

For Six Month Period Ending Feb 28, 2005
(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No. 5539

The Whitaker Group

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

1725 - I Street, NW - Ste 300
Washington, DC 20006

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following:

- (a) If an individual:
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Residence address | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Citizenship | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Occupation | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
- (b) If an organization:
- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| (1) Name | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Ownership or control | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Branch offices | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- (c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

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IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4 AND 5(a).

N/A

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No N/A

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position Date connection ended

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence address Citizenship Position Date assumed

5. (a) Has any person named in item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal? Yes No N/A

If yes, identify each such person and describe his service.

(b) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position or connection Date terminated
Frances Sese Gadzekpo Dir., Govt Affairs/Asoc. Dir., Trade & Investment 9-14-04 (Resigned)
Adnan Baskey Director, Trade 3/31/05

(c) During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence address Citizenship Position Date assumed
Charles M. Wilhoms 430 M St, SW USA Interim Vice Pres. 11/19/04
Adrian Baskey 310-11th St. NW USA Director of Trade 12/10/04
Caryn Hines 2928 - Newcastle Ave. USA Consultant 3/30/05
Raymond Jackson PO Box 2404 WIX 20013 USA Consultant 4/1/05

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(c) of the supplemental statement? Yes No

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal

Date of termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal² during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and address of foreign principal

Date acquired

Office of The President, Government of
Cote d'Ivoire
01 B.P. 1354 Abidjan
Cote d'Ivoire

September 15, 2004

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principals² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

Government of the Republic of Ghana
Government of the Republic of Uganda
Lesotho National Development Corporation

10. EXHIBITS A AND B

(a) Have you filed for each of the newly acquired foreign principals in Item 8 the following:

Exhibit A³ Yes No
Exhibit B⁴ Yes No

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during the 6 month period? Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a)(9).) A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form CRM-157 (Formerly OBD-67), sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form CRM-155 (Formerly OBD-65), sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Ghana
Uganda
Cote d'Ivoire
Lesotho National Development Corporation
Representational and trade and investment, promotional services before the US Government, including but not limited to promoting the interests of, Ghana, Uganda, Lesotho and Cote d'Ivoire

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates and places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Ghana - Implemented elements from trade and investment strategy previously developed; ABOA update; Promotional trip to Detroit

Uganda - Coordinated efforts to address petition filed with USITR implemented trade & investment strategy elements ABOA update

Lesotho - Trade and investment promotional tour coordinated during January and February 2005; ABOA update

Cote d'Ivoire - Coordinated meetings with key US Government officials ^{to} update on the situation in Cote d'Ivoire ^{ABOA eligible}

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits any or all of your foreign principals? Yes No

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ The term "political activities" means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes No

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies⁶

Date	From whom	Purpose	Amount
8/26/04	Leicester Nat'mal R	Consultant Fee(s)	\$ 100,000.00
9/30/04	Republic of Ghana	Consultant Fee(s)	\$ 150,000.00
10/1/04	" " "	" "	100,000.00
11/5/04	Republic of Uganda	Consultant Fee(s)	\$ 225,000.00
11/15/04	Coted'Ivoire, Office of the President		\$ 366,646.10
			<u>\$ 941,646.00</u>
			Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fund raising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes No

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS - THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal	Date received	Description of thing of value	Purpose
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6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fund raising campaign. (See Rule 201(e).)
8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fund raising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.
9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS – MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes No

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

See statement 1 - Attached

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To whom	Purpose	Amount
------	---------	---------	--------

Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS – THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date disposed	Name of person to whom given	On behalf of what foreign principal	Description of thing of value	Purpose
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(c) DISBURSEMENTS – POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or thing of value	Name of political organization	Name of candidate
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^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials ^{12?}
Yes No

IF YES, RESPOND TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN SECTION V.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

The Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire - Office of the President
The Government of the Republic of Ghana
The Government of the Republic of Uganda
Lesotho National Development Corporation

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- Radio or TV broadcasts
- Magazine or newspaper articles
- Motion picture films
- Letters or telegrams
- Advertising campaigns
- Press releases
- Pamphlets or other publications
- Lectures or speeches
- Internet
- Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- Public Officials
- Newspapers
- Libraries
- Legislators
- Editors
- Educational institutions
- Government agencies
- Civic groups or associations
- Nationality groups
- Other (specify) _____

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- English
- Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No *Copies also attached*

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act? Yes No

12 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI – EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. §1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Type or print name under each signature¹³)

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FARA REGISTRATION UNIT
CRIMINAL DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

NOTICE

Please answer the following questions and return this sheet in triplicate with your Supplemental Statement:

1. Is your answer to Item 16 of Section V (Informational Materials - page 8 of Form CRM-154, formerly Form OBD-64-Supplemental Statement):

YES ✓ or NO _____

(If your answer to question 1 is "yes" do not answer question 2 of this form.)

2. Do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration:

YES _____ or NO _____

(If your answer to question 2 is "yes" please forward for our review copies of all material including: films, film catalogs, posters, brochures, press releases, etc. which you have disseminated during the past six months.)

Rosa M. Whitaker
Signature

4/18/05
Date

Rosa M. Whitaker
Please type or print name of
signatory on the line above

President & CEO
Title

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THIS FORM IS TO BE AN OFFICIAL ATTACHMENT TO YOUR CURRENT
 SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT - PLEASE EXECUTE IN TRIPLICATE

SHORT-FORM REGISTRATION INFORMATION SHEET

SECTION A

The Department records list active short-form registration statements for the following persons of your organization filed on the date indicated by each name. If a person is not still functioning in the same capacity directly on behalf of the foreign principal, please show the date of termination.

Short Form List For Registrant: Whitaker Group, LLC

Last Name	First Name and Other Names	Registration Date	Termination Date	Role
Barber	Simon	10/6/03		
Evila	Roger M.	9/29/04	10/1/04	
Gadzokpo	Francis	6/3/04	9/14/04	
Glespie-White	Lee	5/4/04		
Whitaker	Rosa M.	2/13/03		
Williams	Shiela	5/4/04		

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Short forms completed and submitted for the individuals listed below

SECTION B

In addition to those persons listed in Section A, list below all current employees rendering services directly on behalf of the foreign principal(s) who have not as yet filed short-form registration statements. (Do not list clerks, secretaries, typists or employees in a similar or related capacity. If there is some question as to whether an employee has an obligation to file a short-form, please address a letter to us describing the activities and connection with the foreign principal.)

Name	Function	Date Hired
Charles Michael Williams	Consultant, Intern VP	11-19-04
Caryn L. Hines	Consultant,	3-30-05
Raynard Jackson	Consultant	4-1-05

Signature: Sheldon G. Williams
 Title: Chief of Staff

Date: 4/1/05

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Statement 1 – No disbursements have been made specifically in connection with activities on behalf of the foreign principals. All staff salaries and office expenses are paid for work in general in conjunction with normal office expenses and not limited to or spent on behalf of foreign principals.

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TWG Phone Logs

**TWG / FARA
Phone Log**

Date/Time	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
3/30/2005 11:40am	Cong. Al Green Jackie Ellis	African Finance Minutes Breakfast meeting - P	Lesotho, Ghana Uganda	CMW
3/31/2005 3:30pm	"	"	"	CMW
3/14/2005 1:30pm	Pamela Alice Mank Cong. Lantos	Cote d'Ivoire, AGOA UPDATE, Peace Process	Cote d'Ivoire	CMW
12/7/2004 - 11am	Imyira Okule Cong. McInerney	Cote d'Ivoire Meeting Lunch	Cote d'Ivoire	CMW
12/7/2004 - 11:15am	Jackie Parker Senator Levin	Cote d'Ivoire Meeting Lunch	"	CMW
11/29/2004 - 2pm	Malik Chaka Cong. Boyce	"	"	CMW
11/29/2004 - 2:15pm	Michael Phela Senator Lugar	"	"	CMW
11/30/2004 - 10am	Melvin Spence Cong. Jefferson	"	"	CMW
11/30/2004 - 11am	Misha Thompson Cong. Meeks	"	"	CMW

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

Charles Michael Williams

**TWG / FARA
Phone Log**

Date/Time	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
Dec 15, 2004 - 3pm	Emily Courville Natl Security Council	Cote d'Ivoire Meeting	Cote d'Ivoire	EMW
Dec 7, 2004 - 1:30pm	Heather Flynn Senator Biden	" "	" "	EMW
Dec 8, 2004 - 4pm	Connie Hamilton JSTE	Cote d'Ivoire Briefing	" "	EMW
Feb 10, 2005 - 2pm	ROXANA Henderson USDA	AGDA Update	Ethiopia, Uganda Lesotho	EMW
Dec 7, 2004 - 4pm	Tom Sheehy Cong. Royce	Cote d'Ivoire Briefing	Cote d'Ivoire	EMW
Jan 31, 2005 - 9:30am	Phonie Liser USTAR	Lesotho Briefing	Lesotho	EMW
Jan 27, 2005 - 10:15am	Matt Priest Cong. Sue Myrick	" "	" "	EMW

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

**TWG / FARA
Phone Log**

Date	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
W December 22, 2004	Flori Liser, Assistant US Trade Representative for Africa, USTR	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire <i>Reuse R. M. 002</i>	
Tu December 14, 2004	Malik Chaka, Professional Staff Subcommittee of Africa		Ghana	
M December 13, 2004	Congressman Ed Royce, SubCommittee on Africa	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
M December 13, 2004	Malik Chaka, Professional Staff Subcommittee of Africa		Ghana	
M December 13, 2004	Congressman Ed Royce, House Ways Subcommittee of Africa	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire <i>Update on CE Situation - Please Proceed</i>	

