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Excellence in Building
U.S.-Africa Business



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

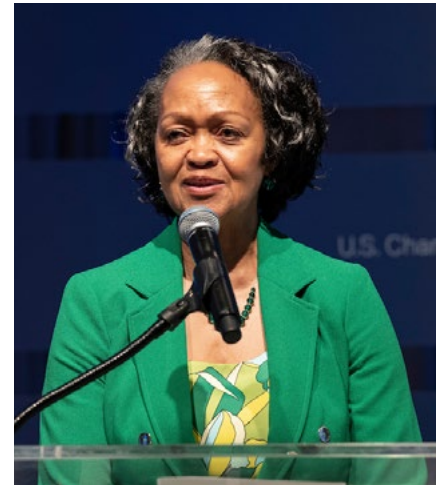
The last few months have presented significant and exciting opportunities for Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) to focus on key issues on behalf of and in collaboration with many of CCA's member companies. We have drawn on the energy created by the December 2022 U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit and Business Forum, as we plan for CCA's 2023 U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Gaborone, Botswana July 11-14 – more on the Summit later in this message.

The issue of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the U.S.-Africa trade and investment relationship has been high on CCA's agenda, and we are pleased to be working closely with the DC-based African diplomatic corps, Members of Congress and their staff, and private sector stakeholders in developing recommendations on AGOA renewal and enhancement. Our informal AGOA Renewal and Enhancement Alliance (AREA) believes in sum that:

- an early i.e., (2023) and long term (i.e., 10 year) renewal of AGOA is critical,
- early AGOA renewal will advance U.S. strategic and policy goals in Africa, and
- there are a small number of targeted enhancements to AGOA that should be made if they do not delay early renewal.

CCA was pleased to host an important meeting of AREA in March, which formalized a strategy and paper on AGOA renewal and enhancement ([click here](#) to read our one-page summary). While in South Africa in April, I had the privilege of discussing AGOA and the U.S. economic relationship with South Africa and other African nations with the U.S. Ambassador to South Africa, Dr. Reuben Brigety, members of the U.S. government's Johannesburg-based Prosper Africa interagency team, as well as with the South African Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, other South African officials, and with CCA member companies doing business in South Africa. CCA will continue to engage with U.S. and African government and private sector stakeholders on the possibilities and options for increasing U.S.-Africa trade, including under AGOA and other initiatives.

CCA welcomed the positive reports on the April U.S.-Kenya Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership (STIP) talks that took place in Nairobi as well as the U.S.-Kenya Bilateral Strategic Dialogue that was held in Washington, DC, and was delighted to co-host with the Chamber's U.S.-Africa Business Center a reception featuring U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Meg Whitman, Kenyan Ambassador to the



Our highest priority in the next two months is to ensure that our flagship U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Gaborone is a rousing success.

U.S. Lazarus Amayo, other senior U.S. and Kenyan government officials, and many CCA members. CCA shares the view of many of our members who see Kenya as a country that can set the precedent for a more comprehensive U.S. economic relationship with African nations – one that builds on AGOA, but also goes beyond AGOA by agreeing to principles on key issues such as non-tariff barriers, services, SMEs, women and youth entrepreneurship, governance/anti-corruption, and digital trade.

One of the biggest honors in recent months was my invitation to participate on behalf of CCA in a private sector meeting with U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris in Lusaka, Zambia on digital inclusion in Africa. Let me first say that I view the Vice President's trip to Ghana, Tanzania, and Zambia as historic, significantly advancing the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to the U.S. relationship with Africa following up on the December 2022 U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit and Business Forum. In the April 1st meeting of VP Harris with the private sector and philanthropic leaders on digital inclusion in Africa, she touched on a range of issues, but specifically underscored the importance of the launch of the Digital Transformation with Africa Initiative (DTA) at the December U.S.-Africa Business Forum. CCA welcomes the "call to action" to the private sector and others that VP Harris issued at the meeting to achieve the goals of DTA by making direct investments and commitments in areas like mobile banking; financing and insurance, especially for women and youth; digitizing small businesses; providing training and skills to promote digital literacy; and increasing the use and development of web-based apps.

