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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Statement on the U.S.-Africa Partnership on Illicit Finance**

Members of the Partnership on Illicit Finance – Burkina Faso, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritius, Niger, Senegal, and the United States – reaffirm their pledges to fight illicit finance and corruption and deepen the dialogue on best practices, opportunities and challenges to reaching that goal. Corruption and illicit finance in Africa continue to undermine democracy hamper foreign investment, reduce stability, thwart economic development and disenfranchise African populations who should benefit from Africa’s tremendous growth potential. Launched at the 2014 U.S. Africa Leaders Summit, the Partnership seeks to join together committed countries to tackle corruption and develop strategies to eliminate opportunities for illicit finance to thrive. Last month, the Government of Senegal hosted a meeting of experts to share challenges and think collaboratively about potential actions countries can take to effect changes.

Under the Partnership, participants will develop tailored National Action Plans on illicit finance. These Plans will guide implementation of country-specific measures and commitments to fight illicit finance, including corruption, and to improve transparency and accountability in the public and private sectors. To demonstrate our commitment, and in an effort to be held accountable, current members of the Partnership intend to publish our National Action Plans by the end of the year. We also invite other African countries to join the Partnership and develop their own Action Plans to counter illicit finance. A National Action Plan experts meeting will be held in the coming months.

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