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

RW
Rosa Whitaker 1

**TWG / FARA
Phone Log**

Date	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
Th December 9, 2004	Honorable Dr. Cindy Courville, National Security Council	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro <i>Zirignon-Toure</i> <i>Pace Press</i>	Cote d'Ivoire	
Th December 9, 2004	Honorable Dr. Cindy Courville, National Security Council	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro <i>Zirignon-Toure</i> <i>Pace Press</i>	Cote d'Ivoire	
W December 8, 2004	John Ralysa, US Department of Treasury	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro <i>Zirignon-Toure</i>	Cote d'Ivoire	
M December 7, 2004	Bob Houdek	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro <i>Zirignon-Toure</i>	Cote d'Ivoire	
Th November 30, 2004	Dr. Cindy Courville, NSC	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro <i>Zirignon-Toure</i>	Cote d'Ivoire	

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

TWCG / FARA - Phone Log

Date	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
Tu November 30, 2004	Alicia Robinson, Department of Commerce		Cote d'Ivoire	
W October 13, 2004	Tanya Smith, Small and Business Administration			
M September 20, 2004	Honorable Ed Royce	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otтро Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
M September 20, 2004	Mr. Mark Murray, Appropriations Staff	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otтро Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
F September 17, 2004	Honorable Barbara Lee	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otтро Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
Thur Sept 16, 2004	Honorable Donald Payne	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otтро Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
Wed Sept 15, 2004	Honorable Flori Liser	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

**TWG / FARA
Phone Log**

Date	Name/Company	Subject	Client Represented	Employee Initial
Wed September 16, 2004	The Honorable Pamela Bridgewater, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of State	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	
Wed September 16, 2004	The Honorable Dr. Courville, National Security Council	Re: Meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure	Cote d'Ivoire	

Note: Please use the Log to report phone conversations with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

TWG Events/ Meetings

**TWG / FARA
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Cole D Ivoire - V. P. for THE Charles Williams	Cong. Al Jackson Jackie Ellis	March 14 ²⁰⁰⁸	Briefing Cole d Ivoire	CMWJ
Charles M. Williams Vice President - Cote d'Ivoire	Paul Price Mark Cong. Lantos	Feb 15, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	Seymur White Cong. McDermott	Dec. 9, 2008	Briefing Cote d'Ivoire	CMWJ
" "	Jackie Parker Senator Levin	Dec 9, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	Mark Chuka Cong. Royce	Dec 9, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	Michael Phelan Senator Lugar	Dec 9, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	Melvin Spence Cong. Jefferson	Dec 9, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	Misha Thompson Cong. Meece	Dec 9, 2008	" "	CMWJ
" "	John Ralyea Dept of Treasury	Dec 13, 2008	" "	CMWJ

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients

Charles Mike Williams

**TWCG / FARA
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Charles M. Williams Vice President - Cote d'Ivoire	Dept of Commerce Kevin Boyd	Feb 21, 2007	ALDA Update	CMW
" " "	IDA Cabot	Dec 8, 2007	Briefing Cote d'Ivoire	CMW
" " "	Abby Dempuldas National Sec. Council	Dec 13, 2007	Briefing Cote d'Ivoire	CMW
" " "	Emily Courville National Security Council	Dec 13, 2007	" "	CMW
" " "	Walter Flynn Senator Biden	Dec 9, 2007	" "	CMW
" " "	Connie Hamilton U.S. Trade Representative	Dec 8, 2007	" "	CMW
" " "	Roxana Henderson US Dept of Agriculture	Feb 21, 2007	ALDA Update	CMW
" " "	Connie Newman US State	Dec 13, 2007	Briefing Cote d'Ivoire	CMW
" " "	William Lach Dept of Commerce	Dec 10, 2007	" " "	CMW

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients

**TWCG / FARA
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Charles M. Williams Vice President Cote d'Ivoire	Teresa White Dept of Defense	Dec. 13, 2004	Cote d'Ivoire Telefms	CMW
" "	Alex Severens Dept of Treasury	Dec. 13, 2004	" "	CMW
" "	Sonya Rensler Dept. Treasury	Dec 13, 2004	" "	CMW
" "	Tom Sheehy Cong. Rouse	Dec. 9, 2004		CMW
" "	Congressman Ed Royce	Dec 9, 2004		CMW
" "	Alice Holmes Cong. Matsons	Dec. 9 2004		CMW
Charles M. Williams Vice President - Leiston	Congressman Ed Royce	Feb 1, 2005	Leiston Emerging	CMW
" "	Matt Priest Cong. Sue Myrick	Feb. 1, 2005	" "	CMW
" "	John Heiko Millennium Challenge Corporation	January 3rd 2005	" "	CMW

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients

**TWG / FARA
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Charles Williams Vice President - Lesotho	Mark Dybul - office Asst. US Global AIDS Coordinator	Jan 31st 2005	Lesotho Reviewing	CMI
Charles Williams Vice President - Lesotho	Florence Lisac - US Asst. Trade Representative	Feb 1, 2005	11 11	CMI

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients

Rosa Whitaker - TWG / FARA - August 2004 to February 2005
Meeting Log

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Congressman Ed Royce, Chairman of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa	Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 11 am	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Mr. Matt Murray, Appropriations Staff	Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 12am	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Congresswoman Barbara Lee, International Relations Subcommittee on Africa	Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 1pm	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Congressman Donald Payne, International Relations Subcommittee on Africa	Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 3pm	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Honorable Flori Liser, Assistant US Trade Representative, Office of the US Trade Representative	Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 4pm	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

Rosa Whitaker - TWG / FARA – August 2004 to February 2005

Meeting Log

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Pamela Bridgewater, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of State	Friday, September 24, 2004 at 1130am	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Dr. Cindy Courville, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the National Security Council	Friday, September 24, 2004 at 2pm	Peace process, AGOA renewal, Section 508 sanctions.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Mr. Tom Sheehy, Office of Congressman Ed Royce	Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 9am	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	

Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients.

**Rosa Whitaker - TWG / FARA – August 2004 to February 2005
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Assistant Secretary William Lash, Department of Commerce	Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 10am	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Mr. Princeton Lyman, Council on Foreign Relations	Friday, December 10, 2004 at 830am	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Dr. Cindy Courville, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the National Security Council	Monday, December 13, 2004 at 2pm	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Ms. Constance B. Newman, Assistant Secretary for African Affairs	Monday, December 13, 2004 at 4pm	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	
Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Cote d'Ivoire	Meeting with Ambassador Josette Shiner, Deputy US Trade Representative, Office of USTR	Tuesday, January 18, 2004 at 230pm	Follow-up on Peace process, AGOA renewal, Constitution, Economic Partnership, Private Sector development.	

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relationships with key US retailers while highlighting its capacity to be competitive with Asia in the production of new apparel lines. The tour will also introduce Lesotho to US fabric, yarns and equipment to support growth in the textile/apparel sector. Further, the technical consultations will help the delegation identify niche export areas and strategies to remain competitive. The delegation will also discuss diversification of its exports with retailers into the home décor and related sectors.

TWG, a U.S. based trade facilitation and consultancy company, will coordinate a ten-day visit by public and private sector representatives of the Lesotho apparel sector to Washington DC and San Francisco, CA, Dallas, TX and Raleigh, NC for meetings with leaders in the U.S. apparel/textile sector and government officials. The visit would take place between the January 23rd and February 1st 2005.

TWG personnel will coordinate the delegation's U.S. program. TWG will also coordinate the schedule and arrange meetings with U.S. apparel and retail groups. Following the visit, TWG will prepare a written report for use by Lesotho on potential niche markets, new investment and marketing strategies and detailed information on how to develop an anti piracy program in support of STOP. TWG will also recommend follow up measures and create a list of potential market contacts.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRADE PROMOTION TOUR

Lesotho's apparel sector has thrived largely due to global instruments – AGOA being one - which are limited in time. The objective of the trade promotion tour is to address five major challenges the sector faces:

- In post-2004, Lesotho's apparel sector will have to compete with Asia when global textile and apparel quotas end. To address this challenge, Lesotho will have to expand and deepen its relationship with US retailers to which it is already supplying apparel, while expanding the network of US companies to which it can supply apparel;
- In 2007 AGOA's third country fabric rule will expire—requiring greater utilization of both regional and US fabric inputs;
- The Free Trade Agreement entered into between the US and Central America may effectively erode AGOA's margin of preference in the apparel sector.
 - In addition to US fabric, yarn and related inputs, Lesotho will need additional equipment to support growth in the textile/apparel sector.
 - Lesotho must diversify its US exports to include home décor and other sectors in which it can have a competitive advantage.

Methodology and Participants

In order for Lesotho's apparel sector to effectively market and to promote their products in the U.S., they will need to learn more about the U.S. market, its import requirements, and direct and regular contact with representatives of the U.S. apparel sector and retailers.

Under this proposal the following individuals representing the public and private sector partnership that has taken the lead in growing the apparel sector in Lesotho will comprise the delegation.

The delegation will consist of:

- H.E. Malie, Minister of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives & Marketing;
- H.E. Ms. Carter Perry, US Ambassador to Lesotho;
- Mr. Molapo, CEO of the Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC);
- Mr. Mokheti Shelile, Head of the Entrepreneurial Development Division, LNDC and:
- Ms. Jennifer Chen, President, Lesotho Export Development Committee, President of Shinning Centre Limited -- one of Lesotho's first apparel companies and member of the newly formed Trade and Investment Liaison Committee.
- Two private sector leaders.

Capability Statement

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Founded in early 2003 by Rosa Whitaker, the former Assistant US Trade Representative for Africa, TWG has so far generated over \$20 million dollars in investment and exports for African clients.

The core of TWG's business is making sure the African Growth and Opportunity Act delivers real, bottom-line results to help develop African economies and markets. We match entrepreneurs, investors and traders with African opportunities – opportunities, that TWG works to identify, create and promote. To support this work, TWG works to foster conditions conducive to getting deals done.



TWG offers developing economies in Africa focused and comprehensive trade and investment services tailored to meet each client's needs. These services include:

- Design and implementation of trade and investment strategies,
- Trade and investment facilitation,
- Trade capacity building,
- Public relations and
- Advocacy services.

