

# **African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Praised by African Leaders**

“The passage of AGOA “the greatest friendship act” by the US government towards Africa in its history.”

-- *Yoweri Museveni, Ugandan President*

“A new Africa, strong, entrepreneurial, capable of playing effectively its role in the global economy is the vision of the African leaders. We are convinced that AGOA provides the recipe towards the realization of this dream.”

-- *Hon. Minister J.K. Cuttaree, Mauritius Minister of Industry and International Trade*

“The approach that AGOA has adopted towards the accelerated growth and development of Africa and the integration of the continent into the world economy, involves trade liberalization, enhanced market access, finance and investment. This approach is consistent with some of the basic elements of Africa's economic development strategy.”

-- *Ambassador Vijay S. Makhan, Interim Commissioner, African Union*

“The African Growth and Opportunity Act is a tremendous public policy initiative that helps Africa to improve its position in the global market place.”

-- *H.E. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President, Republic of Mozambique, incoming President of the African Union*

“AGOA is making African products more competitive; it has been an unqualified success.”

-- *Bobby Brown, US Minister-Counsellor for Commercial Affairs for Southern Africa*

“We hold the belief that the positive experience we have had with AGOA is something we should consolidate and make more permanent.”

-- *Alec Erwin, South Africa's Trade Minister*

“The initiative of AGOA to offer quota and duty free access for African exports clearly does give us a definite competitive advantage in our industrialization process. In fact, AGOA has been a major success story as duty-free exports from Sub Saharan Africa into the United States reached US\$ 8.2 billion last year, while apparel exports grew by 28%. AGOA has, therefore, the potential of creating a trade dynamic between Africa and the United States by ensuring secure and predictable access to the US market on preferential terms. AGOA also provides for the establishment of the US - Sub Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum to facilitate regular trade and investment policy discussions at ministerial level.”

-- *The Right Honorable Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius*