



CORPORATE  
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CORPORATE COUNCIL ON AFRICA



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY FLORIZELLE LISER

**Preparing for AfCFTA:** The African Union is moving ahead in planning for the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) which promises to be a game-changer for Africa. Implementation is scheduled to start as of July 1, 2020, with potentially critical implications for American companies engaged on the continent. CCA organized three events to help the African Union (AU) and U.S. companies prepare.

On September 11, we co-hosted with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Africa Business Center a workshop for a group of AU trade experts in the United States on an International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). The workshop included presentations on U.S. views of "Phase Two" issues for AfCFTA: intellectual property rights, and competition and investment policy, as well as how this will be impacted by the digital economy.

In a September 23 event on the margins of UNGA in New York, we co-hosted (with the U.S.

Happy Fall! September kept us hopping as CCA organized three events in New York on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). We have continued to shine a light on U.S.-Africa trade opportunities and challenges, particularly through the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). We've also continued to highlight and contribute to U.S. government engagement with business on the continent, while advocating for African countries to improve their business climates.

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Chamber) a panel on "The U.S.-Africa Leadership Forum: Strengthening the Future of U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment." This dialogue featured Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou, Cote d'Ivoire Vice President Daniel Duncan, and representatives from MTN, Abbott, and GE, speaking to an audience of over 200 people.

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## 2020 U.S.-AFRICA BUSINESS SUMMIT TO BE HOSTED IN MOROCCO



From L to R: Her Highness Princess Lalla Joumala, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco and Florizelle Liser, President and CEO, Corporate Council on Africa



A cross section of high level officials at the 2019 U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Maputo, Mozambique

Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) will host the next edition of the U.S.-Africa Business Summit in June 2020 in Marrakech, Morocco. Building on the momentum of this year's Summit in Maputo, Mozambique, which focused on advancing a resilient and sustainable U.S.-Africa partnership, CCA will return to the continent next June for the 13th iteration of its flagship conference.

"We are delighted to return to the continent for the 2020 Summit and look forward to partnering with the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco. The 2019 Summit in Maputo, Mozambique was a tremendous success and the caliber of engagement by U.S. and African business and government leaders was outstanding. The partnerships forged, investment opportunities identified, and deals closed are still being cited by attendees, and we intend to expand on these outcomes at the 2020 Summit in Morocco," said Florizelle Liser, President and CEO, Corporate Council on Africa.

Following a strategic selection process, CCA's Board of Directors selected the Kingdom of Morocco as the host for the 2020 Summit. Having rejoined the African Union and signed the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, Morocco has demonstrated its commitment to promoting economic development in Africa, making it an ideal destination for the 2020 Summit and the first time CCA will organize the Summit in North Africa.

Her Highness Princess Lalla Joumala, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United States, urged businesses to take advantage of the unique opportunities that will be presented at the Summit in 2020. "As the gateway to Africa, Morocco is committed to increasing business and investment on the continent and is pleased to partner with the Corporate Council on Africa to host the 2020 U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Marrakech."

Starting this year, CCA will hold the U.S.-Africa Business Summit annually, with the aim of providing CCA members, investors, and key U.S.-Africa business stakeholders with the opportunity to stay abreast on the latest developments in business and investment across Africa.

Since its inception in 1997, CCA's Summit has been considered as the essential conference on U.S.-Africa business and investment. With over 1300 attendees, the 2019 Summit witnessed a remarkable level of engagement, including participation by heads of state, vice presidents, and prime ministers from 9 African countries, ministers from more than 25 countries, more than 100 senior U.S. government officials and an exceptional line-up of global business leaders from a variety of sectors.



## UNGA 2019 - BUSINESS LUNCH AND ROUNDTABLE ON LINKING HEALTH AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN AFRICA



A cross section of ministers and delegates at the Business Lunch and Roundtable on Linking Health and Economic Growth in Africa on the sidelines of UNGA 2019

On the margins of the 74th U.N. General Assembly and the U.N. High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage in New York, Corporate Council on Africa hosted a Business Luncheon and Roundtable on Linking Health and Economic Growth in Africa. The Roundtable featured 9 African Ministers as well as leadership from USAID and over 100 U.S. and African public and private sector leaders focused on improving health outcomes to drive economic growth on the continent. The Roundtable served as a platform for participants to identify challenges to increased investment in Africa's health sector and explore partnership opportunities aimed at strengthening health systems.

The event began with opening remarks from President and CEO, Ms. Florie Liser as well as CCA Chairman of the Board, Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, followed by special remarks from Ms. Susan Silberman, Global President, Emerging Markets, Pfizer Inc. and Dr. Kamel Ghribi, GK Investment Holding Group Switzerland & GSD Healthcare, Middle East.

The roundtable also featured a Ministerial Panel which was moderated by Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio and included Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, Minister of Health, Republic of Uganda; Hon. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, Minister of Health, Republic of Ghana;

Ms. Bonnie Glick, Deputy Administrator, USAID; Hon. Sicily Kariuki, Minister of Health, Republic of Kenya; Hon. Dr. Alfred Madigele, Minister of Health, Republic of Botswana; Dr. Paolo Rotelli, President, San Raffaele Hospital(IRCCS) and San Raffaele University; Vice President, San Donato Hospital(IRCCS) Italy; Hon. Michel Sidibé, Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Republic of Mali; H.E. Dr. Hala Zaid, Minister of Health and Population, Republic of Egypt; Hon. Jacqueline Lydia Mikolo, Minister of Health and Population, Republic of Congo; and H.E. Dr. Aouélé Eugène Aka Minister of Health and Public Hygiene, Côte d'Ivoire were also in attendance.

Hon. Sicily Kariuki noted the struggle around aligning political focus with healthcare needs in Kenya, while Hon. Dr. Sidibé also noted challenges of prioritizing healthcare against pressing issues such as security in Mali.

Hon. Dr. Madigele said given that Botswana is vast and sparsely populated, ensuring access and quality care to citizens across the country is a top priority of the Health Ministry. Hon. Zaid also discussed how ensuring access to quality care is a priority in Egypt, especially considering its high population.

The panelists also discussed the importance of leveraging public-private partnerships to achieve stronger health systems and healthier populations. Panelists encouraged the businesses in the room to engage in increased investment in their countries' health industry. The Roundtable ended with closing remarks from President and CEO of CCA, Ms. Florie Liser who thanked all who participated and extended a special thank you to the event sponsors, Pfizer Inc. and Gruppo San Donato.



CCA President and CEO welcomes delegates to the business roundtable

## UNGA 2019 - U.S.-AFRICA LEADERSHIP FORUM ON STRENGTHENING THE FUTURE OF U.S. - AFRICA TRADE AND INVESTMENT



From L to R: Damian Halloran, Abbott Laboratories, Florizelle Liser, Corporate Council on Africa, H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, President of Niger, Farid Fezoua, GE, Scott Eisner, U.S.-Africa Business Center



From L to R: Rob Shuter, MTN, H.E. Daniel Kablan Duncan, Vice President of Côte d'Ivoire

On Monday, September 23, 2019, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), in partnership with the U.S. Africa Business Center, hosted the U.S.-Africa Leadership Forum on Strengthening the Future of U.S. - Africa Trade and Investment on the margins of the 2019 U.N. General Assembly Meetings in New York, NY.

The Forum kicked off with opening remarks by CCA President and CEO, Florizelle Liser and Myron Brilliant, Executive Vice President and Head of International Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Farid Fezoua, CEO, GE Africa delivered the corporate testimonial, highlighting GE's commitment to the continent and celebrating 120 years of GE doing business in Africa. Mr. Fezoua discussed the importance of innovative PPPs, citing GE's partnership with the Kenyan Ministry of Health, which aimed to provide radiology equipment to 98 hospitals in 47 counties, as a prime example of successful partnership. Mr. Fezoua then introduced Hon. Wilbur Ross, U.S. Secretary of Commerce to deliver the keynote address.

Hon. Wilbur Ross encouraged the private sector to continue to invest in Africa and highlighted the efforts by different USG agencies to grow U.S.-Africa trade and reverse the current decline.

He affirmed that the Department of Commerce is working to ensure that American SMEs are aware of the export, investment and risk mitigation tools to support businesses and promote trade with Africa. David Bohigian, Acting President and CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) similarly highlighted OPIC's vision to mobilize private investment in order to expand U.S.-Africa trade. Through Connect Africa, OPIC will invest \$1 billion over three years to projects supporting telecommunications and internet access, value chains that connect producers of raw materials to end users, and essential infrastructure, such as roads, railways, ports, and airports.