Related to this, I was delighted to learn while participating in the AfCFTA Business Forum in Capetown, South Africa that the U.S. government and private sector efforts in this space come at an opportune time when the AfCFTA is working to finalize by this June its Protocol on Digital Trade. Once accepted, this protocol should spur implementation of legal and regulatory reforms across AfCFTA member states

that will lay the framework for an optimal business environment for digital trade with minimal trade barriers and harmonized regulations within or between countries on the continent. CCA is expectantly looking forward to an AfCFTA digital trade protocol that we hope will constructively address key issues raised by our members such as cross-border data flows and data localization, and consistent legal and regulatory environments to reduce uncertainty and enhance predictability in this crucial area that undergirds every modern global economy.

As CCA celebrates our 30th anniversary as the leading business association focused solely on U.S.-Africa trade, investment, and commercial engagement, we continue to highlight critical cross-cutting issues (such as digital trade), to advance health and other sector-focused initiatives, and organize a range of events that build on CCA's brand in providing the "access, connections, and insight" needed to successfully do business in Africa.

On April 11th, CCA hosted a forum highlighting PEPFAR's 20th anniversary, entitled "*Are We at a Tipping Point for Health Products Manufacturing in Africa?: Exploring the Implications of PEPFAR's Regional Production Goal.*" The keynote remarks of Ambassador Dr. John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and State Department Special Representative for Global Health Diplomacy, as well as those of a panel of experts from U.S. and African pharmaceutical companies touched on the policies, financing and regulatory measures needed to support the bold goals of the PEPFAR five-year strategy to procure 15 million HIV tests from African manufacturers by 2025, and procure first-line antiretrovirals for at least 2 million clients from African manufacturers by 2030. CCA looks forward to continuing our work to support public-private collaboration to strengthen Africa's health sector as part of our U.S.-Africa Health Security and Resilience Initiative (HSRI) – now in its second phase.

On April 12th, on the sidelines of the spring World Bank/IMF meetings, CCA held an Africa Finance Forum on *"Investing in African Development Finance Institutions: Sustaining Growth on the Continent"*. Experts from U.S. and African companies and financial institutions noted that African development finance institutions (DFIs) have continued to evolve, from their creation in the mid-60s with an initial authorized capital base of US \$250 million to a development finance sector that has over \$US 200 billion as of 2022. The major takeaway of the forum was that African DFIs have stepped in to address sustainable development in Africa by financing the transition to net zero economies, intra-African trade, manufacturing, infrastructure, and food security. The focus should now be on how African DFIs can better partner with or increase investments from U.S. based financial institution such as institutional investors, sovereign wealth funds, commercial banks, insurance companies, non-Africa DFIs, and corporate partners. CCA looks forward to continuing to shine the spotlight on this important issue.

The spring World Bank/IMF meetings week was also a perfect backdrop and opportunity for CCA to organize, in collaboration with the Ethiopia Marketing and Promotion organization (Wafa), a U.S.-Ethiopia Business and Investment Forum on April 12th that featured the Ethiopian Minister of Finance, Commissioner of the Ethiopian Investment Commission, senior U.S. corporate executives, and a large Ethiopian business delegation. Recognizing Ethiopia's economic and political progress and the growing American business interest in Ethiopia, the Forum highlighted the significant political and economic reforms implemented by the Ethiopian government, including the liberalization of key sectors and privatization of Ethiopia's state-owned enterprises, as well as opportunities for U.S. investment.

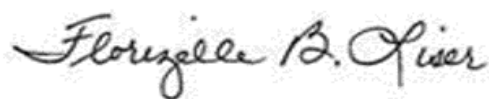
April was topped off with hosting CCA's Annual Members Luncheon Meeting – the first in-person meeting since the COVID pandemic – and we were so pleased to have 80 people representing

more than 45 of CCA's member companies participate. The Annual Members meeting provided the opportunity to recap CCA's 2022 accomplishments, as well as those to date and planned for 2023. Among upcoming events, CCA provided an overview of plans for and solicited feedback on the 15th U.S.-Africa Business Summit to be held July 11-14 in Gaborone, Botswana (www.usafricabizsummit.com). We were honored to host special guests from the African diplomatic corps, senior U.S. Government officials, and to have CCA's Chairman of the Board Jeff Sturchio and Vice Chair John Olajide provide high level remarks.

