

## **E-version**

# **White Paper Report**

THE AFRICA FORUM  
A DIALOGUE ON KEY ISSUES IN AFRICA

**Held Thursday, July 10, 2014  
2:00 4:30 p.m.  
Gallup World Headquarters  
901 F St, NW Washington, DC**

IN ADVANCE OF THE  
August 4-6, 2014  
US-AFRICA  
LEADERS SUMMIT

An event organized by the FEEEDS  
Advocacy Initiative, Gallup, the Africa  
Society of the National Summit on Africa,  
AllAfrica.com, &Operation Hope

In partnership with The Ambassadors to the  
United States from Nigeria, Democratic  
Republic of Congo, Botswana, Senegal  
&Tanzania

## REPORT

***“The Africa Forum,” - An event of the FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative, Gallup Poll, The Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa, AllAfrica.com, and Operation Hope***

***In Partnership with the Embassies and Ambassadors of Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Botswana, and Tanzania***

***July 10, 2014, 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 pm - Gallup Headquarters 901 F St., NW Washington, DC 20004***

**First Pre-Summit Program Ahead of the Historic August 4-6, 2014 US-Africa Leaders’ Summit**

**Executive Summary:** This “Africa Forum” was convened to discuss key issues impacting the Continent of Africa, U.S–Africa policy, and Africa’s rising role in the world. The primary objective was to further foster dialogue and collaboration in advance of the August 4-6, 2014, US-Africa Summit for African Heads of State and Government. Africa today is both an emerging and frontier economic region, and is also gaining positive ground in other areas. The themes, panels, and presentations of the “Africa Forum” were focused on the key areas and presentations of:

- Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Trends;
- “Africa Well Being” Index by Gallup
- Key Development Areas such as Power Africa, Support for SMEs& the Diaspora, and Agriculture;
- Africa’s Current Governance Issues;
- African Youth & Their Financial Literacy by FEEEDS & Operation Hope

The above organizations, and the Embassies and Ambassadors of Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Botswana, and Tanzania worked in partnership on the Davos-style Africa Forum. The event was opened by Managing Director of Gallup World Poll, Jon Clifton, Nigerian Ambassador to the U.S., Adebawale Adefuye, CEO-FEEEDS Ambassador Robin Renee Sanders, with key introductory opening remarks by President of The Africa Society, Bernadette Paolo, Esq., who also served as mistress of ceremonies.

The Forum’s goals addressed key elements that further strengthened the relationship, mutual understanding, and development of the key areas noted above highlighting the desire and need to build stronger U.S.-Africa engagement on priority economic, political and security issues, in addition to those issues that greatly impact our respective citizenries, including Africa’s youth. All partner organization and esteemed panelists at the Africa Forum continue to pay close attention to socio-economic and political positive developments as well as challenges on the African Continent, and what needs to be addressed to build a stronger, more robust US-Africa relationship. As the first of the pre-Summit events, the Forum helped galvanize dialogue and momentum ahead of the historic U.S.-Africa Leaders’ Summit, and also ensured that the wider Africanist community is better informed about the role, purpose, program, and goals of the Summit. This Report can help serve as a practical reference tool regarding the expert panels’ recommendations and their views for developing key ways forward for the U.S.-Africa relationship in the areas addressed above at the July 10 Africa Forum. The organizers hope that the

Report will also help further foster cogent and propitious outcomes for the Summit, and contribute to laying the groundwork for a more expansive blueprint for U.-S.–Africa policy going forward. The Africa Forum experts by panel were: **One**) The Honorable Florie Liser, U.S. Assistant Trade Representative for Africa; Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra, Africa Export-Import Bank; Her Excellency, Ambassador Dr. Tebelelo Mazile Seretse, Botswana Ambassador to the U.S.; **Two**) Mr. Rick Anguoni – Power Africa, U.S. EXIM Bank; Mrs. Ngozi Bell – Tools for SMEs/Diaspora Business Development, Director Mid-Atlantic Region, Small Business Administration (SBA); Her Excellency and Deputy Dean, Ambassador Faida Mitifu, DRC Ambassador to the U.S.; Her Excellency Ambassador Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula, Tanzanian Ambassador to U.S.; **Three**) Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang, Chairman, Department of African Studies, Howard University; Dr. Raymond Gilpin, Academic Dean, Africa Center for Security Studies (ACSS), and His Excellency Cheikh Niang, Senegalese Ambassador to the U.S. [Panel summaries, experts' key points and recommendations follow the executive summary in the body of the report.](#)

Organizing Partners/moderators key comments: Originally [AGOA](#) called for a Summit event in order to strengthen the U.S.-Africa partnership, but for today's Africa Forum I want you to pretend like you are in your living room listening to a private conversation (*Sanders*); The goal of the Forum was for every panel to have an African perspective, as well as an American one, on key issues for the US-Africa Leaders' Summit (*Paolo*). The topic of governance may be the most contentious issue to be discussed during the course of the Summit (*Paolo*); Unless there is stable power, competitive power, Africa's challenges will be hard to overcome (*Cohen*); U.S. Small Businesses should not be afraid to work in Africa, there are opportunities (*Sanders, Cohen*); Frank Discussion among decision makers, private sector, civil society, and media are fundamental to addressing the US-Africa relationship and the Africa Forum will contribute to that important process (*Allafrica.com*); This historical summit is not only a good thing to do, it is in the [best] interest of the United States; everyone will know Africa is in town when the Summit begins (*Ambassador Adefuye*); The Africa Forum's objective is to help foster dialogue and collaboration before the US-Africa Leaders' Summit (*Clifton*).

A special thank you and appreciation goes to Gallup and Allafrica.com for their additional support to the Forum. Attached are the [Forum's Formal Program](#) and [biographies of participants and organizers](#).

### Panel Summaries & Recommendations

**Panel One Topic Africa Trade -The US and African Perspectives:** Participants: The Honorable Florie Liser, U.S. Assistant Trade Representative for Africa; Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra, Africa Export-Import Bank; Her Excellency, Ambassador Dr. Tebelelo Mazile Seretse, Botswana Ambassador to the U.S. Moderator: Ambassador Robin Sanders, CEO FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative.

#### Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra

**Key Points:** Important for Africa to diversify trade and move away from the current "one commodity nation" approach both internally, regionally and for the export market; the "lip service" given to opening markets to African products, needs to be turned into action; we need to foster Africa's entrepreneurship & support regional value chain efforts since if this is done Africa has the capacity to feed the world; if power and Power Africa are successful goals this will be a milestone for Africa.

**Key Recommendations:** Donors need to do more to support and foster entrepreneurship in Africa; there should not be tariff (or non-tariff) barriers in agriculture in Africa; development of infrastructure is critical; countries need to do more on their social responsibilities showing more things that are visible especially for women, women empowerment, and entrepreneurs; addressing power can also help

address transformation of agriculture products. Response to questions: (Marshall Plan) - I have held discussions on this issue with a number of stakeholders and governments and I strongly believe that some type of Marshall-like plan would be important to Africa, particularly as regards to infrastructure and agriculture; With vast areas of unused arable lands and a predominantly young population Africa can feed the world which is generally experiencing an urbanization trend.

**The Honorable Florie Liser:**

**Key Points:** Africa has 6 of 10 fastest growing economies in the world; Africa is not just about aid and development anymore, it's about open markets; there are important benefits in commodity diversification; Africa's products need to be competitive, more production of goods and products which can be sold to other parts of the world; tariffs alone will not make the difference for African-US trade; the U.S. wants to continue to build and expand its trade relationship with Africa; regional integration will feature prominently during Summit; Global competitiveness begins locally; U.S. government position is that Africa needs many partners. We are not in competition with China in Africa.

**Key Recommendations:** Every AGOA eligible country should have a national export strategy; export strategy should include 2-3 of the country's top products; better AGOA utilization since 40 African countries exported only \$4.9billion of non-oil exports to U.S.

**Ambassador Dr. Tebelelo Mazile Seretse, Botswana Ambassador to the U.S.**

**Key Points:** We are quick to teach America that Africa is not a country; it is a continent with 54 different histories; Botswana is an example of what Africa can do, and an exceptional story; the time has come for us to talk about equality of partnership; China showed the US and Europe that there is value in Africa; when you come to Africa, you have access to the entire continent, we were the Dark Continent, but now the Final Frontier with the highest ROI[return on investment]."

**Key Recommendations:** Empowerment of women is the key to moving Africa from point A to B.we need to grow trade intra-regionally; U.S. can help Africa become a major player in the global trading system; Africa needs to work on its capacities: locally first, then globally as it is a platform of regional integration.

**Africa Well Being Index “Thriving Metric” Presentation  
Managing Director of Gallup World Poll, Mr. Jon Clifton**

**Key points:** 10 years ago, Gallup set out to see how Africans were doing, by asking people "how do you see your life and how do you live your life?"; Gallup's "Thriving Metric" measures those who feel they are doing well and will be in 5 years; Gallup measures well-being in 170 countries, including in Africa; Data available via @GallupAnalytics was offered to audience to view for their country/countries of interest; Click link to see Clifton presentation "[Thriving Metric,](#)" on Africa and latest trends. See such examples as: "People in Sierra Leone (SL) believe that their lives are getting better and SL is now number one on “thriving in Africa metric,” and “farm laborers in Africa rate their lives worse than non-farm workers and as bad, or worse, than those who are not working, and more likely to report having negative experiences.”

**Panel Two Topic: The Future of Africa: Key Sectoral Development & Recommendations - Power Africa, SMEs/Diaspora Development, & Agriculture:** Participants: Mr. Rick Anguoni – Power Africa, U.S. EXIM Bank; Mrs. Ngozi Bell – Tools for SMEs/Diaspora Business Development, Director Mid-Atlantic Region, Small Business Administration (SBA); Her Excellency and Deputy Dean, Ambassador Faida Mitifu, DRC

Ambassador to the U.S.; Her Excellency Ambassador Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula, Tanzanian Ambassador to U.S.; Moderator The Honorable Hank Cohen, CEO Cohen and Woods International.

**Ambassador Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula, Tanzanian Ambassador to the U.S.**

**Key Points:** The energy mix of coal, natural gas, solar, and oil can be fully exploited with U.S. support; three key components of power that U.S. can assist with: generation, transmission, & distribution; in Tanzania's case we want to see how gas can be integrated with power so we can do away with hydropower; General Electric and Symbion Power were first to invest in power initiatives in Africa.

