am to 10:30 am

Note: The **Constituency for Africa** will organize this informal community event which aims to educate the public and to promote a healthy lifestyle in the African-American community, and throughout the African world. The informal community event will take place at East Potomac Park (near the tennis courts) in Washington, D.C. It will be an informal gathering for a walk/jog around the three mile course. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness for the need to focus on supporting health, nutrition and healthy lifestyles for African-Americans and Africans around the world. For more information about this community event, please contact mfoote2420@aol.com.

Background on the Constituency for Africa (CFA)

For almost twenty years, CFA has established itself as one of the leading organizations in the United States committed to educating and mobilizing the U.S. public on matters pertaining to Africa. As a result, CFA has done much to increase the level of cooperation and coordination among a broad-based coalition of American, African and international organizations, businesses, and individuals committed to the progress, development, and empowerment of Africa and African people. In addition, CFA's achievement in advocacy education and information dissemination has led to a greater understanding and awareness of Africa among all groups.

CFA has pioneered a highly touted series of Town Hall Meetings on Africa, which have taken place in numerous cities and towns across the country. CFA Town Hall Meetings have enabled Americans across the country to better understand African policy issues and to participate in the policy formulation process. CFA also organizes the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series each year in September in Washington, D.C., to coincide with the Congressional Black Caucus's Annual Legislative Conference. The RHB Series serves as a unique platform for linking the CBC with African-focused organizations, African diplomats and policy-makers and the leadership of the grassroots community.

Accordingly, CFA has three operational goals that guide its activities and programs: (1) Mobilize and foster increased cooperation, collaboration and coordination amongst a broad-based coalition of individuals, associations and organizations in the public and private sectors; (2) Advocate progressive and consistent policy initiatives that will significantly advance Africa's transformation and empowerment; and (3) Provide relevant information and knowledge to increase public awareness and understanding of the ongoing challenges confronting the Continent of Africa.

CFA's blueprint to build a "constituency for Africa" includes organizing its vast network of individuals, organizations, businesses and the media into strategic hubs, capable of immediate and intense mobilization. These hubs will include American and African leaders in academia, business, non-governmental organizations, ambassadors, and elected officials. Over the years, CFA has established itself as one of the foremost non-governmental organizations in the United States committed to educating and mobilizing the American public on matters pertaining to U.S.-Africa foreign policy and has a well-documented record of significant achievements and accomplishments.

Background of the African American Unity Caucus (AAUC)

The African American Unity Caucus, (AAUC), established in 2002, is a non-partisan alliance of committed leaders and organizations of African ancestry focused on affecting Africa and the African Diaspora. The AAUC was formed specifically to bring together a number of Africa-focused organizations in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean in order to develop a common agenda and increase collaborative efforts to improve and strengthen U.S.-Africa relations. The AAUC clearly represents the best opportunity for Africans in the Diaspora and African-Americans to move to the next level of constructive engagement with Africa. The composition of the AAUC cuts across a diverse field of possibilities - ranging from young professionals to senior subject matter experts in the private and public sectors, from leaders of NGOs in civil society to leaders of quasi-governmental agencies and academic institutions, both women and men as well as all representations of the African Diaspora. The mission of the AAUC is to marshal human, material and social capital in order to enhance the overall sustainable development of African people. Through strategic decision-making, the AAUC will initiate and foster actions, and forge effective partnerships, among public and private entities in Africa and the African Diaspora and impact U.S. foreign policy. (Adopted February 2006). *The AAUC is a program of the Constituency for Africa. For more information about the Constituency for Africa (CFA) and/or the African American Unity Caucus (AAUC), please contact David J. Saunders at intern_cfa@yahoo.com or visit the CFA Website at www.cfanet.org.*

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