Our highest priority in the next two months is to ensure that our flagship U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Gaborone is a rousing success. I hope that you have all seen our teaser "Save the Date" video ([click here](#)) and have already penned this in on your busy calendars. The Summit will be a unique opportunity to build on the successful U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit and Business Forum of last December, and to bring together African Heads of State and Ministers, a high-level USG delegation from multiple agencies, and CEOs and business executives of U.S. and African companies. I invite all of you to join us at the Summit and urge those of you who are coming to [register now](#) to take advantage of the "early bird" registration rates as well as the discounted hotel rates and airfares with Summit partners. Please visit the Summit website to learn more about our program, venue and opportunities to sponsor the Summit ([click here](#)).

We look forward to seeing you in Botswana and to our continued partnership with you in advancing Africa trade, investment, and business.

Sincerely,



Florizelle Liser
President & CEO
Corporate Council on Africa



FLORIE LISER AND CCA MEMBERS JOIN VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS IN AFRICA

At the invitation of Vice President Kamala Harris, Corporate Council on Africa President & CEO Florizelle “Florie” Liser participated in business-focused meetings and roundtable discussions in Lusaka, Zambia on April 1. “With its thirty-year track record of excellence promoting U.S. - Africa business relationships, CCA is committed to supporting its member companies and affiliates to capitalize on the Biden-Harris Administration’s reinvigorated focus on mutually beneficial private sector-led trade and investment between America and Africa,” said Liser.

As co-organizer of the Biden-Harris Administration’s U.S.-Africa Business Forum on December 14, 2022, CCA had worked closely with the Administration to provide CCA member companies opportunities to participate in the launch by Vice President Harris during her Africa trip of a major new initiative to promote the economic empowerment of women across many sectors. The equitable inclusion of women-owned businesses in the digital economy is a particular focus for CCA.

“CCA’s member companies - both American and African companies - are vigorously advancing

private sector-led economic growth to benefit the people of the United States, and the people of the countries of Africa,” said Liser, “and having engagement with - and the strong support of - the United States and African governments is critical to success.”

Founded in 1993, CCA’s track record of success promoting U.S. - Africa business-to-business and business-to-government relationships is showcased in CCA’s signature event, the U.S.-Africa Business Summit. In partnership with the Government of Botswana, the 15th iteration of the Summit will be held July 11-14, 2023 in Gaborone, Botswana. More details can be found at www.usafricabizsummit.com.



AGOA RENEWAL & ENHANCEMENT ALLIANCE (AREA) MEETING

On March 22, 2023, CCA hosted another meeting of the AGOA Renewal and Enhancement Alliance (AREA), bringing together leadership of the African Diplomatic Corps in Washington with key trade associations to discuss the importance of renewing AGOA early (in 2023) for as long as possible (not less than ten years). CCA will continue to work closely with supporters to highlight the importance of renewing AGOA as a means of supporting the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and the creation of regional value chains in Africa. Interested companies are welcome to contact CCA about getting involved.

Email: cca@corporatecouncilonafrika.com.



CCA'S U.S.-AFRICA HEALTH SECURITY & RESILIENCE INITIATIVE:

ARE WE AT A TIPPING POINT FOR HEALTH PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING IN AFRICA?

On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, Corporate Council on Africa's (CCA) U.S. – Africa Health Security and Resilience Initiative (HSRI) held a webinar titled “Are We at a Tipping Point for Health Products Manufacturing in Africa?” The event featured keynote speaker Ambassador Dr. John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Special Representative for Global Health Diplomacy at the Department of State, who began by recognizing the 20-year anniversary of PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) and focused his reflection on manufacturing. He mentioned that when COVID-19 hit, scarcity led to more inequities and emphasized the need for regional manufacturing in the interest of collective security, which has two elements: the supply side and the demand side.

The challenges on the supply side include regulatory impediments, working capital, and human capacity, while inefficiencies in procurement and policies present challenges on the demand side. Dr. Nkengasong stressed the importance of unpacking the complexities of decentralizing manufacturing and factoring in the demand and supply side.