Florizelle Liser and Scott Eisner, President, U.S.-Africa Business Center, moderated a high-level panel discussion featuring H.E. Daniel Kablan Duncan, Vice President of Côte d'Ivoire, Damian Halloran, Vice

President, Infectious Disease, Emerging Markets, Rapid Diagnostics, Abbott Laboratories and Rob Shuter, President and CEO, MTN Group. H.E. Duncan outlined the investment opportunities in Côte d'Ivoire and urged businesses to invest. Mr. Halloran and Mr. Shuter discussed the importance of having a presence on the ground, citing Abbott's headquarters in Nairobi and MTN's presence in 17 countries across the continent. The panelists also emphasized the importance of investing in capacity building and collaborating across industries.

The Forum was concluded with special remarks by H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, President of Niger and Chairman, ECOWAS. President Issoufou lauded the progress made by African Governments towards AfCFTA and a unified African economic community, and affirmed that Niger is eager to work with the American private sector.



Hon. Wilbur Ross, U.S. Secretary of Commerce delivers the keynote address



David Bohigian, Acting President and CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)



## UNGA 2019 - NIGERIAN GOVERNORS ROUNDTABLE AND LUNCH WITH NIGERIAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT MINISTER RICHARD ADEBAYO



Hon. Godwin Obaseki, Governor of Edo State



Jim Ovia, Chairman of Zenith Bank, CCA Board Member



Hon. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Lagos State

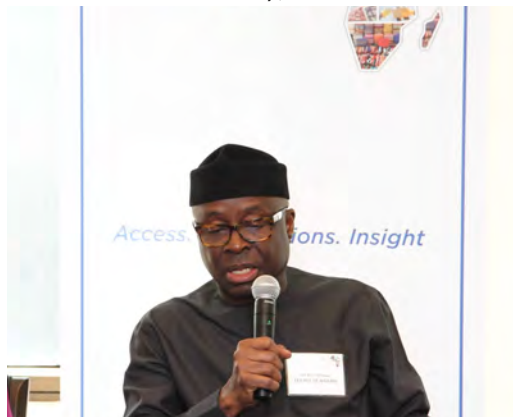
On September 24, 2019, CCA hosted two events on the margins of the UN General Assembly to highlight business opportunities in Nigeria: a Nigerian Governors roundtable and a lunch with Nigerian Trade and Investment Minister Richard Adebayo.

The Nigerian Governors roundtable featured remarks by Godwin Obaseki, Governor of Edo State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Lagos State, John G. Coumantaros, Chairman Flour Mills of Nigeria, and Olugbenga Agboola, CEO of Flutterwave. Jim Ovia, Chairman of Zenith Bank gave welcome remarks and the event was moderated by Gbenga Oyebo, Chairman of Aluko & Oyebo.

Edo State Governor Obaseki portrayed Edo state as a “quality hub” for ICT, energy and other investments. With a focus on health and education, he hoped to strengthen the state’s human capital; with a focus on bolstering institutions through increased digitization, he aimed to ensure an effective public service. The Governor pointed to the need to grow the forest and agriculture sectors and highlighted the potential for more tourism. Lagos Governor Sanwo-Olu stressed the scale of

opportunities and challenges in his large state, which he said by itself would be Africa’s fifth largest economy. His policy and investment priorities: finding solutions to address the major challenges of traffic, waste management, energy deficiencies, and large inflows of people. Lagos state already has major rail projects underway, is improving payment systems for water supply, is tackling plastic waste and the need for more health insurance options. He hoped for more investment in primary schools and saw great potential for more tech start-ups. Improving the ease of doing business was critical, especially making the judicial system more responsive. Good governance and security were also key. In a lively Q&A session, the governors addressed a range of questions on the tech sector, agriculture, outsourcing, the role of the diaspora, rule of law, and suggestions for improvements in specific sectors like health, education and agriculture. After the roundtable, Nigerian Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment Richard Adeniyi Adebayo spoke at a small luncheon for U.S. businesses. His main message: Nigeria wants to improve the ease of doing business and Nigerian President Buhari is very focused on job creation.

The Minister hoped to revise business-friendly legislation, update Nigeria’s industrial policy, expand incentives for job-creation and strengthen Special Economic Zones. He highlighted efforts to increase processing of agricultural raw materials and to adopt an auto policy that will incentivize the manufacturing of an affordable car. The government has also set up a national action committee, with the private sector, focused on the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). As Africa’s biggest economy, Nigeria needs to ensure that the AfCFTA progresses in a way that safeguards the health of local industry, he said.