**Key Recommendations:** We now need social responsibility from the companies/corporations that are present in Africa. With trillions of cubic feet of gas, the focus should be on the integration of gas into power. Developments must be aimed at increasing quantity and reserves. Efforts should be made to fully engage the private sector which must play a key role.

**Mr. Rick Anguoni, U.S. EXIM Bank**

**Key Points:** Forty-five percent of imports to Africa originate from Europe, compared to only 10% from the U.S.; given the massive infrastructure and investment needs, it is critical to mobilize the U.S. private sector investment and capital as the U.S. government cannot do it alone; Power Africa tries to mobilize private capital to turn potential power into deliverables; More than two-thirds of the population of sub-Saharan Africa is without electricity, and more than 85% of those living in rural areas lack access to electricity, and there is an enormous power deficit; infrastructure and energy are the keys to agricultural transformation.

**Key recommendations/challenge:** Since political and regulatory risks are key factors in attracting private sector participants, it is critical for countries to undertake regulatory and legal reforms to create an enabling environment and build investor confidence. Potential needs to be transferred into opportunity in order to overcome the challenges of sustainable economic growth and reducing poverty. Despite growth in African trade the bulk is unprocessed commodities not value-added goods, and this needs to change. It is with the value-addition that one creates jobs; U.S. equipment can help transform products.

**Mrs. Ngozi Bell – Director Mid-Atlantic Region, Small Business Administration (SBA)**

**Key Points:** Provided go-to tools for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) interested in Africa (for SBA & MBA go-to tools and key fact sheets see [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov); [www.mba.gov](http://www.mba.gov)). SMEs drive all world economies, for example U.S. has 28.2 million SMEs; helping US SMEs interested in Africa will also help spur development on the Continent; Small businesses are not thought of often, but they are the seat of innovation; U.S. government recognized that the Federal government is a huge market and made sure that small businesses had a place there; there is no economy without small businesses; heard many small businesses say that during toughest years, international opportunities kept them going.

**Key Recommendations:** Be vocal! It is important for [SBA/Advocacy Office](#), other capital facilitating institutions ([OPIC](#), [EXIM](#), [ADB](#), [World Bank](#)) to understand what types of capital are required because of the unique needs of international partnerships; cyber security important for international businesses, SMEs/Diaspora need to be part of helping to shape the regulations that will affect them; see "Emerging Leaders Program," by [Minority Business Development Agency \(MBA\)](#), its executive level program on small business quick growth/job creation. There are a participate range of SBA free training programs such as Doing Business With the Federal Government, Doing Business with Africa, and, Export Programs for Minority-Owned Business in Agribusiness in Africa. SMEs doing in Africa must form partnerships,

joint engagements to create economies of scale, showcase best practices, and identify key barriers adversely affecting SMEs/Diaspora.

**Ambassador Faida Mitifu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Ambassador to the U.S.**

**Key points:** DRC has potential to be the breadbasket of Africa; Important for U.S. companies to invest in DRC; Congo's agricultural potential is an economic driver for the country, DRC government has/is planning the following initiatives: to create agricultural industrial parks, provide young people with financial resources to pursue an agricultural venture; to invest \$100m in each designated agricultural hub. Agriculture is important as it is a renewable resource, and is a renewable wealth.

**Key Recommendations:** African countries need to work together to build trade and provide jobs for young people; support agricultural research, extension and education as they make the engine of growth in the sector; U.S. government to assist the DRC in developing Congolese army corps of engineers on infrastructure; encourage public-private partnership grants to developing small scale energy/micro-central electrical grids linked to rural area agricultural zones; develop favorable interest rate microfinance programs for rural small scale farmers as their credit access is mission impossible to help buy seeds, fertilizers and small production units; 2-3 month well-targeted practical small farmer training programs on how to run their farms in order to manage and maximize production.

**Panel Three Topic: Africa Governance – The Positives & Challenges, and What Next?:**

Participants: Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang, Chairman, Department of African Studies, Howard University; Dr. Raymond Gilpin, Academic Dean, Africa Center for Security Studies (ACSS), His Excellency Cheikh Niang, Senegalese Ambassador to the U.S. Bernadette Paolo, Esq. President, The Africa Society

**Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang Chairman, Department of African Studies**

**Key points:** Summit, is inextricably linked to the Obama presidency. First time in history when African leaders were summoned by an American leader historically significant for Africans and Africa-Americans; it is the realization of Marcus Garvey's dream. Africans have to live peacefully; we may not like each other but we have to live with one another; the liberalization of African Governance is growing, without it you cannot connect to modernity; everyone should know today that governance is big issue in Africa; liberalism is gaining ground; African Leaders Summit will be a chance for Africans to speak for themselves.

**Key Recommendations:** Building on the legacies before him, such as the Kennedys and their Peace Corps and Bill Clinton's AGOA, the Obama administration must develop the Power Africa project into the American elevator for African industrialization. This cannot happen unless agriculture and industrial development are married under the banner of a new coalition between corporate interest and private enterprise in the villages across Africa; Land grabbing is the siren now threatening the poor farmers and their agriculture. The Obama Administration could engage the African leaders as an advocate for both the American farmers and their African counterparts; The Africa Summit is a new beginning. Following the steps of the decolonizing empires of the 1950's and 1960's, when the British created their Commonwealth and the French held their Franco-African Summits, now President Obama and his successors must go before John F. Kennedy's Alliance for progress. If America used her scientific and technological know-how to build new relationships with Africa, chances the errors in Latin America would not be repeated on the African continent.

**Dr. Raymond Gilpin, Academic Dean, Africa Center for Security Studies (ACSS)**

**Key Points:** Important to connecting politics and economic policies when focusing on African governance issues; it's a different Africa, and we need to be prepared to take a different policy approach; Africa is waking up in terms of security and technology, it is the continent and market of the future; we need to understand that there isn't a tradeoff between protecting people and exploiting resources; African security needs to be less threat centric and more people centric; when we pursue the 4 pillars of development in isolation, it doesn't work; capacity utilization is important and how Africa utilizes the capacity that it does have, recognize existing institutional and human capacity within and outside Continent.

**Key Recommendations:** Adopt a more balanced approach to key areas, equal attention, resources and programming for defense, diplomacy and development (3D's); expedite the operationalization of QDDR recommendations in Africa; make economic development the centerpiece of US-Africa relations, through partnership, not patronage; strengthen existing institutions and facilitate access to US programs (AGOA, EXIM, OPIC, MCC) which foster sustained and equitable economic development; focus on collectively-reinforcing nature of the 3Ds; move away from train-and-equip approach to peace and security; bolstering African institutions (like the AU and RECs), and complementing security initiatives with concurrent economic development.

**Ambassador Cheikh Niang, Senegalese Ambassador to the U.S.**

**Key points:** All African countries are unique and need to be handled individually; checks and balance must be in place; a strong civil society and level political playing field is key; all countries are not at the same level; democracy is/must be key focus; historical events disrupted the economic, social, & political fabric of Africa.

**Key Recommendations:** 2003 African Union African Peer Review Mechanism has contributed to improving the status of governance, but has potential to achieve more through evaluating its weakness and deliverables, taking more resolute and effective steps; fostering a popular awareness and ownership of democracy values, rule of law, human rights by promoting a strong civil society and a more alert and assertive public opinion; more people are aware of the legitimacy of the power in their hands, the better the state of governance will be; political level playing field should be established allowing participation of all segments of society; advocate a more balanced power structure across the Continent not dominated by the Executive Branch; legislative and judicial branches should exerting fully their prerogatives.

**Africa Youth Bulge & Importance of Financial Literacy**

**FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative & Ms. Jena Roscoe, Government Affairs SVP, Operation HOPE**

**Key Points FEEEDS:** Continent is on track to reach 2.4 billion people by 2040; median age for the region is 15-19 years of age for the next 3-5 decades; Youth Bulge cannot be ignored as half of the people living on the Continent are under the age of 19; important to keep in mind for development, financial inclusion, and entrepreneurship; African youth financial inclusion and financial literacy needs to be a U.S. policy focus for the future; 2035, SSA will have world's largest (mostly unemployed) labor force, exceeding China & India; Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is home to 2 of the world's countries with the most inequitable wealth distribution.

**Key Points Operation Hope:** There is a need for more financial inclusion projects for the Continent's burgeoning youth population; Morocco, adults with a formal financial institution remittances account is 10%; Saudi Arabia, 17% of adults have a formal financial institution savings account; those belonging to a savings club, 6%; South Africa, adult females with formal financial institution account is 51%;" South Africa, formal financial institution account used for remittance is 18%; Operation HOPE partners with Peace Corps, World Bank and Gallup; World Bank's "[Send Money Africa](#)" Initiative provides data on 54 corridors from 16 countries to 28 receiving countries; access to capital for women specifically offers the largest return on investment dollars; African women business owners [fight poverty while improving local economies.](#)

### **Conclusions:**

- Panelists were in agreement that that the upcoming Summit for African Heads of State and Government was historic, that the Obama Administration was to be credited for its implementation, that it should be a precedent, and that there are definitive deliverables that can be achieved in the short and long term to advance mutually advantageous objectives.
- With respect to trade and investment, Africa's integration into the global market and the Continent's increased economic prowess necessitates a different partnership with the US. Calls for "trade not aid" and an "equal partnership" were joined by an expectation of increased engagement with the US across the board—in the areas of infrastructure development, agriculture, the full utilization of energy resources, technology and the facilitation of Africa's broader expansion of its capabilities.
- There was consensus on the value AGOA and the need for its extension to 2015.
- Regional integration, diversification of products and an increase in human and industrial capacity were cited as necessary steps in Africa's future economic ascendancy.
- On the issue of governance as well as applying specific dictates to all African governments, the point was made repeatedly that each country is different, that some countries have established democracies while others are still fragile economies.
- The point was made from both the US and Africans, that although African nations need a number of partners given this era of globalization, the US seeks to strengthen its economic relationship with the Continent writ large and African representatives are providing a number of ways and sectors where that assistance will be most beneficial.
- Combating terrorism globally, in regions and within countries in Africa is something that is essential for the US and nations in Africa.
- The inclusion of civil society, adherence to the rule of law as well as the engagement of, and the provision for, youth are essential elements in ensuring that African nations are stable.
- Americans overall know very little about the continent of Africa, including that it includes 54 countries. More education about Africa is needed so as to provide a foundation of respect and understanding. This lack of knowledge impedes all aspects of our interaction including the willingness of corporations and individuals to invest in the Continent.
- Permeating all of the discussions during the three panels was the fact that the futures of the US and African countries are inextricably bound and that Africans are favorably disposed to fortifying their partnerships with the United States in all realms.

