



9th | ANNUAL AGOA CSO NETWORK SPRING CONFERENCE

THEME

Timely Reauthorization and Enhancement of AGOA Beyond 2025



**THE FOUNDATION
FOR DEMOCRACY
IN AFRICA**
www.democracy-africa.org

www.agoacsonetwork.org

Thursday, April 18, 2024
Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2020
Washington, DC 20515

9:00 am

Registration

9:30 am – 10:30 am

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Welcome: Rev. Milenge Mwenelwata, Vice Chair, AGOA CSO Network, Francophone Africa

Fred Oladeinde, President, The Foundation for Democracy in Africa, and Chairman, the AGOA Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network

Joshua “Josh” Snead, Staff Director, Trade Subcommittee & Chief Trade Counsel, Ways and Means, House of Representatives (R)

Alexandra Whittaker, Trade Staff Director & Chief Trade Counsel Ways and Means, House of Representatives (D)

Robert D. Telchin, Director for African Affairs, Office of U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President

Florie Liser, President and CEO, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA)

10:30 am – 11:30 am

CSO Perspective on AGOA Reauthorization and Enhancement

Moderator: Fred Oladeinde, President, The Foundation for Democracy in Africa, and Chairman, the AGOA Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network

Panelists:

Reverend Eugene Cho, President and CEO, Bread for the World

Lars Benson, Regional Director for Africa, Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)

Mercy Chewetu Mukupa, CEO and Creative Director, Queen of Chitenge Fashion Ltd, Zambia (*Virtual*)

Sagar Diouf Traore, President, International Cooperation Commission at Mermoz - Sacré Cœur Town Hall and AGOA CSO Network Advisory Board Member, Senegal (*Virtual*)

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11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Private Sector Perspective on AGOA Reauthorization and Enhancement

Moderator: Dr. Kwasi Opon-Fosu, President, Africa Growth Solutions, Accra Ghana

Panelists:

Sam duPont, Economic Policy Advisor, Office of U.S. Senator Coons (D-DE)

Laird Treiber, Business Advisor, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA)

Félicité Yameogo, Chief Executive Officer, Kafikis International SARL, Burkina Faso (*Virtual*)

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

BREAK

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Presentation & Lunch: AGOA Renewal & Reauthorization Roundtable

Honorable Jonathan Jackson, United States Representative
1st District of Illinois

H.E. Hilda Suka-Mafudze, Ambassador, African Union Mission to the United States

H.E. Chibama Kanyama, Ambassador, the Republic of Zambia to the United States

H. E. Noel Nelson Messone, Ambassador, Embassy of the Gabonese Republic to the United States

2:00 pm -3:00 pm

African Diaspora Investment and Engagement Roundtable

Moderator: Dr. Karl S. Wright, Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Claflin University

Panelists:

Dr. Malcolm Beech, President, African Diaspora Alliance, U.S.

Dr. Olivier Kamanzi, CEO, Africa Global Chamber of Commerce (AGCC) and AGOA CSO Advisory Board Member

Melvin P. Foote, Founder and President Constituency for Africa (CFA)

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Closing Remarks

Fred Oladeinde, Chairman, AGOA CSO Network