These services enable governments and investors to better capitalize on available advantages and to support programs as well as providing concrete, realistic and useful opportunities for businesses looking to increase their export capabilities through AGOA.

PROPOSED ITINERARY

Schedule

Delegation departs Lesotho on Saturday, January 22, 2005

Day 1 – Sunday, January 23, 2005

- Delegation arrives in Washington DC
- Check into hotel
- TWG Orientation
- Organize and prepare for Meetings

Day 2 –3 Monday – Tuesday, January 24 -25, 2005 Washington DC

- Attend Meetings with U.S. government officials
- Meeting with congressional staff
- Meetings with the World Bank/IFC
- Technical consultation on STOP

Day 4 –5 Wednesday-Thursday, January 26-27, 2005 New York

- Visits/Meetings with Target, Liz Clairborne, Limited and Baby Togs (focus: new apparel lines and product diversification).
- Exhibit products/networking and exploration of partnership opportunities.
- Roundtable discussion and strategy session with US Importers of Textile and Apparel Association.
- Seminars/technical assistance sessions on post 2005 issues; new apparel lines and home décor.
- Roundtable with investment fund managers.
- Industry press roundtable (e.g. Women's Wear Daily)



Day 6 – 7 Friday, Saturday, January 28-29, 2005 California

- Visit/Meetings with the GAP and tour production facility
- Exhibit products/networking
- Attend seminars on U.S. apparel quality standards

Days 8 – 9 Monday, January 31, 2005 North Carolina

- Meet with potential fabric, yarn and equipment suppliers
- Tour local company facilities (to be identified)
- Meet with potential investors
- Return to Washington DC

Day 10 Tuesday, February 1, 2005

- Evaluate trip and prepare recommendations on U.S. apparel market opportunities.
- Depart for Lesotho

BUDGET

Budget Narrative

The budget covers the costs for travel, per diem, and hotel for five (5) people for eight (10) days. As part of its representational contract with the Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC), all TWG services will be provided at no costs.

Transportation costs are based on the estimated cost of business class round trip airfare from Lesotho via Johannesburg International Airport, South Africa to Washington DC; between Washington DC and New York, NY; New York to Dallas, TX, Dallas to San Francisco, CA, San Francisco to Raleigh, NC and from Raleigh to Washington, DC. Per diem is based on U.S. government rates for Washington DC and consists of expenses for housing and meals, up to \$150 per night.

This proposal is for the funding of airfare travel, per diem and domestic travel for a delegation of five from Lesotho to the US in January 2005.

The budget for a 10-day trip for 5 people is broken down as follows:

- 5 business class roundtrip tickets from Lesotho via South Africa to Washington DC
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- 5 business class roundtrip tickets from New York to Dallas
- 5 business class roundtrip tickets from Dallas to San Francisco
- 5 business class roundtrip tickets from San Francisco to Raleigh
- 5 business class roundtrip tickets from Raleigh to Washington, DC
- Per diem calculated at \$ 150.00/day for 10 days

Total budget figure requested:

\$ 65, 400.00

Proposed Budget				
Transportation	Rate	Unit	Number	Total
Roundtrip tickets from Lesotho to Johannesburg, Johannesburg to Washington DC	\$9 300.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 46,500.00
Airline tickets from Washington DC to New York (for industry meeting)	\$100.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 500.00
Airline tickets from New York to Dallas, Texas (meeting with JC Penneys)	\$500.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 2,500.00
Airline tickets from Dallas, Texas to San Francisco, California	\$530.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 2,650.00
Airline ticket from San Francisco, CA to Raleigh, NC	\$700.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 3,500.00
Airline ticket from Raleigh, NC to Washington, DC	\$450.00	Per trip/per person	5	\$ 2,250.00
Per diem for 5 people for 10 days	\$150.00	Per day / Per person	5	\$ 7,500.00
Total				\$ 65,400.00

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Additional information is available
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 the Whitaker group

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December 16, 2004

The Honorable Thelma Askey
Director
United States Trade and Development Agency
1000 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 1600
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Dear Thelma:

Proposal to strengthen Lesotho's performance under AGOA

The Whitaker Group represents the Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC) in its efforts to promote trade and investment in Lesotho and to expand export opportunities under AGOA. Over the last two years LNDC has worked closely with Basotho companies to develop one of Africa's most competitive apparel manufacturing sectors.

Lesotho's success in the apparel sector was highlighted during Ambassador Zoellick's recent visit. Progress has been made but a number of specific initiatives must be completed if Lesotho is to sustain its recent surge in employment and economic growth. As part of our efforts to assist the private sector in Lesotho to upgrade the competitiveness of their factories and the skill levels of their workforce we are planning a trade promotion tour to the United States in January 2005.

The proposed trade promotion tour, which will include the participation of Ambassador June Carter Perry, is designed to identify new US sourcing opportunities and enhance and strengthen existing partnerships with US textile and machinery companies. The end of EU quotas in January 2005 could pose a serious threat to Lesotho in that sourcing companies have already started to shift some orders to China. Lesotho has been an AGOA success story but in order for it to continue to grow its textile and apparel sector it will need to enhance and strengthen its relationships with US companies in light of the new competitive challenges.

The attached proposal is designed to assist the LNDC to strengthen and enhance its competitiveness by expanding its network of US buyers and suppliers and strengthening the skill level of its work force.

An overview of the tour is outlined below:

- Visits, meetings and technical discussions with US retailers to deepen the relationship while exploring and diversifying new sourcing opportunities;

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--A Roundtable with the US Importers of Textiles and Apparel to strengthen the partnership and devise strategies to address post-2004 challenges and US Customs compliance issues;

--A seminar with USTR on STOP (Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy);

--Meetings with the trade and retail industry press;

--Expos showcasing Lesotho's diverse line of apparel and related products;

--Meetings in North Carolina to identify opportunities to source US equipment and fabric inputs to support anticipated growth in Lesotho's textile/apparel sector and;

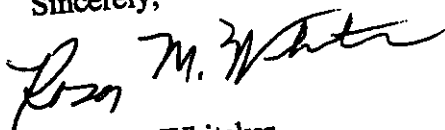
-- Seminar strategies to diversify Lesotho's US exports outside of the apparel sector.

The enclosed proposal is for funding of travel and per diem for the delegation from Lesotho in the amount of \$ 65,400.00.

Mike Williams and I would welcome the opportunity to come by your office to discuss the proposed tour in more detail.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I extend my best wishes and regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa M. Whitaker

Enclosure

This material is distributed
by the Whitaker Group, LLC
on behalf of the Government of LNDC.
Additional information is available
at the Department of Justice,
Washington, DC

 **the Whitaker group**

**A proposal to
Strengthen AGOA's Gains in Lesotho
US Trade Promotion Tour
January 2005**

**Submitted by The Whitaker Group LLC
To the United States Trade and Development Agency
December 16, 2004**

OVERVIEW

The Whitaker Group (TWG), on behalf of the Government of Lesotho, requests United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) funding to support a Lesotho Trade Promotion tour for five public and private sector leaders of the Lesotho's apparel sector. The tour primarily focuses on the apparel trade as it is the nation's fastest and most promising sector of economic growth. The tour, however, will also focus on trade diversification and strategies to address global pirating and counterfeiting in trade – all important pillars of export growth.

The primary objectives of the program are to:

- Expand, strengthen and diversify sourcing relationships with U.S. apparel retailers and importers;
- Develop a marketing and export strategy that will sustain Lesotho's success in the apparel sector after quotas are lifted.
- Explore sourcing of US textile and apparel equipment to support new factories and related projects in Lesotho; and
- Participate in technical consultations with US government officials on the new US "Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy" (STOP) initiative.

Funding is requested to support the travel and per diem for five members of the anticipated seven-person delegation. The total cost of this project is \$ 65, 400.00.

Lesotho has successfully utilized the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) as a springboard to developing a strong apparel sector. Lesotho's garment exports to the US tripled in two years, from \$130 million in 2001 to \$370 million in 2003. Employment in this sector increased from 20 000 to more than 50 000 in the same period. This is good news in a country where the annual per capita income is a little more than USD\$500; the HIV/AIDS infection rates continue to soar; and the unemployment rate reached 45% in 2002. Lesotho's apparel sector has tremendous growth potential if it can clearly define its market opportunities and strengthen its understanding of U.S. apparel quality standards and requirements. Lesotho also represents an excellent market opportunity for US exporters of apparel/textile equipment and fabric.

This proposed US Trade Promotion Tour combines strengthening and expanding market opportunities with technical assistance, networking and showcasing of both US and Basotho products to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

This program will make invaluable contributions to Lesotho's comprehensive export expansion efforts. It will help to ensure that Lesotho is a regional survivor in the post-2005 era. Specifically, the tour will provide Lesotho with an opportunity to deepen its

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relationships with key US retailers while highlighting its capacity to be competitive with Asia in the production of new apparel lines. The tour will also introduce Lesotho to US fabric, yarns and equipment to support growth in the textile/apparel sector. Further, the technical consultations will help the delegation identify niche export areas and strategies to remain competitive. The delegation will also discuss diversification of its exports with retailers into the home décor and related sectors.

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the Whitaker group

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 Washington, DC



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twg@thewhitakergroup.us
www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

Ms. Flori Liser
Assistant US Trade Representative
for Africa
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Flori:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

A broad US-Ivorian dialogue is critically important to ensure that this important nation successfully returns to the path of peace and stability. I hope that you will devote some time in your busy schedule to meet with her.

My office will follow up this letter with a call regarding your availability to meet. You may also reach Ms. Mesfin in my office at 202-349-3781 or senayit@thewhitakergroup.us.

The Government of Cote d'Ivoire values its relationship with the US and considers this meeting critically important.

