FACT SHEET: A NEW BEGINNING -- THE PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship (April 26-27, 2010) will highlight the important roles that entrepreneurship can play in expanding opportunity at home and abroad, while deepening engagement among the United States and Muslim communities around the world. It will bring together approximately 250 successful entrepreneurs from more than fifty countries; identify ways to advance economic and social entrepreneurship; build networks among stakeholders in entrepreneurship; and, provide an opportunity to establish partnerships that advance entrepreneurship.

The United States is committed to working with entrepreneurs around the world, including those in Muslim-majority countries and Muslim communities. In addition to partnering with other governments and multilateral organizations, promoting entrepreneurship will require new public-private partnerships. At the Summit on Entrepreneurship, the U.S. Government is pleased to highlight a number of selected programs and partnerships that will help expand mutual understanding and mutual opportunity. Further details regarding these programs and partnerships will be provided by the lead Department or agency supporting them:

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Entrepreneurs for a New Beginning

Entrepreneurs for a New Beginning is a new two-way professional exchange program for rising business and social entrepreneurs. The Department of State is forging relationships to offer participants educational seminars, mentorship, and first-hand experience in the business place with American entrepreneurs. The program will connect participants with outbound American entrepreneurs and will examine strategies used in the United States to enhance the capacities of young business managers, to develop a spirit of entrepreneurship and small business enterprise, and to strengthen societies through the pursuit of social entrepreneurship. This program will bring 100 entrepreneurs to the U.S. over the next 4 years and will also work with private sector partners to send 100 American entrepreneurs abroad over the next four years. More information can be obtained from the Department of State.

Science and Technology Education Exchanges

During his speech in Cairo, the President said that "education and innovation will be the currency of the 21st century." This new science and technology exchange program will bring 25 science teachers from Muslim-majority countries and communities to examine effective methods of teaching science at the primary and secondary school levels. The program will explore how to nurture and support hands-on science education, how to demonstrate the relevance of science for children, and how to create a setting in which children actively engage in scientific learning. In addition, the participants will observe extracurricular science camps and science fair educational programs that emphasize experiential learning.

Professional Technical Exchanges for Women

TechWomen is a new professional mentorship program for women from eligible countries who are working in the field of technology. Selected participants will travel to the United States in