Nigerian Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment Richard Adebayo addresses delegates

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## ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING AND HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE WITH THE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN, EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE U.S.



From L to R: Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, Rabin Martin, Chairman Kimberly Reed, EXIM Bank, Florizelle Liser, CCA



A cross section of delegates at the Annual Members Meeting and High-Level Dialogue

On Tuesday, September 18, 2019, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) hosted the Annual Members Meeting and High-Level Dialogue with the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States. The event was sponsored by Dentons LLP and Presley R. Reed Jr. Esq., Partner, Dentons LLP delivered the welcome remarks. Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, CEO of Rabin Martin and CCA Board Chairman welcomed delegates to the meeting and commended CCA for successfully hosting the U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Maputo earlier in the year.

CCA President and CEO, Florizelle Liser underlined the organization's continued commitment to advancing U.S.-Africa business and investment and highlighted key outcomes from programs and services offered by CCA over the course of the year. "When I joined CCA in 2017, I made a commitment to do more on the ground in

Africa. I am pleased to say we have kept this commitment and continue to engage actively and provide opportunities for our members both here in the U.S. and in African countries."

Kimberly Reed, President and Chairman of EXIM was introduced by Florizelle Liser, CCA's President and CEO, who serves on EXIM's Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee. Ms. Reed discussed the appointment of the 11 members of its 2019 Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee. Members of the Sub-Saharan Advisory Committee, as required by Congress, advise the EXIM Board of Directors "on the development and implementation of policies and programs" designed to promote EXIM's engagement in Sub-Saharan Africa. The committee met in September for the first time since 2015 to discuss priority topics, including the congressional mandate for EXIM to serve Sub-Saharan Africa, a priority region for the agency.

Chairman Reed delivered the keynote remarks and discussed EXIM's priorities for Africa following the agency's recent resumption of full financing and loan guarantees for U.S. exports. As of July 31st, EXIM had \$51 million in authorizations in Sub-Saharan Africa in the form of export credit insurance and working capital loan guarantees.

Chairman Reed underscored EXIM's commitment to Sub-Saharan Africa and noted that shortly after she was sworn in earlier this year, she led the U.S. Presidential Delegation representing President Donald J. Trump and his administration at the inauguration of His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa and met with businesses to discuss EXIM's vision and work in Sub-Saharan Africa.

## A ROUNDTABLE WITH AFRICAN UNION COMMISSIONER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, HON. ALBERT MUCHANGA



A cross section of delegates at the roundtable with African Union Commissioner for Trade and Industry, Hon. Albert Muchanga

On October 4, 2019, CCA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's U.S.-Africa Business Center co-hosted a small roundtable with visiting African Union Commissioner for Trade and Industry Albert Muchanga.

Commissioner Muchanga leads African Union (AU) preparations for the African Continental Free Trade Arrangement (AfCFTA) and he briefed the group on its status. CCA President Florie Liser, Chamber Senior Vice President, John Murphy and Assistant USTR for Africa Constance Hamilton also gave remarks.

Commissioner Muchanga painted an optimistic and ambitious vision for the AfCFTA. He hoped Eritrea would soon sign on, bringing all 55 African states into the agreement. While the AfCFTA was officially launched on July 7, 2019, trade under this new arrangement is scheduled to start on July 1, 2020.

The AU is working on initiatives to: clarify rules of origin, offer a schedule of tariff concessions (covering 90 percent of all goods by 2025), make specific commitments in trade in services, provide online monitoring of non-tariff barriers, establish an African Trade Observatory, and develop a payment settlement system for intra-African trade.

In addition, the AU hopes to finalize an aviation agreement that creates a single African aviation market and to agree to a protocol on the free movement of people, Hon. Muchanga said. A protocol on investment is under negotiation, as are arrangements on competition policy and intellectual property rights protection. Hon. Muchanga noted the need to align trade regimes at the continental, regional and national levels.

The Commissioner saw good investment prospects for U.S. companies in Africa, in: infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture, education, tourism, creative industries, trade services. He hoped to generate business interest through an AfCFTA Business Forum in July, 2020 as well as through the work of a Business Council expected to be in place in 2020 as an umbrella organization for the African private sector.

He also hoped to organize a number of AU-led trade missions to the United States and to expand outreach to American diaspora groups. He believed strongly that any third-party free trade agreements in Africa need to align with the AfCFTA.