## KEY INFORMATION

Africa Forum Press Releases:

[\*\*DC Africa Forum to Offer Issue Prospective on U.S.-Africa Summit \(July 3, 2014\)\*\*](#)

[\*\*FEEEDS-Gallup-Africa Society DC 'Africa Forum' Kicks off Issues for the US-Africa Leaders Summit \(July 12, 2014\)\*\*](#)

Send any follow-up queries or questions to FEEEDS® Advocacy Initiative website contact us page, or to Patricia Baine at The Africa Society at [PBaine@africasummit.org](mailto:PBaine@africasummit.org).

The Africa Forum Partner Organizations' websites:

FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative: FEEEDS website - [www.ambassadorrobinreneesanders.com](http://www.ambassadorrobinreneesanders.com); twitter: [@RRSAfrica-CEO FEEEDS](https://twitter.com/RRSAfrica-CEO_FEEEDS)

The Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa: [www.africasummit.org](http://www.africasummit.org); twitter: [@AfricaSociety](https://twitter.com/AfricaSociety)

Gallup: [www.gallup.com](http://www.gallup.com); twitter: [@GallupAnalytics](https://twitter.com/GallupAnalytics)

AllAfrica: [allafrica.com](http://allafrica.com); twitter: [@allafrica](https://twitter.com/allafrica) & [@allafricafrench](https://twitter.com/allafricafrench)

Operation Hope: [www.operationhope.org](http://www.operationhope.org); twitter: [@operationHOPE](https://twitter.com/operationHOPE)

July 10, 2014 Africa Forum Twitter handle: [#Forum4USAfricaSummit](#)

We encourage you to reference during your U.S.-Africa Summit activities. Have a Great Summit!

**FEEEDS®**

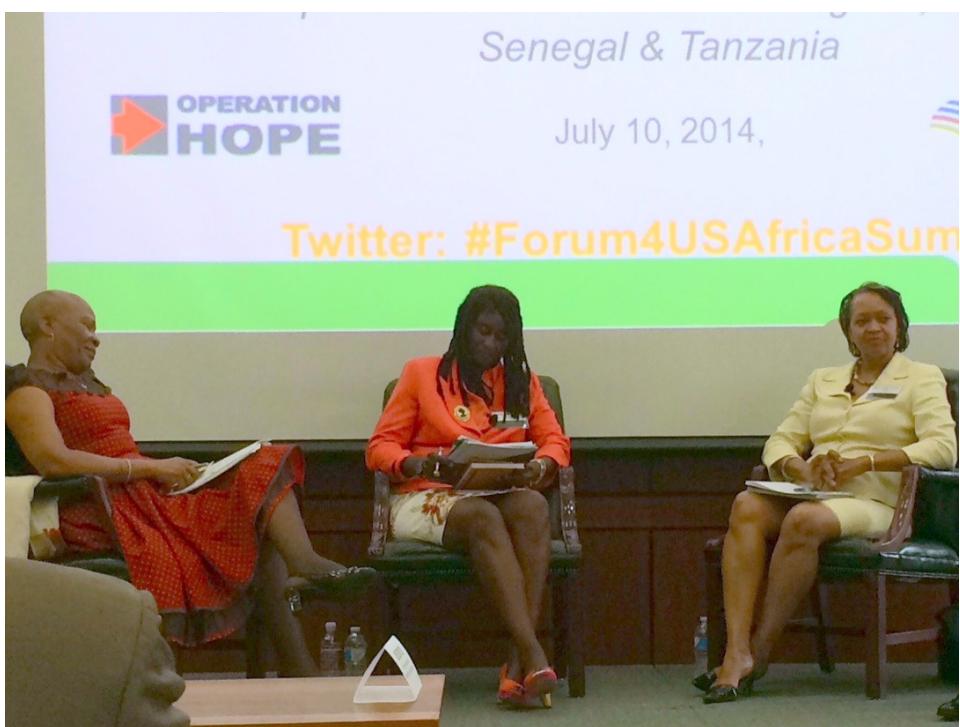
**GALLUP**





Africa Society President Bernadette Paolo moderating the governance panel at the Africa Forum June 10, 2014 with Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang (left) from Howard University, Dr. Raymond Gilpin from the Africa Center for Security Studies (ACSS) and Senegal's Ambassador Cheikh Niang (right).

FEEEDS CEO FEEEDS  
CEO Ambassador  
Robin Sanders  
(center) moderating  
'Africa Forum' session  
on trade with  
Botswana  
Ambassador Tebelelo  
Mazile Seretse (left)  
and Assistant U.S.  
Trade Representative  
for Africa Florie Liser.



**FEEEDS® GALLUP®**



# The Africa Forum

**July 10, 2014**

**2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**Gallup Headquarters**

**901 F St., Washington, DC**

**Program 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**2:00 p.m. – Check-in:**

Speakers escorted to the Green Room

**2:05 p.m. – Opening & Welcome Remarks:**

**Mr. Jon Clifton**, Managing Director, Gallup World Poll

**His Excellency Adebawale Adefuye**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

**2:10 p.m. – Forum Scene Setting Remarks & Mistress of Ceremonies:**

**Ambassador Robin Sanders**, CEO-FEEEDS

**Bernadette B. Paolo, Esq.**, President & CEO, The Africa Society

**2:15 p.m. Panel One:**

**Africa Trade -The US and African Perspectives & Recommendations**

**Moderator: Ambassador Robin Sanders**, CEO FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative

**Participants: The Honorable Florie Liser,**

U.S. Assistant Trade Representative for Africa.

**Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra,**

President & Chairman Board of Directors,  
Africa Export-Import Bank

**Her Excellency, Dr. Tebelelo Mazile Seretse,**

Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana

**2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Gallup Presentation**

**Mr. Jon Clifton**, Managing Director, Gallup World Poll,

Trends on African Well-Being

**2:45 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. – Questions and Answers**

**2:50 p.m. Panel Two:**

**The Future of Africa: Key Sectoral Development & Recommendations:  
Power Africa, SMEs/Diaspora Development, & Agriculture**

**Moderator: The Honorable Hank Cohen**, CEO Cohen & Woods International, Inc.

**Participants:** **Mr. Rick Angiuoni,**

Director Africa US EXIM Bank, Business Development Office.

*Topic: Power Africa*

**Mrs. Ngozi Bell,**

Small Business Administration (SBA). Regional III

Advocate, Mid-Atlantic Region.

*Topic: Tools for SMEs/Diaspora Business Development*

**Her Excellency Faida Mitifu,**

Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

*Topic: Agriculture*

**Her Excellency Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula,**

Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania

*Topic: Power Africa*

**3:10 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. – Questions and Answers**

**3:20 p.m. Panel Three:**

**Africa Governance – The Positives, Challenges and What Next?**

**Moderator:** **Bernadette Paolo, Esq.** President, The Africa Society

**Participants:** **Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang,**

Professor and Chairman,

Department of African Studies, Howard University

**Dr. Raymond Gilpin,**

Academic Dean

Africa Center for Security Studies (ACSS)

**His Excellency Cheikh Niang,**

Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal

**3:40 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. Questions and Answers**

**3:50 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. - Closing Presentation – Africa's Youth & Financial Literacy** – Short Presentation on Africa Youth Bulge Stats & Presentation of Operation HOPE South Africa Model – **Ambassador Sanders** and **Ms. Jena Roscoe**, Senior VP for Government Affairs, Operation HOPE

**4:10 p.m. – 4:20 p.m. – Questions and Answers**

**4:20 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Closing Remarks**

Mr. Jon Clifton & His Excellency Adebowale Adefuye

**An Africa Forum Event of the FEEEDS  
Advocacy Initiative, Gallup Poll, The Africa  
Society of the National Summit on Africa,  
AllAfrica.com, and Operation Hope**

**In Partnership with the Ambassadors of Nigeria,  
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*Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Trends;  
Key Development Areas: Power Africa,  
SMEs/Diaspora, Agriculture;  
Africa's Current Governance Issues  
Special Presentations by Gallup Poll on African  
Well Being Index, and Operation Hope's Africa  
Financial Literacy Model*

## July 10<sup>th</sup>, Africa Forum Speakers' Bios

### **Ambassador Adebowale Ibidapo Adefuye**

Ambassador Adebowale Ibidapo Adefuye is the ambassador of Nigeria to the United States. A former history professor, Ambassador Adefuye received his First Degree in History at the University Of Ibadan, Nigeria, in 1969, and in 1973 earned a Ph.D. in History. As a Fulbright scholar he studied at Columbia University, the University of North Florida and the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Ambassador Adefuye started his academic career as a Lecturer at the University of Lagos, where he rose to the position of Professor, published books and articles, and served as Head of the History Department from 1985 to 1987. Among the books he has written are *History of the Peoples of Lagos State* (1987) and *Culture and Foreign Policy: The Nigerian Example* (1993).

### **Mr. Rick Angiuoni**

Rick Angiuoni joined the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank) in March 2009. As the Director for Africa of the Global Business Development Division, He is responsible for marketing the Ex-Im Bank Programs to Africa in an effort to support U.S. exporters and U.S. export growth to sub-Saharan Africa. He previously served as Director of HSBC in New York, part of the team responsible for Export Finance. He began his international banking career on Wall Street, working with Chemical Bank/JPMorgan in the international division. Following Chemical Bank, he worked with Bankers Trust in New York and London. He holds Bachelor and MBA degrees from the University of Notre Dame.

### **Mrs. Ngozi Bell**

Ngozi Bell is currently the region III advocate for small businesses in the mid Atlantic states of the United States of America. In region III Ngozi has responsibility for Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. As a regional advocate, Mrs. Ngozi Bell serves as a direct link between U.S. small business owners, the trade associations that represent them and the federal regulations and rules agencies (such as EPA, OSHA, FCC, FDIC, etc) that enact rules and regulations that impact small businesses. As a part of the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) she is part of the independent voice for small business within the federal government and advances the views, concerns, and interests of small business before Congress, the White House, federal regulatory agencies, federal courts, and state and local policymakers. She earned her B.Sc in Physics from the University of Port Harcourt (Uniport) Nigeria, and an MSEE from the joint Florida State University/Florida A&M University School of Engineering.

