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July 29th, 2013

PRESS ADVISORY

Telephonic media briefing to preview the 2013 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum

Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 13:00

U.S. Embassy Dakar, Ngor Almadies

Please join us on **Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at 13:00 GMT** for a telephonic media briefing to preview the 2013 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum. Florizelle (Florie) Liser, the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), Cynthia Akuetteh, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, and John M. Andersen, Acting Assistant Secretary for Market Access and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce will preview the upcoming African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum.

The Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, in association with the United States Government, will host the 2013 U.S.-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum also known as the AGOA Forum, on August 12-13, 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The theme of this year's AGOA Forum is "Sustainable Transformation through Trade and Technology." The Ministerial-level event will include a high level dialogue on the future of U.S.-Africa trade and economic cooperation.

The Forum will be preceded by private sector and civil society programs, as well as a program arranged by the Ethiopian African Women's Entrepreneurship Program (AWEP), on August 10-11. The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) in collaboration with the Ethiopian Chambers of Commerce and Sectoral Associations (ECCSA) will also organize a U.S. – sub-Saharan Africa Trade Exhibition to run concurrent with the Forum events.

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) is the U.S. Government's signature trade initiative with sub-Saharan Africa. The United States is strongly committed to expanding trade and investment, and to supporting broad-based economic opportunity and prosperity in Sub-Saharan Africa.

You can find the speakers' biographies at :

<http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/biographies-key-officials/florizelle-liser-austr>

<http://trade.gov/press/bios/andersen.asp>

The briefing will be in English.

For more information or RSVP, please contact Ndèye Fatou Wilane by phone at 77 332 6710 or by mail at usembassymedia@state.gov.

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