## WASHINGTON DC OUTREACH EVENT FOR THE GREAT LAKES INVESTMENT AND TRADE CONFERENCE (GLITC)



H.E. Mr. Huang Xia, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region



H.E. Mr. Zachary Muburi-Muita, Executive Secretary of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region

On Monday, September 30th, 2019, The Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region in partnership with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, hosted the Washington DC Outreach Event for the Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference (GLITC) at Winston and Strawn LLP. This event was sponsored by the Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the Initiative for Global Development (IGD).

In preparation for the second Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference in March 2020 in Rwanda, this event outlined investment opportunities in the region and discussed the importance of trans-border investment and trade to promote regional integration.

Remarks also recognized the various resources in the Great Lake Region and the need to ensure they are used sustainably. Huang Xia, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region (GLR) spoke on the Great Lakes Region's promising future for investment, emphasizing the need for a change in the perception of the economic potential of the GLR. He reiterated the United Nation's work in the region with the signing of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework in 2013 and he further outlined the importance of the GLITC as being the platform to showcase the favorable investment climate in the region. He referred to the GLR as the last frontier for investment and stated the region's numerous solid assets including but not limited to the region's: rapid growth economy, abundant labor, rapid urbanization, growing purchasing power, large construction sector market, and belonging to the AfCFTA.

Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita, Executive Secretary of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region, spoke on the negative effects of underdevelopment and the importance of foreign direct investment. In his remarks, he expressed how underdevelopment disrupts peace and security while adding stress on the youth of African countries.

He further acknowledged the importance of the role that the U.S. private sector plays in sparking economic growth. African governments must be engaged to promote friendly business environments and must sustainably engage with the resources in the GLR. He ended his remarks by expressing the need for more American representation in discussions of investment in the region.





Hon. Muchanga and Hon. Arikana Chihombori-Quao at the Africa Investment Meeting in Washington DC



Scott Ticknor, Special Adviser to the President, CCA, delivers remarks at the Africa Investment Meeting 2019



A cross section of delegates at the High Level Roundtable with Honorable Abbas Mahamat Tolli, Governor, Central Bank of Central African States (BEAC) on the margins of the 2019 Fall World Bank and International Monetary Fund meetings.



Afreximbank Discusses Collaboration with Corporate Council on Africa. Afreximbank President Prof. Benedict Oramah (2nd right) and Florizelle Liser, President, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) (3rd Right), with (L-R) Melanie Lawrence, Guarantees and Specialised Finance Unit, Afreximbank; Rene Awambeng, Director, Client Relations, Afreximbank; Akaego Okoye, Director, Member Relations, CCA; and Adaeze Anyaoku, Communications and Events Department, Afreximbank





Florie Liser, CCA President and CEO, delivered remarks at the Empower Africa 'Driving Business in Africa Breakfast' on the sidelines of UNGA 2019



Florie Liser, CCA President and CEO, delivered remarks at the Liberia Business and Investment Forum on the sidelines of UNGA 2019



In Houston, Texas, Florie Liser, CCA President and CEO, delivered remarks at the 'Discover Global Markets: Powering and Building the Middle East & Africa'



Florie Liser, CCA President and CEO at the Future Africa Forum hosted at the Africa Center in New York, NY on the sidelines of UNGA

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Gbenga Oyebo, Chairman of Aluko & Oyebo, moderates the panel at the Nigerian Governors Roundtable



From L to R: John G. Coumantaros, Chairman, Flour Mills of Nigeria, and Olugbenga Agboola, CEO of Flutterwave at the Nigerian Governors Roundtable



On October 4, CCA co-hosted a roundtable with visiting African Union Trade and Industry Commissioner Albert Muchanga. Commissioner Muchanga painted an optimistic and ambitious vision of the AfCFTA and A/USTR Constance Hamilton provided insights into the U.S. government's approach on U.S.-Africa trade. The Commissioner saw good investment prospects for U.S. companies in Africa in infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture, education, tourism, creative industries, and trade in services.

**USG Support for U.S.-Africa Business:** The U.S. government continues to roll out new tools to strengthen U.S.-Africa private sector engagement, with CCA as a key partner.

**EXIM:** On September 18, CCA hosted a High-Level Dialogue with U.S. Export-Import Bank Chairman and President Kimberley Reed, as part of our annual members meeting. Chairman Reed, only four months into her job, highlighted EXIM's activities in Africa and introduced her Africa team.