I extend my best regards and hopes that our shared vision of a strong, peaceful and prosperous Cote d'Ivoire will soon be realized.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography

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twg@thewhitakergroup.us
www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

The Honorable William H. Lash III
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for
Market Access and Compliance
US Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Lash:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

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Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography



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twg@thewhitakergroup.us
www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

Ms. Connie Hamilton
Senior Director for African Affairs
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Otro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

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President & CEO

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December 1, 2004

Mr. David Loevinger
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Africa, Middle East and South Asia
US Department of Treasury
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Mr. Loevinger:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

A broad US-Ivorian dialogue is critically important to ensure that this important nation successfully returns to the path of peace and stability. I hope that you will devote some time in your busy schedule to meet with her.

My office will follow up this letter with a call regarding your availability to meet. You may also reach Ms. Mesfin in my office at 202-349-3781 or senayit@thewhitakergroup.us.

The Government of Cote d'Ivoire values its relationship with the US and considers this meeting critically important.

I extend my best regards and hopes that our shared vision of a strong, peaceful and prosperous Cote d'Ivoire will soon be realized.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography

cc: Ms. Oren Whyche-Shaw



1725 I Street, NW Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006-2403
T. 202-349-3781 F. 202-349-3806
twg@thewhitakergroup.us
www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

Mr. Michael Kozak
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Democracy,
Human Rights and Labor
US Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Kozak:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

A broad US-Ivorian dialogue is critically important to ensure that this important nation successfully returns to the path of peace and stability. I hope that you will devote some time in your busy schedule to meet with her.

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I extend my best regards and hopes that our shared vision of a strong, peaceful and prosperous Cote d'Ivoire will soon be realized.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography



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December 1, 2004

Ambassador Josette Shiner
Deputy US Trade Representative
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Shiner:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

A broad US-Ivorian dialogue is critically important to ensure that this important nation successfully returns to the path of peace and stability. I hope that you will devote some time in your busy schedule to meet with her.

My office will follow up this letter with a call regarding your availability to meet. You may also reach Ms. Mesfin in my office at 202-349-3781 or senayit@thewhitakergroup.us.

The Government of Cote d'Ivoire values its relationship with the US and considers this meeting critically important.

I extend my best regards and hopes that our shared vision of a strong, peaceful and prosperous Cote d'Ivoire will soon be realized.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography



Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
Office of the President

Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure

For decades Ambassador S. Ottro-Toure has been at the forefront of CI's political landscape -- as a freedom fighter, advocate for democracy and leader in the women's movement. Her commitment landed her in jail in 1970 with a group of fellow activists who are now key members of government, including President Gbagbo. When their party, the Ivorian Popular Front, was recognized as the official opposition in 1990, she was named to the shadow cabinet, eventually receiving the foreign affairs portfolio. A linguist, teacher and child psychologist by training, Ambassador Toure has served President Gbagbo as deputy chief of staff since his election in 2000. She acts as a roving envoy and trouble-shooter with a special focus on relations with the US. Her academic credentials include degrees and diplomas earned in the UK and Cote D'Ivoire. She worked for several years as a translator in New York and for the US Foreign Broadcasting Information Service at the embassy in Abidjan.



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January 28, 2005

The Honorable Constance B. Newman
Assistant Secretary for African Affairs
US Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Ms. Newman:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 4:00-4:45pm in your office at 2201 C Street, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Rosa Whitaker'.

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

Attachment

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January 28, 2005

The Honorable Melvin L. Watt
U. S. House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Ave, and S. Capitol St., SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Watt:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 4:00-4:45pm in your office at 2236 Rayburn Building, SE. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Ms. Flori Liser
Assistant US Trade Representative
for Africa
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ms. Liser:

Thank you for agreeing to host the Roundtable Discussion for the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 10:00 am -1:15pm in your office at 600 17th Street, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Rosa Whitaker'.

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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www.thewhitakergroup.us

January 28, 2005

The Honorable Dr. Cindy Courville
Special Assistant to the President &
Senior Director for African Affairs
National Security Council
Eisenhower Office Building
Washington, DC 20504

Dear Dr. Courville:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 1:30-2:15pm in your office at the Eisenhower Office Building. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

The Honorable Sue Myrick
U.S. House of Representatives
230 Cannon House Office Building
1st Street and Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Myrick:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 5:00-5:30pm in your office at 230 Cannon Building, SE. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Ms. Maureen Harrington
Managing Director, Africa
Millennium Challenge Corporation
1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1400
Arlington VA 22209

Dear Ms. Harrington:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 2:30-3:30pm in your office at 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1400. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Mr. Wesley Wilson
Country Representative for Africa
Millennium Challenge Corporation
1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1400
Arlington VA 22209

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 2:30-3:30pm in your office at 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1400. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Mr. John Hewko
Vice President, Country Relations
Millennium Challenge Corporation
1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1400
Arlington VA 22209

Dear Mr. Hewko:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 2:30-3:30pm in your office at 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1400. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

The Honorable Paul Applegarth
Chief Executive Officer
Millennium Challenge Corporation
1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1400
Arlington VA 22209

Dear Mr. Applegarth:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 2:30-3:30pm in your office at 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1400. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Ms. Katherine J. Almquist
Acting Assistant Administrator
for Africa
Bureau for Africa
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Ms. Almquist:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 1:00-1:45pm in your office at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Mr. Dwight Wilson
Desk Officer for Lesotho
Bureau for Africa
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 1:00-1:45pm in your office at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

The Honorable Ed Royce
U. S. House of Representatives
2202 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Ave, and S. Capitol St., SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Royce:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 1:00-1:30pm in your office at 2202 Rayburn Building. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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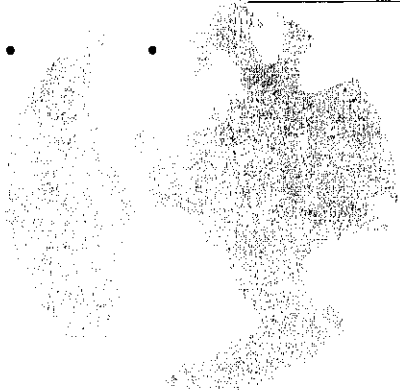
To: The Honorable Ed Royce Fax: 202 ~~349-3806~~

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: January 29, 2005

Re: Thank You Letter Pages: 2 (including cover)

cc: Sacha Bie

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 **the Whitaker group**

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January 28, 2005

Mr. Patrick Fleuret
Director
Office of Southern Africa Affairs
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Mr. Fleuret:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 1:00-1:45pm in your office at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Mr. Robert Blaire
Professional Staff
Foreign Operations Sub-Committee,
House Appropriations Committee
United States Capitol
House Building 26
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Blaire:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on February 1, 2005 at 2:45-3:45pm in your office at the House Building 26. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 28, 2005

Mr. Mark Dybul
Assistant US Global AIDS Coordinator
and Chief Medical Officer
Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Dybul:

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the Trade Delegation from Lesotho on January 31, 2005 at 5:00-5:45pm in your office at 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Trade Minister Malie and his delegation look forward to this meeting. Attached please find a list of those who will join the Minister in meeting.

I extend my best wishes and highest regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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Lesotho Delegation

Minister Mpho Malie, Minister of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing (MTICM)

Ambassador June Carter Perry, US Ambassador to Lesotho

Ambassador Molelekeng Rapolaki, Lesotho Ambassador the US

Mr. Mohlomi Rantekoa, Principal Secretary, MTICM

Mr. Peete Molapo, CEO, Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC)

 the Whitaker group

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T. 202-349-3781 F. 202-349-3806
twg@thewhitakergroup.us
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February 25, 2005

Mr. Robert Blair
Office of Congressman Jim Kolbe
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

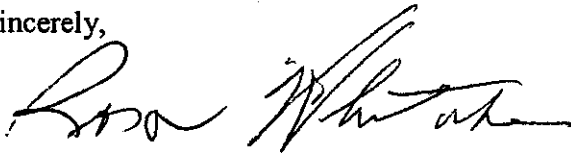
Dear Mr. Blair:

On behalf of the Honorable Minister Mpho Malie, Minister of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing and his trade delegation, I convey my appreciation for the opportunity to meet with you and to discuss the issue of PEPFAR funding and the USAID South African International Business Linkages Program (SAIBL). The Honorable Minister was pleased with the quality and depth of the discussions.

While Lesotho faces many challenges, the Government and the private sector are hopeful that their trade promotion tour has opened and strengthened new relationships. The Minister and his delegation welcome your interest in Lesotho and are hopeful that this visit will be the beginning of a stronger partnership with the U.S.

I extend my best wishes and regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa M. Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Melvin L. Watt
U. S. House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Ave, and S. Capitol St., SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Watt:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States.


Minister Malie's visit to the US will focus on enhancing US-Lesotho trade and bilateral cooperation in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other health epidemics. The Minister appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would be honored by an opportunity to call on you on Tuesday, February 1, 2005.

This distinguished delegation will include, inter alia, chief executive officers of some of Lesotho's leading companies and the US Ambassador to Lesotho, the Honorable June Carter-Perry. I will also accompany the group.

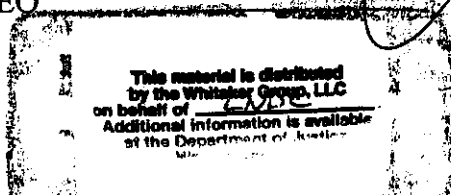
Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom is the leading beneficiary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The Minister's delegation will visit several US states, including North Carolina, in support of growing its exports in the US and increasing its purchase of US products for the nation's burgeoning industrialization program.

I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,


Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

*Congratulations,
I look forward
to your
leadership
on the
CBC*



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Washington, DC 20006
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202/349-3806 F
TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

facsimile transmittal

To: Ms. Melissa Williamson

Fax: 202 ~~349-3802~~

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker

Date: January 26, 2005

Re: Letter RE: Lesotho

Pages: 2(including cover)

CC:

Urgent

For Review

Please Comment

Please Reply

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Jim Kolbe
U.S. House of Representatives
2266 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Avenue & S. Capitol Street, SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kolbe:

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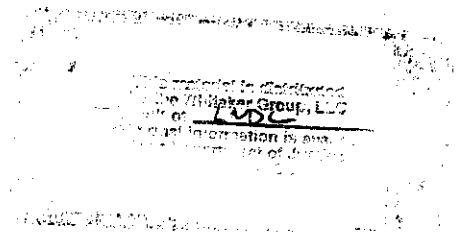
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I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO



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Washington, DC 20006
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202/349-3806 F
TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

facsimile transmittal

To: Mr. John Weinfurter **Fax:** 202-~~349-3806~~
From: Senayit Mesfin **Date:** January 25, 2005
Re: Letter for Congressman Kolbe **Pages:** 2 (including cover)
CC:

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As discussed with Lee, attached is the fax request to Congressman Kolbe's office. Thank you so much for your assistance.

Senayit Mesfin.

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Ed Royce
U. S. House of Representatives
2202 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Ave, and S. Capitol St., SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Royce:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States.

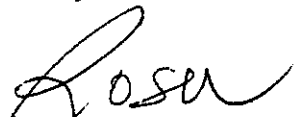
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I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,


Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

Thanks for your leadership

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January 26, 2005

The Honorable Sue Myrick
U.S. House of Representatives
230 Cannon House Office Building
1st Street and Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Myrick:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States.

Minister Malie's visit to the US will focus on enhancing US-Lesotho trade and bilateral cooperation in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other health epidemics. The Minister appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would be honored by an opportunity to call on you on the afternoon of Tuesday, February 1, 2005.

This distinguished delegation will include, inter alia, chief executive officers of some of Lesotho's leading companies and the US Ambassador to Lesotho, the Honorable June Carter-Perry. I will also accompany the group.

Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom is the leading beneficiary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The Minister's delegation is interested in developing business relationships with North Carolina textile manufacturers and would like to discuss working with you to identify partnership opportunities.

I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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facsimile transmittal

To: Ms. Hollie Arnold **Fax:** 202 202-2020
From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker **Date:** January 27, 2005
Re: Letter **Pages:** 2 (including cover)

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Donald Payne
U. S. House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Ave, and S. Capitol St., SW
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Payne:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States.


Minister Malie's visit to the US will focus on enhancing US-Lesotho trade and bilateral cooperation in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other health epidemics. The Minister appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would be honored by an opportunity to call on you on Tuesday, February 1, 2005.

This distinguished delegation will include, inter alia, chief executive officers of some of Lesotho's leading companies and the US Ambassador to Lesotho, the Honorable June Carter-Perry. I will also accompany the group.

Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom is the leading beneficiary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The Minister's delegation will visit several US states, including North Carolina, in support of growing its exports in the US and increasing its purchase of US products for the nation's burgeoning industrialization program.

I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,


Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 19, 2005

The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Bob,

I was so pleased to find your very kind note when I returned from Africa late last week. The government, business community and people of Lesotho are elated by your visit. We continue to receive positive feedback and are confident that this trip will mark yet another milestone, to your credit, in the US-Africa trade relationship.

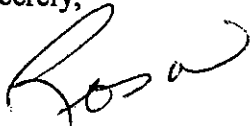
Nations making significant progress on the arduous reform path merit the attention and support that you have given over the years. Your leadership has been a source of encouragement and inspiration to many African countries working to achieve a meaningful partnership with the US and the broader community of trading nations.

I am pleased that Minister Malie will lead a trade delegation to the US from January 31st through February 10th. My firm is coordinating this visit, which includes meetings with US apparel executives in five cities. Minister Malie's 8-person delegation includes some of the nation's leading apparel executives, officials from the Lesotho National Development Corporation and the US Ambassador to Lesotho, June Carter-Perry. Thanks to your intervention, USAID has agreed to cover the travel and related costs associated with the mission. Minister Malie appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would welcome an opportunity see you, albeit briefly, on January 31st or February 1st. I will call your office to follow up on this request.

As you know first hand, Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. It is truly a pillar of growth and stability in a troubled region. Lesotho, especially its apparel sector, has been a star performer under AGOA, and I am confident that this mission will help to further expand and diversify the nation's trade relationship with the US. We are arranging substantive programs for the delegation with business leaders throughout the US.

Your visit, the catalyst for this important mission, has opened a new era in Lesotho's relationship with the US. Thank you again!

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

Cc: Ambassador Josette Shiner
Ms. Flori Liser

It was great to see you this week. I am confident that your contributions at the State Dept. will be of historic proportion. Now more than ever we need leaders with your competence, vision and perspicacity!



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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Randall Tobias
Global AIDS Coordinator
Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator
SA 29, 2nd Floor
2201 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20522

Dear Ambassador Tobias:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's effort to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States. US Ambassador to Lesotho, June Carter-Perry will join the Minister on this important mission, which is being sponsored by the US Agency for International Development.

Minister Malie appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you on Monday, January 31 or Tuesday, February 1st. The Minister would like to discuss enhanced US cooperation in addressing the nation's fight against HIV/AIDS. As you know, Lesotho is among the countries that have been the most severely impacted by this epidemic. With a population of 2.2 million, 330,000 of its adults are estimated to be infected with the virus.

The Government of Lesotho very much appreciates the commitment and leadership that you have brought to the Bush Administration in addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis.

My firm is coordinating the US program and will call your office regarding this appointment.

I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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facsimile transmission

To: Mr. Flori Liser

Fax: ~~202/349-3806~~

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker

Date: January 19, 2005

Re: Letter

Pages: 3 (including cover)

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January 19, 2005

**The Honorable Josette Shiner
Deputy US Trade Representative
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508**

Dear Josette:

Thank you for sharing your ideas and insights with me today. I am so proud of the personal and professional accomplishments on which you continue to build. I am also very optimistic that you will continue to build bridges of trade and friendship with other nations. As we begin a new and challenging chapter in trade and diplomacy, now more than ever, America needs your skill, commitment and voice.

In response to the invitation extended by Ambassador Zoellick, His Excellency Mpho Malie is leading an 8-person public/private sector trade mission to the US. This visit, sponsored by USAID, supports Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy. My firm is coordinating a comprehensive program for the delegation which includes meetings with prominent US apparel leaders in five cities. I am confident that this historic mission will deepen the US-Lesotho bilateral relationship and hope that you and Ambassador Zoellick will be available to meet with the delegation on Tuesday, February 1st.

In addition to Minister Malie, the delegation includes the US Ambassador to Lesotho June Carter-Perry, Lesotho's Ambassador to the US, Molelekeng Rapolaki, senior officials from the Lesotho National Development Corporation and leaders representing some of country's top apparel firms.

The Kingdom of Lesotho is sub-Saharan Africa's leading exporter of apparel—tripling its exports of garments from \$130 million in 2001 to \$ 370 million in 2003. During this same period, employment in the sector increased from 20,000 to 50,000. A proven and able partner in trade, US firms such as GAP, Old Navy, the Childrens' Place, Kohls, JC Penney and Target currently source products from Lesotho. In short, Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom has a motivated and skilled workforce. AGOA has been a springboard to developing Lesotho's apparel trade. This visit should help solidify gains accrued to both the US and Lesotho from AGOA.

The delegation credits USTR with many of its AGOA and trade gains and looks forward to an opportunity to meet with you and Ambassador Zoellick. I will call your office this week to follow-up.

I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success and look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

Cc: Flori Liser

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Dr. Cindy Courville
Special Assistant to the President &
Senior Director for African Affairs
National Security Council
17th & Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Eisenhower Office Building
Washington DC 20504

Dear Dr. Courville:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States next week.

Minister Malie's visit to the US will focus on enhancing US-Lesotho trade. The Minister appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would be honored by an opportunity to call on you on Monday, January 31st or Tuesday, February 1st. Specifically, the Minister would like to discuss resumption of Lesotho's participation in the SAIBEL trade capacity building project and enhanced US cooperation in the nation's efforts to combat HIV/AIDS. As you know, this important mission to the US was made possible with support from USAID. The Minister would also like to use this occasion to thank you for this and other support.

US Ambassador to Lesotho the Honorable June Carter-Perry and Lesotho's Ambassador to the US, Her Excellency Molelekeng Rapolaki will join the Minister in this meeting.

Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom is the leading beneficiary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The Minister's delegation will visit several US states in support of growing its exports, building trade capacity and increasing its purchase of US products for the nation's burgeoning industrialization program.

I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 24, 2005

The Honorable Randall Tobias
Global AIDS Coordinator
Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator
SA 29, 2nd Floor
2201 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20522

Dear Ambassador Tobias:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's effort to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States. US Ambassador to Lesotho, June Carter-Perry will join the Minister on this important mission, which is being sponsored by the US Agency for International Development.

Minister Malie appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you on Monday, January 31 or Tuesday, February 1st. The Minister would like to discuss enhanced US cooperation in addressing the nation's fight against HIV/AIDS. As you know, Lesotho is among the countries that have been the most severely impacted by this epidemic. With a population of 2.2 million, 330,000 of its adults are estimated to be infected with the virus.

The Government of Lesotho very much appreciates the commitment and leadership that you have brought to the Bush Administration in addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis.

My firm is coordinating the US program and will call your office regarding this appointment.

I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 24, 2005

Ms. Katherine J. Almquist
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Africa
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Ms. Almquist:

In December, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick made an historic visit to Lesotho in support of that nation's efforts to expand its trade and participate more fully in the global economy. In response to Ambassador's Zoellick's invitation, the Lesotho Minister of Trade and Industry, His Excellency Mpho Malie, will lead a seven person public/private sector trade delegation to the United States next week.

Minister Malie's visit to the US will focus on enhancing US-Lesotho trade. The Minister appreciates the demands on your schedule, but would be honored by an opportunity to call on you on Monday, January 31st or Tuesday, February 1st. Specifically, the Minister would like to discuss resumption of Lesotho's participation in the Southern African International Business Linkages (SAIBEL) trade capacity building program and enhanced US cooperation in the nation's efforts to combat HIV/AIDS. As you know, this important mission to the US was made possible with support from USAID. The Minister would also like to use this occasion to thank you for this and other support.