He also provided three recommendations for PEPFAR, including investing in decentralized manufacturing of HIV products to protect the

gains made over the years. He expressed his disappointment that no country in Africa produces a simple HIV rapid test and shared that PEPFAR is working with regional financial facilities such as the African Development Bank to support countries and laboratories interested in producing commodities in their region.

Following Dr. Nkengasong’s message, Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Corporate Council on Africa, moderated a panel discussion featuring Ms. Uzoma Ezeoke, Executive Director of Emzor Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.; Dr. Perrerr Tosso, Director, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Supply Programs at the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP); and Mr. Erik Takang, Senior Advisor, Health Commodities and Supply Chain at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator & Health Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State.

Dr. Tosso painted a picture of the current landscape of pharmaceutical diagnostics and vaccine manufacturing in Africa and mentioned the key enabling factors that need to be in place for the regional manufacturing ecosystem to flourish. Ms. Ezeoke focused on quality and infrastructure, discussing the successes of Emzor and what is still needed to



Dr. John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Special Representative for Global Health Diplomacy at the Department of State



Dr. Perrerr Tosso, Director, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing & Supply Programs, U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP)

Are We at a Tipping Point for Health Products Manufacturing in Africa Continued:



bring competence and savings to local manufacturers. Mr. Takang provided more detail on PEP-FAR's strategies for working with regulatory agencies and development finance institutions on the continent to reach their targets. The webinar wrapped up with a discussion on the huge opportunities for investments in the manufacturing area that would provide significant help to the region. Panelists discussed the areas in which investment would be beneficial along with the long-term effects.

Once again, CCA would like to express our gratitude to U.S. Pharmacopeia for their sponsorship and support of this webinar and the U.S.-Africa Health Security and Resilience Initiative (HSRI).



Uzoma Ekeke, Executive Director,
Emzor Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.



Erik Takang, Senior Advisor, Health Commodities and Supply Chain,
Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator & Health Diplomacy,
Department of State

INVESTING IN AFRICAN DFIs: SUSTAINING GROWTH ON THE CONTINENT

On April 12, 2023, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) hosted its Africa Finance Forum titled “Investing in African DFIs: Sustaining Growth on the Continent,” at Winston and Strawn in Washington, D.C. The event aimed to focus on key financial institutions and members involved in the African financial investment sector.

The event began with welcome remarks from the President and CEO of Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), Florie Liser, who stressed the importance of collaboration between potential investors and African DFIs. The event then moved on to a roundtable discussion moderated by Jeremy Schwer from Winston and Strawn, LLP.

During the discussion, the panelists discussed the current investment focus for DFIs in Africa, the industries that are the most attractive for investment, and how to balance an industry and an investment focus against governmental priorities. DFIs were encouraged to bring the government into transactions to really understand a lot of the policies and regulatory issues with infrastructure to make a difference.

The panelists also acknowledged that DFIs have evolved and now have different approaches to



different investment groups while looking at track records and levels of success. They highlighted the importance of focusing on women-led funds as they are part of the markets that have been ignored. The reason why women are limited is that they do the effort of creating a large company and help the local economy by creating local jobs, but they are limited when they try to transfer into the industrialization of it. Therefore, there is a need to change the way women are viewed and address social class barriers that limit their potential.

The panelists also reached a mutual agreement that investments are crucial in continuing to grow the continent. They noted that Chinese investment has significantly improved total factor productivity, and American and European investments differ from Chinese investment in approach and priorities.

The event ended with a networking reception where attendees had the opportunity to further discuss the topics covered during the roundtable discussion. The Africa Finance Forum provided valuable insights into the investment landscape in Africa and the importance of collaboration between investors and African DFIs.



U.S.-ETHIOPIA BUSINESS & INVESTMENT FORUM

On Wednesday, April 12, 2023, Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), in partnership with WAFA Marketing and Promotion, hosted the “U.S. Ethiopia Business and Investment Forum” on the sideline of the 2023 World Bank and IMF spring meetings. Attended by Ethiopian policy makers and a diverse group of businesses from the U.S. and Ethiopia, the forum allowed participants to hear about the current opportunities for doing business in Ethiopia and network with key stakeholders. In addition, Ethiopian government officials provided updates on the Ethiopian economic reform policy, including the liberalization of state-owned enterprises.

