

Le 8 août 2017

## Communiqué du Congrès des Etats-Unis

À *Washington* – Aujourd'hui, le président de la commission des méthodes et moyens de la Chambre des représentants (House Ways and Means Committee), M. Kevin Brady et le président de la sous-commission au Commerce, M. Dave Reichert, ont fait les déclarations suivantes, alors que les États-Unis et le Togo accueillent conjointement cette semaine le Forum AGOA de la Loi sur la croissance et les possibilités économiques en Afrique, dont le but est de renforcer les liens économiques importants entre les États-Unis et l'Afrique.

Renforçant son soutien à l'AGOA, le président Brady a déclaré :

« Le renouvellement et le renforcement bipartites de 10 ans de l'AGOA constitue la prolongation du programme la plus longue jamais décidée. Chaque fois que le Congrès a légiféré sur l'AGOA depuis 2000, le fort engagement bipartite en faveur de l'Afrique a prévalu. Je suis très fier d'avoir participé à cet effort en tant que membre et aussi en tant que président de la sous-commission au Commerce.

Je sais que nos partenaires de l'AGOA, responsables du gouvernement, membre du secteur privé et de la société civile, ont travaillé dur pour tirer le meilleur parti de la stabilité que procure ce renouvellement. Je demande instamment à tous ceux qui sont impliqués de renforcer ces efforts pour tirer le meilleur parti des huit prochaines années, et je m'engage à continuer à collaborer avec vous. Je vais travailler avec l'administration pour continuer à appliquer les critères d'admissibilité et les procédures établies par le Congrès au titre de l'AGOA, car ils font de l'Afrique un endroit plus attrayant pour les affaires.

Je crois que notre partenariat dans le cadre de l'AGOA a beaucoup contribué à approfondir nos relations et à accroître les opportunités économiques en Afrique, et je sais qu'avec un partenariat solide, nous pouvons tirer parti de ce succès et en accomplir bien plus. »

Le président Reichert a ajouté :

« Je suis depuis longtemps un ardent partisan de l'AGOA et je me réjouis que beaucoup de mes collègues au Congrès des Etats-Unis m'aient rejoint dans un vote bipartite fort pour son renouvellement il y a deux ans.

Je suis ravi du fait que le Forum de cette année se déroule au Togo : c'est l'occasion de souligner le succès des entreprises comme Alaffia, qui a été fondée à la fois par des entrepreneurs du Togo, mais aussi de l'État dont je suis originaire, l'État de Washington, et qui continue à fonctionner aux deux endroits. Alaffia met à profit les opportunités offertes par l'AGOA pour construire ses lignes de produits de beauté et de santé, créer de bons emplois et des opportunités, tant au Togo qu'aux États-Unis. »

Alaffia n'est que l'une des nombreuses réussites de l'AGOA. »

Alors que nous renforçons nos relations avec les pays d'Afrique subsaharienne, je considère les critères d'admissibilité de l'AGOA comme un catalyseur important, fournissant à l'Afrique les outils nécessaires pour progresser dans la construction de ses économies, la mise en place de meilleurs standards et le développement de démocraties fortes. J'ai hâte que nous travaillions ensemble pour tirer le meilleur parti des huit autres années pendant lesquelles l'AGOA a été reconduite. »

August 8, 2017

## **Press Statement from the United States Congress**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Trade Subcommittee Chairman Dave Reichert (R-WA) issued the following statements as the United States and Togo co-host the 2017 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum this week to further strengthen important economic ties between the United States and Africa.

Reinforcing his support for AGOA, Chairman Brady said:

“The bipartisan 10-year renewal and enhancement of AGOA was the longest extension, ever, of the program. The strong bipartisan commitment to Africa has been clear every time the Congress has legislated on AGOA since 2000. I am very proud to have been part of this effort going back to my time as Ranking Member and then Chairman of the Trade Subcommittee.

“I know that government officials, the private sector, and civil society in our AGOA partners have been working hard to make the most of the stability that this renewal provides. I urge everyone involved to enhance those efforts to make the most of the next eight years, and I pledge to continue to partner with you. I will work with the Administration to continue to apply the eligibility criteria and procedures established by Congress in AGOA because they make Africa a more attractive place to do business.

“I believe that our partnership through AGOA has done much to deepen our relationship and increase economic opportunity in Africa, and I know that with strong partnership, we can build on this success and accomplish much more.”

Chairman Reichert added:

“I have long been a vocal supporter of AGOA and was happy that so many of my colleagues in the U.S. Congress joined me in a strong bipartisan vote for its renewal two years ago.

“I am pleased that the location of this year’s Forum in Togo provides an opportunity to highlight the success of companies like Alaffia, which was founded by entrepreneurs from both Togo and my home state of Washington and continues to operate in both locations. Alaffia is making the most of the opportunities created by AGOA to build its lines of beauty and health products, creating good jobs and opportunities in both Togo and the United States.

“Alaffia is just one of many AGOA success stories.

“As we strengthen our relationship with the nations of sub-Saharan Africa, I see the AGOA eligibility criteria as an important catalyst, providing Africa with the tools to leap forward in building its economies, raising standards, and developing strong democracies. I look forward to working together to make the most of the remaining eight years of the AGOA authorization.”

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