US Ambassador to Lesotho the Honorable June Carter-Perry and Lesotho's Ambassador to the US, Her Excellency Molelekeng Rapolaki will join the Minister in this meeting.

Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom is the leading beneficiary of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The Minister's delegation will visit several US states in support of growing its exports, building trade capacity and increasing its purchase of US products for the nation's burgeoning industrialization program.

I thank you for your attention to this request and will call your office this week to follow-up. I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO



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www.thewhitakergroup.us

January 19, 2005

The Honorable Constance B. Newman
Assistant Secretary for African Affairs
US Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Connie:

I continue to be impressed with your commitment to Africa and the personal and professional accomplishments on which you continue to build. I am also very optimistic that you will continue to build bridges with African nations. As we begin a new and challenging chapter in trade and diplomacy, now more than ever, America needs your skill, commitment and voice.

In response to the invitation extended by Ambassador Robert Zoellick, His Excellency Mpho Malie, Lesotho's Minister of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing is leading an 8-person public/private sector trade mission to the US. This visit, sponsored by USAID, supports Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy. My firm is coordinating a comprehensive program for the delegation which includes meetings with prominent US apparel leaders in five cities. I am confident that this historic mission will deepen the US-Lesotho bilateral relationship and hope that you will be available to meet with the delegation on **Monday, January 31st**.

In addition to Minister Malie, the delegation includes the US Ambassador to Lesotho June Carter-Perry, Lesotho's Ambassador to the US, Molelekeng Rapolaki, senior officials from the Lesotho National Development Corporation and leaders representing some of country's top apparel firms.

The Kingdom of Lesotho is sub-Saharan Africa's leading exporter of apparel—tripling its exports of garments from \$130 million in 2001 to \$ 370 million in 2003. During this same period, employment in the sector increased from 20,000 to 50,000. A proven and able partner in trade, US firms such as GAP, Old Navy, the Childrens' Place, Kohls, JC Penney and Target currently source products from Lesotho. In short, Lesotho represents one of Africa's emerging economic and political success stories. A pillar of growth and stability, the Kingdom has a motivated and skilled workforce. AGOA has been a springboard to developing Lesotho's apparel trade. We hope that this visit will assist to solidify gains accrued to both the US and Lesotho from AGOA.

The delegation looks forward to an opportunity to meet with you to discuss these topic. I will call your office this week to follow-up.

I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success and look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosa Whitaker".

Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

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January 19, 2005

Mr. Lloyd Pearson
Bureau for Africa
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

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Dear Mr. Pearson:

I extend my congratulations on your recent appointment as Assistant Administrator for Africa for USAID and wish you all the best in your new position. Africa will gain from your leadership at USAID. I am writing to inform you of a USAID sponsored trade mission from Lesotho to the US.

In response to the invitation extended by Ambassador Robert Zoellick, His Excellency Mpho Malie, Lesotho's Minister of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing is leading an 8-person public/private sector trade mission to the US. This visit, sponsored by USAID, supports Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy. My firm is coordinating a comprehensive program for the delegation which includes meetings with prominent US apparel leaders in five cities. I am confident that this historic mission will deepen the US-Lesotho bilateral relationship and hope that you will be available to meet with the delegation on **Monday, January 31st**.

In addition to Minister Malie, the delegation includes the US Ambassador to Lesotho June Carter-Perry, Lesotho's Ambassador to the US, Molelekeng Rapolaki, senior officials from the Lesotho National Development Corporation and leaders representing some of country's top apparel firms.

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The delegation would also like to discuss the reinstatement of the benefits of the Southern

The delegation looks forward to an opportunity to meet with you to discuss these topics. I will call your office this week to follow-up.

I extend my highest regards and best wishes for your continued success and look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President and CEO

Cc: Dwight Wilson

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facsimile transmittal

To: Mr. Dwight Wilson

Fax: 202 ~~349-3808~~

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker

Date: January 19, 2005

Re: Letter

Pages: 3 (including cover)

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To: Mr. Lloyd Pearson Fax: 202 [REDACTED]
From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: January 19, 2005
Re: Letter Pages: 3 (including cover)
CC: Mr. Dwight Wilson

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Roumeen	Islam	Manager of WBI's Poverty Reduction Division	
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Jairo	Acuna-Alfaro	consultant	
Mr. Peter	Auer		
Ms. Diane	Leslie Billups		
Ms. Adriana	Magalhaes Costa	Program Assistant, and assistant to Mr. Kaufmann	
Ms Maria	Gonzalez de Asis	consultant	
Mr. Tugrul	Gurgur	Junior professional associate	
Ms. Erin	Hoffmann		
Sahr John	Kpundeh		
Mr. Rod	MacDonell	consultant	
Mr. Massimo	Mastruzzi		
Mr. Kevin	Morgan		
Ms. Cecilia Nordin	Van Gansbeghe	Co-Task Manager for the Sida-funded Public Expenditure and Fiscal Accountability Program	
Djordhuha	Petkoski	Lead Specialist at the World Bank Institute and the head of the Private Sector group	
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Ms Sara	Fitzgerald	Trade policy, international trade agreements	Center for International Trade and Economics
Ms. Barbara	Franklin	Trade, international commerce	Center for International Trade and Economics

Congressional Black Caucus List

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization
Bishop	The Honorable Sanford	Congressman	House of Representatives
Butterfield	The Honorable G. K.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Brown	The Honorable Corrine	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Carson	The Honorable Julia	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Christense	The Honorable Donna M.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Clay	The Honorable William "Lacy" Jr.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Clyburn	The Honorable James	Congressman	House of Representatives
Conyers	the Honorable John	Congressman	House of Representatives
Cummings	The Honorable Elijah	Congressman	House of Representatives
Davis	The Honorable Danny K.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Fattah	The Honorable Chaka	Congressman	House of Representatives
Ford, Jr.	The Honorable Harold	Congressman	House of Representatives
Hastings	The Honorable Alcee	Congressman	House of Representatives
Jackson, J	The Honorable Jesse	Congressman	House of Representatives
Jackson-Le	The Honorable Sheila	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Jefferson	The Honorable William	Congressman	House of Representatives
Johnson	The Honorable Eddie Bernice	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Tubbs Jon	The Honorable Stephanie	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Kilpatrick	The Honorable Carolyn	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Lee	The Honorable Barbara	Congressman	House of Representatives
Lewis	The Honorable John	Congressman	House of Representatives
Majette	The Honorable Denise	Congressman	House of Representatives
Meek	The Honorable Kendrick	Congressman	House of Representatives
Meeks	The Honorable Gregory	Congressman	House of Representatives
Millender-M	The Honorable Juanita	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Norton	The Honorable Eleanor Holmes	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Owens	The Honorable Major	Congressman	House of Representatives
Payne	The Honorable Donald	Congressman	House of Representatives
Rangel	The Honorable Charles	Congressman	House of Representatives
Rush	The Honorable Bobby	Congressman	House of Representatives
Scott	The Honorable David	Congressman	House of Representatives
Scott	The Honorable Robert	Congressman	House of Representatives
Thompson	The Honorable Bennie	Congressman	House of Representatives
Towns	The Honorable Edolphus	Congressman	House of Representatives
Waters	The Honorable Maxine	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Watson	The Honorable Diane E.	Congresswoman	House of Representatives

Congressional Black Caucus List

Watt	The Honorable Melvin	Congressman	House of Representatives
Wynn	The Honorable Albert R.	Congressman	House of Representatives
	Congressional Black Caucus		

Consolidated Africa Press List

Press Name	Location	Category
Fraternite	Cotonou	Benin
Ghanian Chronicle	Accra	Ghana, Press
The Guardian	Lagos	Nigeria, Press
ITWeb	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
The Independent	Banjul	Gambia, Press
Mail & Guardian	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
Le Messager	Douala	Cameroon, Press
Midi Madagasikara	Antananari	Madagascar, Press
Mmegi/The Reporter	Gaborone	Botswana, Press
Moneyweb	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
The Monitor	Kampala	Uganda, Press
Mopheme/The Survival	Maseru	Lesotho, Press
The Namibian	Windhoek	Namibia, Press
The Nation	Nairobi	Kenya, Press
New Era	Windhoek	Namibia, Press
New Vision	Kampala	Uganda, Press
Newswatch	Lagos	Nigeria, Press
The North Africa Journ	Boston	Boston, Press
Notre Voie	Abidjan	Cote d'Ivoire, Press
L'Observateur Paalga	Ougadoug	Burkina Faso, Press
Panafrican News Ager	Dakar	Senegal, Press
Le Patriote	Abidjan	Cote d'Ivoire, Press
The Point	Banjul	Gambia, Press
The Post	Lusaka	Zambia, Press
La Presse	Tunis	Tunisia, Pres
Le Quotidien Mutation	Yaounde	Cameroon, Press
SABCnews.com	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
San Finna	Ougadoug	Burkina Faso, Press
Screen Africa	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
Sidwaya	Ougadoug	Burkina Faso, Press
Le Soleil	Dakar	Senegal, Press
SouthScan	London	England, Press
the Sowetan	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
Sud Quotidien	Dakar	Senegal, Press
Sunday Times	Johannesb	South Africa, Press
This Day	Lagos	Nigeria, Press

Consolidated Africa Press List

The Times of Zambia	Ndola	Zambia, Press
UN Integrated Regions	Nairobi	Kenya, Press
Vanguard	Lagos	Nigeria, Press
Addis Tribune	Location: A	Ethiopia
African Eye News Serv	Location: N	South Africa, Press
Agencia de Informacao	Location: M	Mozambique, Press
Business Day	Location: J	South Africa, Press
Business Times	Location: T	Tanzania, Press
Cameroon Tribune	Location: Y	Cameroon, Press
Cape Argus	Location: C	South Africa, Press
Daily Champion	Location: L	Nigeria, Press
The Daily Observer	Location: B	Gambia, Press
The East African	Location: N	Kenya, Press
The East African Stand	Location: N	Kenya, Press
L'Express	Location: F	Mauritius, Press
Expo Times	Location: F	Sierra Leone, Press