Florizelle Liser, President & CEO of Corporate Council on Africa, provided welcome remarks and thanked the Ethiopian delegation, including H.E. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, Seleshi Bekele, Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States, Lelise Neme, Commissioner of the Ethiopian Investment Commission and Ambassador Ababai Demissie, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Liser highlighted CCA’s recognition of Ethiopia’s economic reform and the number of programs CCA has hosted to the growing American business interest in Ethiopia.

Ambassador Bekele also provided welcoming remarks thanking CCA and WAFA for hosting the event and congratulating CCA on its 30th anniversary celebration. Furthermore, Ambassador Seleshi highlighted Ethiopia’s commitment to the

reforms, such as signing the peace treaty to promote peace and stability in the country.

In his opening remarks, Minister Shide expressed his sincere thanks to the Corporate Council on Africa, especially Ms. Liser, for hosting the U.S. Ethiopia Business and Investment Forum and for her continued leadership and support to promote U.S.-Ethiopia trade and investment. Minister Shide highlighted that the Ethiopian economy is projected to grow 7.5% this year. As the largest economy in East Africa and the third largest in Sub-Saharan Africa, Ethiopia has attracted significant foreign direct investments (FDI). This growth is due to the reform measures implemented and infrastructure investments in roads, railways, cargo facilities, airports, and renewable energy. Furthermore, the minister shared the various economic reforms the government of Ethiopia is implemented and liberalization programs aimed at sustaining rapid economic growth, creating job opportunities, and transitioning from public-led to private sector-led development.

In her presentation, Ethiopia Investment Commissioner provided key findings about Ethiopia’s demographic, with 65% of the population being young. Ethiopia ranked as the 5th largest GDP in Africa and the 3rd fastest growing economy. The commissioner touched on economic and investment reforms such as inflation control, debt sustainability, and ease of business constraints through regulatory reforms. Commissioner Mene emphasized Ethiopia’s commitment to gradually



Left to Right: H.E. Ambassador Ababai Demissie, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Lelise Neme, Commissioner, Ethiopian Investment Commission



H.E. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

move from state-owned to privatization and liberalization as it opened the financial sector to foreign investors.

Moderated by Witney Schneidman, the forum began with each panelists stating the case for investing in Ethiopia while highlighted their work in the country and discussing the current opportunities and challenges.

Brenda Mbathi, CEO of General Electric (GE) East Africa, provided GE's long-lasting work in Ethiopia, particularly its partnership with Ethiopian Airlines to increase access to other areas in Africa and abroad and shared GE's collaboration with Ethiopian Electric Power Authority to improve access to power.

Admassu Tadesse, President Emeritus and Group Managing Director of Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank (TD Bank), shared TD Bank's experience working in the aviation and banking sector. Mr. Tadesse also discussed TD Bank's involvement in Ethiopia's manufacturing, real estate, tourism, and mining industries. In addition, he emphasized the importance of its strategic partners, such as the African Development Bank, on its various projects on the continent.

Andrew Torre, Regional President for Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa from VISA, contributed to the conversation by shedding light on VISA's work in Ethiopia. Mr. Torre noted that the

country's young and large population is a tremendous advantage for digital technology. Currently, only 38% of Ethiopians have access to financial services. VISA is looking to support fintech companies to expand in Ethiopia through its "VISA Everywhere" initiative launched in 2021, that invites fintech companies to share their solution to payment challenges in underrepresented communities. Additionally, Mr. Torre addressed the lack of support for women entrepreneurs, and VISA's "She's Next" Grant program funds women with their business ventures across the African continent.

Dawit Hailu, Managing Director of Wudassie Diagnostic Center, shared that there are gaps in healthcare demands and needs. 85% of pharmaceutical needs are imported from abroad. The biggest challenge to produce domestically is importing raw materials and creating awareness of the priority of healthcare, proper human resources, and medical training.

