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“Global Economic Statecraft Day” in Nairobi

Together with U.S. Embassies around the world, U.S. Embassy Nairobi commemorated “Global Economic Statecraft Day” on June 14 by hosting nine current or aspiring African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) exporters for an “AGOA Awareness Day.” AGOA is a law passed by the U.S. Congress that allows Kenyan firms to export virtually any good to the U.S. market without being subject to import duties and quotas. Participating vendors showcased a wide variety of merchandise, including home décor items, fashion accessories, leather and woven products, sporting goods, and organic edibles such as tea, jam, and honey. Throughout the three-hour event, a steady stream of Mission personnel, family members, and friends shopped and learned about the importance of AGOA to the U.S.-Kenya economic relationship. Speaking on behalf of the Ambassador, Economic Counselor Eric Whitaker remarked on AGOA’s role in strengthening bilateral economic ties and sustaining livelihoods across Kenya, which encourages economic development and greater participation in the political process. The event also highlighted how USAID/East Africa, through its Competitiveness and Trade Expansion (COMPETE) Program, is empowering Kenya’s small- and medium-size businesses to take advantage of AGOA trade preferences.

Learn more about AGOA at www.agoa.gov and www.competeafrica.org.

For more information on Economic Statecraft, please visit <http://www.state.gov/e/eb/econstatecraft/>



Leather and woven handbags by Mohazo Collection.



Handmade jewelry by Undugu Fair Trade.



Stuffed animals by Kenana Knitters using locally-sourced organic wool.



Home décor and gift items by the Flip Flop Recycling Company.