Congressional Senate Tracking Sheet

Last Name	First Name	Staff Contact	Salutation	Organization	Committee
Allen	George	Ms. Patricia Nori	Ms. Norman	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Baucus	Max	Mr. Brian Pompe	Mr. Pomper	United States Senate	Agriculture
Breaux	John	Mr. Scott Payne	Mr. Payne	United States Senate	Commerce
Bunning	Jim	Mr. Michael Mor	Mr. Monihan	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resources
Coleman	Norm	Mr. Jeff Harris	Mr. Harrison	United States Senate	Agriculture, Foreign Re <i>sources</i>
Conrad	Kent	Mr. Tom Mahr	Mr. Mahr	United States Senate	Agriculture
Corzine	Jon	Mr. Enrique Ferr	Mr. Fernandez	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Daschle	Tom	Ms. Lara Birkes	Ms. Birkes	United States Senate	Agriculture
Dodd	Christophe	Mr. Jonathan Pe	Mr. Pearl	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Frist	Bill	Mr. Andy Olsen	Mr. Olsen	United States Senate	Majority Leader
Graham	Bob	Mr. John Dickas	Mr. Dickas	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>
Feingold	Russ	Mr. Sumner Slic	Mr. Slichter	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Grassley	Charles	Mr. Everett Eiss	Mr. Eissenstat	United States Senate	Agriculture
Hagel	Chuck	Mr. Joseph Lai	Mr. Lai	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Kerry	John	Mr. Arthur Covie	Mr. Coviello	United States Senate	Foreign Relations
Landreiu	Mary	Mr. Jason Matth	Mr. Matthews	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>
Lieberman	Joe	Ms. Sara Hagig	Ms. Hagigh	United States Senate	
Lincoln	Blanche	Mr. Robert Holif	Mr. Holifield	United States Senate	Agriculture
Nickles	Donald	Ms. Stacey Low	Ms. Lowder	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>
Nickles	Donald	Ms. Yvonne Bar	Ms. Bartoli	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>
Santorum	Rick	Mr. George Berr	Mr. Bernier	United States Senate	
Smith	Gordon	Mr. Bryan Merc	Mr. Mercier	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>
Thomas	Craig	Mr. Bryn Stewar	Mr. Stewart	United States Senate	Energy & Natural Resc <i>ources</i>

Key US Government officials

Last Name	First Name	Title	Department	Address
Rice	Dr. Condoleeza	Asst. to President for National Security	White House	the white house, Washington dc 20500
McLean	Mr. Matthew	Director of African Affairs (East)	White House	
Courville	Dr. Cindy	Special Asst. to President & Sen	White House	
Pittman	Mr. Bobby	Director of African Affairs (West)	White House	
Snyder	The Honorable Charles	Assist Secretary of State for Africa	Department of State	
Bridgewater	Ambassador Pamela		Department of State	
Natsios	Mr. Andrew	US AID Administrator		
Newman	Ms. Constance B.	Assistant Secretary for African Affairs	US Department of State	
Negroponte	Mr. John	US Ambassador to United Nations		
Rodman	Mr. Peter W.	Assistant Secretary of Defense		
Whelan	Ms. Theresa	Deputy Assistant Secretary for Africa	Department of Defense	
Snow	Mr. John W.	Secretary of the Treasury		
Taylor	Mr. John B.	Under Secretary of the Treasury	Department of Treasury	
Quarles	Mr. Randal	Assistant Secretary of the Treasury	Department of Treasury	
Wyche	Ms. Oren		Department of Treasury	
Coleman	Mr. Patrick			
Zoellick	The Hon. Robert	US Trade Representative	USTR	
Liser	Ms. Florizelle	Assistant US Trade Representative	USTR	
Fields	Mr. Nathaniel	President, African Development	ADF	
Williamson	Ms. Molly		US Department of Commerce	
Langston	Mr. Ronald			
Wills	Ms. Mary Jo	Economic Policy Staff Director		
Adler	Ms. Ade	Commercial Coordinator		
Kolker	Ambassador Jimmy	Ambassador to Uganda		
Rice	Dr. Susan		Brookings Institute	
Branaid	Mr. Lael			
Sheehy	Mr. Thomas	Major Staff Director	International Relations Subcommittee	
Forbes	Mr. Jeff	senate finance committee staff		
Shiner	Ambassador Josette			
Shizard	The Hon. Fayyar			
Aldonis	The Hon. Grant			
Snyder	Hon. Charles Snyder			
Hamilton	Ms. Connie			
Jackson	Mr. Bill			
Eillard	Ms. Angela			
Reif	Mr. Tim			

Key US Government officials

Giles	Ms. Allison								
Mays	Ms. Janice								
Zoellick	Hon. Robert								
Ryckman	Ms. Mary								
Parker	Ms. Jackie	Senator Levin's Office.							
	Ms. Manisha								
Lusane	Ms. Noelle								
Davis	Mr. Kolan	senate finance committee staff							
Myers	Mr. Ken	senate foreign relations committee staff							
Blinken	Mr. Anthony	senate foreign relations committee staff							
Ranjaswami	Ms. Viji	Democratic Trade counsel, house committee on ways and means							
Larson	The Honorable Al	Under Secretary, Economic, Bus	US Department of State						
Kozak	Mr. Michael	Assistant Secretary, Bureau of D	US Department of State						
Pittman	Mr. Bobby	Director of African Affairs (West	Department of Treasury						
Vineyard	Ms. Holly		US Department of Commerce						

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Last Name	First Name
Lugar	The Honorable Richard
Biden Jr.	The Honorable Joseph
Alexander	The Honorable Lamar
Feingold	The Honorable Russ
Brownback	The Honorable Sam
Coleman	The Honorable Norm
Sununu	The Honorable John
Dodd	The Honorable Christopher
Nelson	The Honorable Bill
Allen	The Honorable George
Voinovich	The Honorable George V.
Kerry	The Honorable John F.
Boxer	The Honorable Barbara
Hagel	The Honorable Chuck
Chafee	The Honorable Lincoln
Sarbanes	The Honorable Paul
Enzi	The Honorable Michael
Corzine	The Honorable Jon
Rockefeller	The Honorable John

staffer list some key africa trade health committees

Last Name	First Name	Committee
Blinken	Mr. Anthony	senate foreign relations committee staff
Davis	Mr. Kolan	senate finance committee staff
Eilard	Ms. Angela	
Forbes	Mr. Jeff	senate finance committee staff
Giles	Ms. Allison	
Lusane	Ms. Noelle	
Mays	Ms. Janice	
Myers	Mr. Ken	senate foreign relations committee staff
Ranjaswami	Ms. Viji	Democratic Trade counsel, house committee on ways and means
Reif	Mr. Tim	
Sheehy	Mr. Thomas	Major Staff Director
Singh	Ms. Manisha	
Luse	Mr. Keith	
Aftandilian	Mr. Greg	International Relations Subcommittee

US and Africa Press list

First Name	Last Name	Company	Job Title
Reed	Kramer	All Africa Global Media	Chief Executive Officer
Shireen	Dodson	Center for African American History and Culture	Author, Commentator, Asst. Director
Ohi	Akpengbe	Day- The Pursuit of Truth and Reason, This	Reporter
Richard	Adjei	High Street Journal	Editor
Robert	Kabushenga	New Vision	Corporation Secretary
James	Butty	West Africa Magazine	
Sylvie	DeRoche	Jeune Afrique	
Kliza	Ceasar	WBS Television	Marketing Coordinator
Henry L.	Gates	Africaner.com & Harvard University Founder	
Charles	Cobbs	AllAfrica.Com	Senior Editor
Deroy	Murdock	American Enterprise Institute	
Armstrong	Williams	Armstrong Williams Show	
Dave	Langford	Associated Press	
Cynthia	Tucker	Atlanta Constitution	Editorial Page Editor
David	Beasley	Atlanta Constitution	Op-Ed Editor
Dawn	Mcguire	Atlanta Constitution	Editorial Administrator
Jay	Bookman	Atlanta Constitution	Deputy Editorial Page Editor
Jim	Wooten	Atlanta Constitution	Assoc. Editorial Page Editor
Keith	Graham	Atlanta Constitution	Crisis and World Editor
Larry	Wilkerson	Atlanta Constitution	Op-Ed Editor
Marie-Christine	Bonzom	BBC World Service	
Susan	Bundock	C-Span	
Kojo	Nnamdi	Evening Exchange, WHUTV	
Edward	Alden	Financial Times	Correspondent
Christian	Frost	Forbes	Assistant to the Chairman/International Advertising Liaison
Dyan	Machan	Forbes Magazine	
DeWayne	Wickham	Gannett News Service/USA TODAY	
Lani Russell	Lewter	Global News Photo	
Cheryl	Poe	Inside U.S. Trade	
Jennifer	DiMascio	Inside U.S. Trade	Associate Editor
Sylvie	DeRoche	Inside U.S. Trade	
Gurnisal	Mutume	International Development Systems	
Natalie	Hanson	International Development Systems	Vice President
Simon	Booker	JET/ Ebony Magazine	Bureau Chief
Monte	Evans	Joe Madison Radio Talk Show	Reporter
Joe	Davidson	Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies	Focus Editor
Arthur O.	Thomas	Main Man Firms, LLC	
Bonnie J.K.	Richardson	Motion Picture Assoc. of America	