Ambassador Ababai Demissie concluded the panel by addressing the government's commitment to incorporate the framework for the digital economy with an aim for 2025, as the payment and digital system are crucial on their reformation agenda. The Ethiopian government has opened the financial sector to foreign investors to address the digital payment problem. In addition, its embassies interact with the private sector and leverage the Ethiopian diaspora and its allies to attract foreign investors further.



Left to Right: Dawit Hailu, Managing Director, Wudassie Diagnostic Center; Brenda Mbathi, CEO, GE East Africa; Admassu Tadesse, President Emeritus and Group Managing Director, Trade and Development Bank; Andrew Torre, Regional President for Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa, VISA; H.E. Ambassador Ababai Demissie, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

ANNUAL CCA MEMBERS MEETING & LUNCHEON

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, Corporate Council on Africa hosted its annual Corporate Council on Africa's (CCA) Members Meeting and Luncheon in Washington, D.C. CCA's Board of Directors, member companies, and African Diplomatic Corps convened to recognize the organization's achievements and receive updates on the organization's forthcoming plans for 2023, which include the U.S.- Africa Business Summit held in Gaborone, Botswana in July.

Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, Corporate Council on Africa's Chairman provided reflections on CCA's strong tradition of building U.S.-Africa business relationships since its founding 30 years ago with the help of a USAID grant. Dr. Sturchio emphasized on the role the U.S.-Africa Business Summit has played in helping American and African companies plan growth and development strategies. Additionally, CCA has had a strong engagement with U.S. government officials and the African Diplomatic Corps. Dr. Sturchio concluded by discussing the investment climate on the continent. The economic growth had been robust before the pandemic but more recently, the economic growth slowed to 3.6% in 2022 and is likely to slow further to 3.1% in 2023 due to the "sluggishness of the global economy", high inflation

rates and high levels of debt among African countries. Looking at the bright side, the World Bank predicts an economic expansion in 2024 and 2025. The continent's abundance of natural resources and good governance will continue to attract investors.

Likewise, Florizelle Liser, President and CEO of the Corporate Council on Africa discussed the organization's mission and some of the achievements from 2022. CCA is solely focused on Africa and represents a broad range of American and African businesses in a number of sectors namely health, infrastructure, ICT, agribusiness. Since 1998, CCA has participated in 34 mission trips in 23 African countries and continuously hosts flagship conferences including the U.S.-Africa Business Summit, sideline events during World Bank/IMF Meetings, UN General Assembly, African Union, and is dedicated to arranging additional special meetings for its members. Ms. Liser also touched on the launch of CCA's Health Security and Resilience Initiative (HSRI) second phase. Over the past year, HSRI has explored how the private sector can help African governments advance their healthcare systems particularly the public health supply chain to improve availability of diagnostics



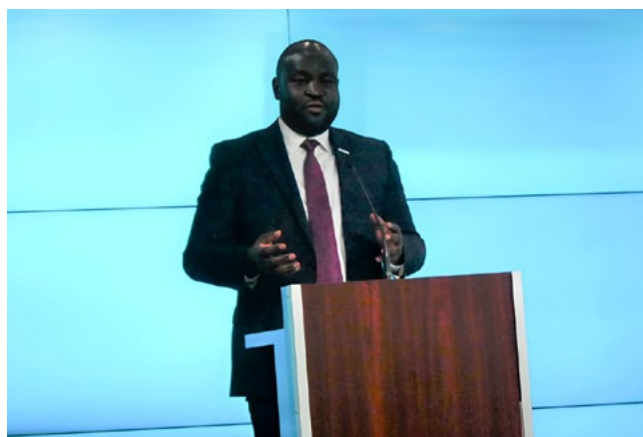


and vaccines. The HSRI's Phase II will focus on regulatory convergence, patient access to medical quality and care, strengthening African health systems and local manufacturing. Furthermore, Ms. Liser shared the great success from the 14th U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Morocco in July 2022 and the U.S.-Africa Business Forum, an official part of the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit (USALS) in December 2022. CCA also featured 6 African Heads of State and Prime Ministers on the sidelines of USALS who discussed their views on the critical sectors that are of interest for CCA members alongside U.S. and Africa private sector leaders. Finally, Ms. Liser expressed her gratitude for being invited by U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris in a meeting in Zambia focused on digital inclusion and women economic empowerment.

