

**“The U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit Seven Months Later: Progress and  
Setbacks”**  
**Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs and Global Health  
Policy**  
**U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake**  
**March 19, 2015**

**OPENING STATEMENT**

- [GAVEL] This hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs and Global Health Policy will come to order.
- I served as ranking member of this subcommittee for the past two years, but I have long had an interest in African affairs and have had the opportunity to spend some time there.
- It is an honor to serve as chairman of this subcommittee, and to be able to examine the most pressing issues related to an area of the world that receives far too little attention.
- There seems to be a perpetual focus from the outside on foreign assistance to Africa – whether in helping stop the spread of AIDS or ebola, or providing humanitarian assistance to those suffering from a drought, or those who have been displaced due to a crisis.
- Much of this assistance is critical. However, many Africans want to develop their own economies and reach a point where they are not so dependent on foreign aid.
- Africa is home to six out of 10 of the fastest-growing economies in the world. Real income across the continent has increased by 30 percent over the past 10 years. By 2040, Africa is expected to have a larger workforce than China.
- In addition, sub-Saharan Africa's consumer base of nearly 1 billion people is rapidly growing, and has the potential to create increased demand for United States goods, services, and technologies.

- U.S. private-sector interest in tapping the economic potential of the continent is increasing, though our presence lags behind many of our partners and competitors in Europe and Asia.
- Part of this discrepancy stems from a lack of opportunity in promising countries, and part stems from real challenges posed by weak governance and poor infrastructure in others.
- Held last August, the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit sought to highlight some of that promise, and to address challenges to greater investment.
- The summit included the U.S.-Africa Business Forum, which brought together business leaders and heads of state, and provided a venue for U.S. investors to develop new business relationships on the continent.
- For companies with a longstanding presence in Africa, the day offered an opportunity to both reinforce relationships and discuss solutions to policy challenges.
- Today's hearing will further explore the investment climate in Africa seven months after the conclusion of the summit, and look at policies in place that encourage – or hinder – the kind of growth that can lead to economic security on the continent.
- We will hear from witnesses who are at the forefront of investing in Africa. We invited them in order to hear firsthand about the potential for growth, as well as about the policies and practices – both on our part and on the part of Africans – that create an attractive business climate.
- In gathering ideas on how best to support market potential, we'll hear from the Center for Global Development and the Council on Foreign Relations, two organizations that closely analyze economic growth in Africa.

- Each of our witnesses today brings a unique perspective to the issue at hand, and I have no doubt they will contribute greatly to the debate.
- I thank each of you for your time, and for sharing your expertise with us. I look forward to your testimony.
- With that, I would like to recognize the distinguished ranking member, Senator Markey, for his comments.

### ***MARKEY'S COMMENTS***

- Thank you, Senator Markey. We will now turn to our witnesses.
- Our first witness is BEN LEO. Mr. Leo is a senior fellow at the Center for Global Development and the director of the Rethinking U.S. Development Policy initiative. This initiative seeks to broaden the U.S. government's approach to development, including the full range of investment, trade, and technology policies, while also strengthening existing foreign assistance tools. Mr. Leo's research primarily focuses on the rapidly changing development-finance environment, with particular emphasis on private capital flows, infrastructure, and debt dynamics. In addition, he is testing a range of new technological methods for collecting high-frequency information about citizens' development priorities.
- Our second witness today is DEL RENIGAR. Mr. Renigar is GE Corporate's Senior Counsel for Global Government Affairs & Policy. He advises all GE businesses on public policy, trade, investment, national security, and government relations issues in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. Mr. Renigar also serves as the Staff Representative to the President's Advisory Committee on Doing Business in Africa. Before joining GE, Del served as the Director of International Economics for the Western Hemisphere on the National Security Council, and as the Senior Counsel to the General Counsel and Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he counseled the Office of the Secretary, the Bureau of Industry and

Security and the International Trade Administration on trade, foreign policy and national security issues.

- Our third witness today is SUSAN TUTTLE. Ms. Tuttle is currently the Director of Middle East and Africa in IBM's Government and Regulatory Affairs office, and has geographic responsibility policy initiatives in support of IBM's business and expansion efforts across Africa and the Middle East. Over her 30-year career with IBM, Ms. Tuttle has worked with governments around the world on public policy issues relating to technology and innovation, with key focus on skills and talent development, research, IPR and policy-related infrastructure. Ms. Tuttle is on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Corporate Council on Africa, and chairs its ICT Working Group. She is also on the Board of Directors for GlobalWIN (Global Women's Innovation Network).
- Our fourth witness today is TOM BOLLYKY [pronounced "boy-kee"]. Mr. Bollyky is a senior fellow for global health, economics, and development at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He is also an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University and a consultant to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Prior to joining CFR, Mr. Bollyky was a fellow at the Center for Global Development and director of intellectual property and pharmaceutical policy at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). He was also a Fulbright scholar to South Africa, where he worked as a staff attorney at the AIDS Law Project on treatment access issues related to HIV/AIDS.
- Thank you all for being here and sharing your thoughts and viewpoints with us today. We would remind you that your full statements will be included in the record, without objection, so if you could please keep your remarks to no more than 5 minutes, we would appreciate it so that members of the committee can engage with you on these matters.
- And with that, we will recognize Ben Leo first.

- [WITNESS ONE STATEMENT]