### **Jon Clifton**

Jon Clifton is the managing director at Gallup's global government work and the Gallup World Poll, an ongoing study conducted in more than 160 countries, representing 98% of the world's adult population. He is a member of Gallup's Public Release Committee, the governance board that oversees and maintains Gallup's public release standards for data, research, and methodology. Jon is a nonresident Senior Fellow at Baylor University's Institute for Studies of Religion. He serves on the board of directors of the Meridian International Center, StreetWise Partners, and Chess Challenge. Jon received a bachelor's degree in political science and history from the University of Michigan and a juris doctorate with a focus in international law from the University of Nebraska. He lives and works in Washington, D.C.

### **The Honorable Hank Cohen**

Hank Cohen worked as a professor at Johns Hopkins University before his appointment to the post of United States Ambassador to Gambia and Senegal in 1977, serving until 1980. He later served as the

U.S. National Security Council Africa Director and from 1989 to 1993 as the U.S. Official Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. His most recent post was in the World Bank. His lobbying firm, Cohen and Woods International, has represented the governments of Angola and Zimbabwe. He brokered an end to the Eritrean-Ethiopian War in 1991. He received a B.A. in political science from the City College of New York in 1953. He then joined the United States Army, serving until 1955. He received an M.A. in international relations from American University in 1962.

### **Jean-Louis Ekra**

Jean-Louis Ekra is currently the Chairman and President of the African Export-Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK). Under this title, he is responsible for the management of the Operations department, Finance department and Legal department. He joined the bank in 1996 as Senior Executive Vice President. Mr Ekra started his banking career with Citibank; he subsequently served as Partner of DKS Investment in Jersey, then Country Manager for the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and then Managing Director of the Ivorian Post Office. Mr Ekra currently serves as a Member of Advisory Board at Africa Investor Ltd. He has also held the role of Honorary President of the Global Network of Export-Import Banks and Development Finance Institutions. In 2004, he was awarded with the *Chevalier de l'Ordre National* of the Ivory Coast. In 2011, Mr. Ekra was listed among the 100 most influential people in Africa by New African magazine, a leading pan-African publication. Mr Ekra holds a Master of Business Administration from the Stern School of Business, New York and a Master's degree in Economic Sciences from the University of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. AFREXIMBANK was established in Abuja in October 1993 by African Governments; African private and institutional investors; and non-African investors with a mandate to finance and promote intra-African and extra-African trade.

### **Dr. Raymond Gilpin**

Dr. Raymond Gilpin is the Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. In this capacity he directs the design, development and implementation of the Center's programs, and provides leadership on all academic matters. Prior to joining the Africa Center he served as director of the Center for Sustainable Economies at the United States Institute of Peace (in which capacity he also chaired the taskforce on business and peace, managed the web-based International Network for Economics and Conflict, and taught courses on economics and conflict at the USIP Academy); academic chair for defense economics at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies; director for international programs at Intellibrige Corporation (now part of Eurasia Group); senior economist at the African Development Bank Group; research director at the Central Bank of Sierra Leone; and economist at the World Bank.

Dr. Gilpin holds a doctorate in development economics from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom and an executive certificate in international finance and capital markets from Georgetown University.

### **Florizelle (Florie) Liser**

Florie Liser is the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). In this position, she leads U.S. trade efforts and investment in sub-Saharan Africa and oversees implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). She also leads interagency negotiation and implementation of a number of trade and investment agreements with Sub-Saharan African nations. Ms. Liser has an extensive background in trade negotiations and Africa. From 2000-2003, she served as Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Industry, Market Access, and Telecommunications. In that position, she was responsible for developing and coordinating U.S. trade policy as it affects industrial and manufacturing interests - including telecommunications, electronic commerce, steel, chemicals, forest products, semiconductors, aircraft, and shipbuilding, among others. She also coordinated industrial market access negotiations in bilateral and regional free trade agreements and in the WTO.

## **Her Excellency Faida Mitifu**

H.E. Faida Mitifu was appointed to Washington, D.C. by the late President Laurent Désiré Kabila. She taught French literature, language and culture, Caribbean and African literature at the University of Georgia (1994-1997) and also at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia (1997-1998). She supervised teaching assistants and coordinated the French language program in the department of romance languages at the University of Georgia (1995-1997). Ambassador Mitifu's area of research has included French, francophone, and lusophone literatures from Africa and the Caribbean. Born in Bukavu, Kivu, Ambassador Mitifu received her Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry education from the National University of Zaire, Kinshasa. She received a Master's degree in French studies from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama; and a Doctorate in romance languages from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. Her dissertation topic was the representation of femininity in Zairian novels written in French.

## **Her Excellency Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula**

Prior to her appointment as Tanzania's Ambassador Extraordinary to the United States of America, she was a Senior Personal Assistant of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania from March 2012. Before that she served as the first Executive Secretary of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) with headquarters in Bujumbura, Burundi, from 2006-2011. She also served at the Tanzania High Commission to Canada and Permanent Mission to New York as Minister Plenipotentiary and Head of Chancery from 1999 to 2003 respectively before being appointed Ambassador and Director of Multilateral Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tanzania, the post she held until 2006. She was a part time lecturer on the "Art of Negotiations" at the Centre for Foreign Relations in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and participated in all the Rwandese Peace Talks, Burundi and DRC as part of the Facilitators Team. Amb. Mulamula is a graduate from St. John's University, New York where she obtained her M.A. (Government and Politics) and University of Dar-es Salaam in 1980 and 1989 respectively.