Ambassador Carl Paschall, Senior Advisor to the President of Corporate Council on Africa provided further insights on the 14th U.S.-Africa Business Summit held in Marrakech, Morocco in July 2022. The event saw over 2000 participants, 250 speakers, 1 Head of State, 30 African Ministers and Government Officials and Alice Albright, CEO of Millennium Challenge Corporation was in attendance with the U.S. Delegation. Next, Ambassador Paschall touched on the upcoming U.S.-Africa Business Summit's theme: "Increasing Africa's Value in Global Value Chains." CCA is inviting 38 African Heads of State, over 30 African Ministers and Senior African Government Officials and a U.S. Cabinet Level is expected to

participate and advance U.S. – Africa bilateral relationships. Ambassador Paschall concluded with a few of the key focus areas of the summit which include the positive impact of AfCFTA Implementation on business activities on the continent, agribusiness, digitalization and modernization, mining, illicit trafficking, and energy.

Lastly, John Olajide, Founder and CEO of AXXESS and Vice Chair on the Corporate Council on Africa's Board of Directors delivered concluding remarks. Mr. Olajide showed his appreciation for speaking on a panel with H.E. President Masisi from the Republic of Botswana during the U.S.-Africa Business Summit in Morocco and hosted His Excellency earlier this year in Dallas, Texas. Through these various interactions with the President of Botswana and Corporate Council on Africa, Mr. Olajide shared his admiration of the country and the various opportunities available through CCA engagement on the continent.



John Olajide, Founder and CEO at Axxess



ON THE CONTINENT: **PRIVATE MEETINGS & EVENTS**



Left to Right: Florie Liser, President & CEO, CCA; H.E. Ebrahim Patel, Minister of Trade & Industry, South Africa; Malebo Mabitje-Thompson, Acting Director General of the Department of Trade



Left to Right: Florie Liser, President & CEO, CCA; Fayyaz Rizvi, Senior Vice President for Proctor & Gamble

CCA MEMBERS DINNER IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



Left to Right: Nono Malefane, VISA; Mosa Mkhize, Covington and Burling, LLP; Donnadelliah Maluleke, DIRT TA; Florizelle Liser, CCA; Lesley Reddy, CrossBoundary; Lineshree Moodley, VISA; Khululiwe Mabaso, Abbott; Bongani Dlamini; Abbott

AfCFTA BUSINESS FORUM: “LET’S BUILD AFRICA TOGETHER”

On Monday, April 18, 2023, Florie Liser participated in a fireside chat to kick off the panel “Her AfCFTA: Women Driving Intel-Africa Trade in partnership with the UNDP.” She offered some practical observations based on her experience in promoting trade both on how to promote more participants of women in trade, and on what more can be done to expand trade and investment between U.S. and African companies.

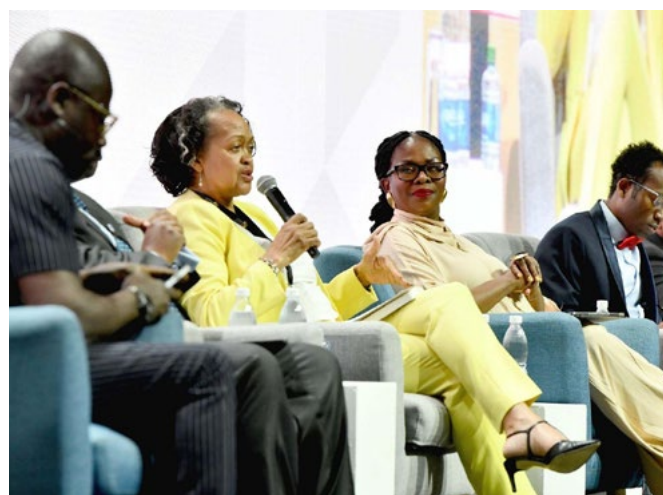


During the second day of the conference, Ms. Liser spoke as a panelist for the “Doing Business in Africa: Investment protection and facilitation under the AfCFTA” session.

This session was structured to offer in-depth analysis, discussions and debate on key issues affecting investment facilitation and protection in the continent, and suggest policy solutions to help overcome and resolve the challenges in order to achieve the objectives of the AfCFTA Agreement and enhance the overall economic development agenda for Africa. It gave an opportunity to hear what investors are looking for and their challenges and opportunities. The session also provided a platform for participants to make recommendations aimed at targeted strategic actions to increase the participation of African investors in the continent and increase intra-African as well as quality and sustainable investment in-flows into the continent.

The session panelist included:

- Sim Tshabalala, CEO, Standard Bank
- Florizelle Liser, CEO, Corporate Council for Africa
- Mouhamed Kebe, Attorney and Managing Partner of GENI & KEBE, member of DLA Piper Africa,
- Michael Punke, Vice President Global Public Policy, Amazon Web Service
- Lerato Mataboge, Deputy Director-General for Export Promotion, Development and Outward Investments, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa
- Agostinho Kapaia, Angolan Businessman



U.S.-KENYA BILATERAL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE RECEPTION

On Monday, April 24, 2023 Corporate Council on Africa, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Department of State hosted a reception to commemorate the third Bilateral Strategic Dialogue between the United States and Kenya. Hosted by the Department of State, the U.S.-Kenya Bilateral Strategic Dialogue was inaugurated in 2018 and is based on five pillars: economic prosperity, economic prosperity, defense cooperation, democracy and civilian security, multilateral and regional issues; and public health.

The U.S.-Kenya Strategic Partnership is grounded in mutual cooperation, respect, and a common vision for sustainable development. The reception hosted a number of U.S. Government officials such as Ambassador Margaret Whitman, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya and Honorable Arun Venkataraman, Assistant Secretary for Global Markets and Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce. Kicking off the reception, Scott Eisner, President, U.S.-Africa Business Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce delivered remarks on the importance of U.S. industry supporting the bilateral strategic partnership between the U.S. and Kenya and acknowledged the special guests, VIPs and sponsoring partners.

Amb. Whitman celebrated the occasion of the Bilateral Strategic Dialogue and communicated the value of the U.S.-Kenya partnership, followed by Assistant Secretary Venkataraman who spoke to the role of the private sector in achieving our shared values and creating economic prosperity.

On behalf of the Kenyan government, Hon. Moses Kuria, Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry, delivered remarks on the strength of the U.S.-Kenya strategic relationship and thanked the U.S. government for their continued support.

Special thanks to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for the photography.



Amb. Margaret Whitman, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya



Hon. Moses Kuria, Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry Kenya



Left to Right: Kendra Gaither, U.S.-Africa Business Center; Scott Eisner, U.S.-Africa Business Center; Amb. Meg Whitman, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya; Amb. Lazarus Amayo, Republic of Kenya Ambassador to the U.S.; Florie Liser, CCA



Left to Right: Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio, Chairman of CCA's Board of Directors; Amb. Meg Whitman, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya, General Kip Ward, Vice Chair of CCA's Board of Directors

CCA'S NEW SENIOR AFRICA HEALTH SPECIALIST

Welcome to the Team



*Kirti
Narsai*

Kirti Narsai has over 26 years' experience in the healthcare industry with experience across pharmaceuticals, medical devices and consumer products. She has held board positions in several large organizations with Pan African interests and has participated in several strategic initiatives in Africa, including the African Regional Business Network (WEF Africa), Health/Medical Devices Master Plan in South Africa, Market Design & Demand Intelligence workstream of the Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) and regulatory harmonization in the SADC region. She currently runs her own consultancy, HealthValue Consulting (Pty) Ltd, which focuses on providing advisory services to the healthcare sector evolving health and trade policy issues in Africa. She also holds a part time position as Principal Researcher at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance leading research on establishment and growth of regional healthcare value chains through focus on local manufacturing capabilities under the AfCFTA. She is currently completing her PhD in Pharmaceutical Policy at the Utrecht University, Netherlands. She has published several research articles and OpEds and is a regular speaker at conferences and webinars on topics related to health policy and trade. During her spare time, she volunteers as a mentor for the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and the Pan African Women in Health (PAWH). Prior to this, she served as Senior Director, Government Affairs & Policy at Johnson & Johnson.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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