**DFC:** The expected October 1 creation of the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has been postponed. Once created, the DFC will combine the capabilities of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and USAID's Development Credit Authority to provide foreign aid through the financing of development projects. CCA has been working with OPIC to support the DFC's early engagement related to Africa.

**USTDA:** CCA continues to collaborate with the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) on "Access Africa". We plan to hold our inaugural ICT working group meeting with USTDA and others in mid-November.

**Prosper Africa:** CCA continues to highlight the Prosper Africa initiative. I participated in the Department of Commerce's "Discover Global Markets" conference in Houston, the Make Africa Trade Easy(MATE) fair, and the CEO Kikao Forum

in Pretoria, highlighting in all of my remarks the opportunities in Prosper Africa. I also had a good opportunity to discuss Prosper while participating in Advisory Council meetings for the MCC and EXIM Bank, and in meetings with senior officials in Washington.

#### **Improving Business Climates in Africa:**

CCA continued to advocate for improving business climates throughout Africa. I underscored the opportunities but also the need to overcome challenges in the business climate in remarks about Africa's textile sector during Africa Braintrust. I delivered a similar message in a meeting for CCA members with Guinean President Conde in Washington and during an event focused on Liberia during UNGA. Three other events hit on this theme:

**Great Lakes:** On September 30, CCA co-hosted an event in Washington featuring Huang Xia, Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region. He encouraged U.S. companies to attend the second Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference in March 2020 in Rwanda. Xia spoke about the great potential for investment in the Great Lakes region of Africa, while acknowledging that African governments need to promote friendly business environments and manage their resources sustainably.

**Nigeria:** During UNGA, CCA hosted a roundtable on business opportunities and challenges with the Governors of Nigeria's Edo and Lagos states. During a luncheon with Nigerian Trade and Investment Minister Richard Adebayo, he stressed that Nigeria wants to attract more foreign investment and is focused on improving its business climate.

**Health:** During UNGA, CCA hosted a Business Luncheon and Roundtable on "Linking Health and Economic Growth in Africa." The event featured nine African health ministers and the Deputy Administrator of USAID, who shared

with more than 100 people the importance of health promotion to economic growth in Africa. They stressed the role of the private sector in tackling Africa's health challenges. We used the event to highlight CCA's active health agenda and working group, aimed at improving the business climate for investment and trade in this critical sector.

**Central African Bank:** CCA co-hosted an event for the visiting Governor of the Central African Bank (BEAC). The Governor had a frank exchange with U.S. companies about the implementation of proposed BEAC foreign exchange regulations that could negatively impact U.S. companies and the region's business environment.

**Closing Reflections:** I have been thinking and talking a lot about managing uncertainty. The U.S.-China trade war, Brexit, slower growth in China and India, the impact of social media and digital technologies – these are among the factors that are influencing business perceptions and decisions about managing risk globally. These are being felt in Africa as well, where the AfCFTA adds a new element of uncertainty as well as opportunity.

Thriving in a period of greater uncertainty shines a light on the importance of good partnerships. It makes all the more important the kind of work CCA does so well – building networks, insights, and mutual understanding to advance business opportunities in the United States and Africa.

We are excited about what lies ahead. Just this week we announced that the U.S.-Africa Business Summit will be in Morocco in June. We are hosting a High-Level Dialogue with former South African Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas in November and I will travel to Johannesburg to attend the Africa Investment Forum. I hope to see you in Washington or South Africa – as we close out a very successful year.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER 2019

High Level Roundtable with Mcebisi Jonas, South African President's Investment Ambassador  
13 | Washington, DC

State Department Reception related to U.S.-AU High-Level Dialogue  
14 | Washington, DC

Nigerian Governors' Roundtable  
17 | Washington, DC

ICT Working Group Meeting  
TBD | Washington, DC

## FEBRUARY 2020

U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment Forum, Addis  
11-12 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## JUNE 2020

U.S.-Africa Business Summit  
TBD | Marrakech, Morocco

## WORKING GROUPS

CCA will host working group meetings on the continent and in the U.S. on key issues in the following sectors: Agribusiness, Capacity Building, Energy, Finance, Health, ICT, Infrastructure, Security, Tourism and Trade.



**For more information, please visit** [www.corporatecouncilonafrica.com](http://www.corporatecouncilonafrica.com)

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