## **H.E. Cheikh Niang**

Cheikh Niang was appointed to the post as of June 12, and presented his credentials to President Barack Obama on July 30. He succeeded Fatou Danielle Diagne, who served as Senegal's ambassador to the U.S. starting in March 2010. Niang is serving concurrently as Senegal's ambassador to Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama, and Costa Rica.

A career diplomat, Niang was an English teacher at Senegal's National School of Administration and Magistracy before joining his country's diplomatic corps 20 years ago. He served as a spokesman for the Organization of African Unity during the 1990s and then as minister counselor at Senegal's Mission to the United Nations in New York during the next decade. Other highlights of his diplomatic career include service as consul general in New York from 2007 to 2010 and as ambassador of Senegal to South Africa from 2010 to 2012. Niang has also served as diplomatic adviser to the President of Senegal.

## **Sulayman S. Nyang**

Sulayman S. Nyang serves as a director of Muslim Media Network Inc. Dr. S. Nyang has been teaching in the Department of African Studies at Howard University, Washington, D.C. since 1972. He has served as a Deputy Ambassador of the Republic of Gambia to Saudi Arabia and seven other North African and Middle Eastern Countries. Dr. Nyang was the founding editor of the American Journal of Islamic Studies, now known as American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences. He was also the President of the Association of Muslim Social Scientists. Dr. Nyang received a Ph.D. degree in Government from the University of Virginia

in 1974. His best known written works are entitled, 'Islam, Christianity and African Identity,' 'Religious Plurality in Africa,' 'Line in the Sand,' 'Saudi Arabia in the Gulf War' and 'Islam in the USA.'

### **Bernadette B. Paolo, Esq.**

Bernadette Paolo was named President and CEO of The Africa Society in 2006. Prior to assuming this position, she served as Vice President of The Africa Society and Vice President of The National Summit on Africa and in-house Legal Counsel. Ms. Paolo has more than 25 years of experience in international affairs that includes an extensive career of 12 years in the U.S. Congress. For more than a decade, she was a professional staff member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs. During that time, her positions included Staff Director and Counsel for the House Subcommittee on Africa, Deputy Staff Director for the Subcommittee on International Operations, and Staff Consultant and Deputy Staff Director of the House Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations. While on Capitol Hill, Ms. Paolo represented Congress in 43 countries in the roles of negotiator, investigator, election observer, and arbitrator. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the West Virginia Bar. She was appointed to the Presidential Trade Advisory Committee for Africa under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama from 2007 through 2012.

### **Jena Roscoe**

Jena Roscoe serves as First Senior Vice President and Chief of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Operation HOPE. Ms. Roscoe is the first Senior Director of the East Coast National Corporate Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Ms. Roscoe is a member of the Urban Financial Services Coalition (UFSC), D.C. Chamber Of Commerce, National Bankers Association, Association of Blacks Foundation Executives, and the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area. Ms. Roscoe is also an Advisory Committee Member for the Howard University Women's Health Institute.

Ms. Roscoe was raised in Camp Springs, Maryland; Fayetteville, North Carolina; and Kershaw, South Carolina; but currently resides in Washington, DC. She is an undergraduate alumnus of the Howard University School of Communications. She is working to complete a graduate degree at the same institution. She is a graduate of The American University in Paris, France study abroad program. Ms. Jena V. Roscoe is serving as a "new expert" with the Wi\$eUp Financial Education Program

### **Ambassador (Dr.) Robin Renee Sanders**

Dr. Sanders is CEO of the FEEEDS Advocacy Initiative and owns FE3DS, LLC both which work on economic development and business strategies for Africa. Prior to this, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to several countries (Nigeria and Republic of Congo) and U.S. Permanent Representative to the West African Regional Organization ECOWAS. She is also an adjunct professor at Robert Morris University. As an academic while serving in the U.S. Diplomatic Service, Dr. Sanders was the International Affairs Advisor and Deputy Commander of the Eisenhower Resource College of the National Defense University. A noted international lecturer, she has taught International and African Affairs, National Security Strategies, and Human Cultural Communication. Her other areas of expertise are election and democratic processes, food security, education, and the environment. She has received numerous award for her public service and Africa advocacy work.

### **Her Excellency Tebelelo Seretse**

Tebelelo Seretse (Nee) Mazile became Ambassador of Botswana to the United States on February 16, 2011. This is her first ambassadorial assignment. From 1999 until 2004 she served in the government of Botswana. She was Minister of Works, Transport & Communications from February 2002- October 2004; Minister of Trade Industry, Wildlife & Tourism from September 2000-January 2002; Acting Minister for

Presidential Affairs from January 2000-August 2000; and Assistant Minister for Presidential Affairs from October 1999-December 1999. She served as Senior Research officer from 1978-1984 at the Bank of Botswana and Finance Manager for BP Botswana (Pty) Ltd from 1984 – 1989. She has been a member of a variety of boards, at different times, from 1996-2010, including Denel, Bank of Botswana, Debswana Diamond Company, and Botswana Insurance Holding Ltd, and has served as a chairperson of the Labor Advisory Board, RPC Data, Funeral Services Group, and Diragake (Pty) Ltd. She was Director of the board of Excess Petroleum (Pty) Ltd. She was head of the African delegation group for the Fourth World Trade Organization, Ministerial Conference in DOHA in 2001.