US and Africa Press list

Raoul	Dennis	National Newspaper Publishers Association	Managing Editor	
Robert	George	New York Post	Writer	
Gwen	Ilfill	News Hour w/Jim Lehrer, PBS	Senior Correspondent	
Juan	Williams	Talk of the Nation, National Public Radio		
Bruce	Finley	The Denver Post		
Brian	Phillips	The Heritage Foundation	Media Services Associate	
Chris	Kennedy	The Heritage Foundation	Snr. Associate, Media Services	
Kate	Pomeroy	The Heritage Foundation	Snr. Associate, Media Services	
Khris	Bershers	The Heritage Foundation	Director of Media Services	
Bob	Sipchen	The LA Times	Assoc. Editorial Page Editor	
Janet	Clayton	The LA Times	Editor, Editorial Pages and Vice President	
Judy	Dugan	The LA Times	Deputy Editor, Editorial Pages	
Karl	Howard	The LA Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Marjorie	Miller	The LA Times	Foreign Editor	
Mark	Porubcansky	The LA Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Mary	Baswell	The LA Times	Deputy Foreign Editor	
Roger	Ainsley	The LA Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Alison	Smale	The New York Times	Deputy Foreign Editor	
David	Rampe	The New York Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Gail	Collins	The New York Times	Editorial Page Editor	
Helen	Verengos	The New York Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Philip	Taubman	The New York Times	Deputy Editorial Page Editor	
Robert	Semple Jr.	The New York Times	Assoc. Editorial Page Editor	
Roger	Cohen	The New York Times	Foreign Editor	
Greg	Rushford	The Rushford Report	Editor and Publisher	
Constance	Ford	The Wall Street Journal	Economics Editor	
Daniel	Henninger	The Wall Street Journal	Deputy Editorial Page Editor	
George	Melloan	The Wall Street Journal	Deputy Editor, International	
Kimberley	Strassel	The Wall Street Journal	Editorial Writer	
Melanie	Kirkpatrick	The Wall Street Journal	Assoc. Editorial Page Editor	
Paul	Gigot	The Wall Street Journal	Editorial Page Editor	
Robert	Pollack	The Wall Street Journal	Editorial Writer	
William	Spindle	The Wall Street Journal	Chief of Correspondents (Africa, Central Asia, Middle East,	
Britt	Donna	The Washington Post	Columnist	
Colbert	King	The Washington Post	Deputy, Editorial Page Editor	
David	Hoffman	The Washington Post	Foreign Editor	
Doug	Farah	The Washington Post	Foreign Investigations Reporter	
Fred	Hiatt	The Washington Post	Editor	
Jackson	Diehl	The Washington Post	Deputy, Editorial Page Editor	
Jim	Hoagland	The Washington Post	Associate Editor and Chief Foreign Correspondent	

US and Africa Press list

Carter	Dougherty	The Washington Times	Reporter	
David W.	Jones	The Washington Times	Foreign Editor	
Deborah	Simmons	The Washington Times	Deputy, Editorial Page Editor	
Desikan	Thirunarayanapuram	The Washington Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Gus	Constantine	The Washington Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Nicholas	Kralev	The Washington Times	Foreign Affairs Reporter	
Pete	Macqueen	The Washington Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Tom	Carter	The Washington Times	Asst. Foreign Editor	
Tony	Blankey	The Washington Times	Editorial Page Editor	
Willis	Witter	The Washington Times	Deputy Foreign Editor	
Charles	Corey III	US Information Agency		
Andre		Voice of America		
Denise	Rolark-Barnes	Washington Informer		
Cassandra-Mero	Wimbs	WHRC - FM 90.3		
Afwan Omar	Yusuf-Garaad			

Lead para.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Last Name	First Name
Lugar	The Honorable Richard
Biden Jr.	The Honorable Joseph
Alexander	The Honorable Lamar
Feingold	The Honorable Russ
Brownback	The Honorable Sam
Coleman	The Honorable Norm
Sununu	The Honorable John
Dodd	The Honorable Christopher
Nelson	The Honorable Bill
Allen	The Honorable George
Voinovitch	The Honorable George V.
Kerry	The Honorable John F.
Boxer	The Honorable Barbara
Hagel	The Honorable Chuck
Chafee	The Honorable Lincoln
Sarbanes	The Honorable Paul
Enzi	The Honorable Michael
Corzine	The Honorable Jon
Rockefeller	The Honorable John

Administration: AGOA interagency committee, US Ambassador to UN and his staff

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organizaton
Pittman	The Honorable Bobby	Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multilateral Development	U.S. Department of Treasury
Vineyard	Ms. Holly		U.S. Department of Commerce
Hamilton	Ms. Connie	Senior Director	Office of the US Trade Representative
Liser	The Honorable Flori	Assistant US Trade Representative, Africa	Office of the US Trade Representative
Courville	Dr. Cindy	Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director	National Security Council
Newman	The Honorable Constance	Assistant Secretary for African Affairs	US Department of State
Larson	The Honorable Al	Undersecretary, Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs	US Department of State
Wills	Ms. Mary Jo	Director, Economic Policy Staff	US Department of State
Kozak	Mr. Michael	Acting Assistant Secretary	US Department of State
Whyche	The Honorable Oren	Director of the Office of African Nations, International Affairs	US Department of Treasury
Wayne	Anthony E.	Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs	
Zoellick	The Honorable Robert B.	US Trade Representative	Office of the US Trade Representative
Danforth	H.E. John	US Ambassador to the UN	Office of the US Ambassador to the United Nations
Schweich	Mr. Thomas	Chief of Staff	Office of the US Ambassador to the United Nations
Grenell	Mr. Richard A.	Director of Communications	Office of the US Ambassador to the United Nations

staffer list some key africa trade health committees

Last Name	First Name	Committee			
Blinken	Mr. Anthony	senate foreign relations committee staff			
Davis	Mr. Kolan	senate finance committee staff			
Eliard	Ms. Angela				
Forbes	Mr. Jeff	senate finance committee staff			
Giles	Ms. Allison				
Lusane	Ms. Noelle				
Mays	Ms. Janice				
Myers	Mr. Ken	senate foreign relations committee staff			
Ranjaswami	Ms. Viji	Democratic Trade Counsel, house committee on ways and means			
Reif	Mr. Tim				
Sheehy	Mr. Thomas	Major Staff Director		International Relations Subcommittee	
Singh	Ms. Manisha				
Luse	Mr. Keith				
Aftandilian	Mr. Greg				

House International Relations Committee and staff

Last Name	First Name	Department
Hyde	The Honorable Henry	U. S. House of Representatives
Leach	The Honorable Jim	U. S. House of Representatives
Smith	The Honorable Christopher H.	U. S. House of Representatives
Burton	The Honorable Dan	U. S. House of Representatives
Gallely	The Honorable Elton	U. S. House of Representatives
Ros-Lehtinen	The Honorable Ileana	U. S. House of Representatives
Ballenger	The Honorable Cass	U. S. House of Representatives
Rohrabacher	The Honorable Dana	U. S. House of Representatives
Royce	The Honorable Ed	U. S. House of Representatives
King	The Honorable Peter	U. S. House of Representatives
Chabot	The Honorable Steve	U. S. House of Representatives
Houghton	The Honorable Amory	U. S. House of Representatives
McHugh	The Honorable John	U. S. House of Representatives
Blunt	The Honorable Roy	U. S. House of Representatives
Tancred	The Honorable Thomas G.	U. S. House of Representatives
Paul	The Honorable Ron E.	U. S. House of Representatives
Smith	The Honorable Nick	U. S. House of Representatives
Pitts	The Honorable Joseph R.	U. S. House of Representatives
Flake	The Honorable Jeff	U. S. House of Representatives
Davis	The Honorable Jo Ann S.	U. S. House of Representatives
Green	The Honorable Mark	U. S. House of Representatives
Weller	The Honorable Jerry	U. S. House of Representatives
Pence	The Honorable Mike	U. S. House of Representatives
McCotter	The Honorable Thaddeus G.	U. S. House of Representatives
Harris	The Honorable Katherine	U. S. House of Representatives
Lantos	The Honorable Tom	U. S. House of Representatives
Berman	The Honorable Howard L.	U. S. House of Representatives
Ackerman	The Honorable Gary L.	U. S. House of Representatives
Faleomavaea	The Honorable Eni F. H.	U. S. House of Representatives
Payne	The Honorable Donald	U. S. House of Representatives
Menendez	The Honorable Robert	U. S. House of Representatives
Brown	The Honorable Sherrrod	U. S. House of Representatives
Sherman	The Honorable Brad	U. S. House of Representatives
Wexler	The Honorable Robert I.	U. S. House of Representatives
Engel	The Honorable Eliot	U. S. House of Representatives
Deahunt	The Honorable William	U. S. House of Representatives

House International Relations Committee and staff

Meeks	The Honorable Gregory	U. S. House of Representatives
Lee	The Honorable Barbara	U. S. House of Representatives
Crowley	The Honorable Joseph	U. S. House of Representatives
Hoefel	The Honorable Joseph M.	U. S. House of Representatives
Blumenauer	The Honorable Earl	U. S. House of Representatives
Berkley	The Honorable Shelley	U. S. House of Representatives
Napolitano	The Honorable Grace F.	U. S. House of Representatives
Schiff	The Honorable Adam	U. S. House of Representatives
Watson	The Honorable Diane	U. S. House of Representatives
McCollum	The Honorable Betty	U. S. House of Representatives
Bell	The Honorable Chris	U. S. House of Representatives
Kling	Mr. Robert	
Mooney	Mr. Tom	
Sheehy	Tom	
Lusane	Noelle	

Congressional Senate Tracking Sheet

Last Name	First Name	Staff Contact	Salutation	Organization
Allen	George	Ms. Patricia Norman	Ms. Norman	United States Senate
Baucus	Max	Mr. Brian Pomper	Mr. Pomper	United States Senate
Breaux	John	Mr. Scott Payne	Mr. Payne	United States Senate
Bunning	Jim	Mr. Michael Monihan	Mr. Monihan	United States Senate
Coleman	Norm	Mr. Jeff Harrison	Mr. Harrison	United States Senate
Conrad	Kent	Mr. Tom Mahr	Mr. Mahr	United States Senate
Corzine	Jon	Mr. Enrique Fernandez	Mr. Fernandez	United States Senate
Daschle	Tom	Ms. Lara Birkes	Ms. Birkes	United States Senate
Dodd	Christophe	Mr. Jonathan Pearl	Mr. Pearl	United States Senate
Frist	Bill	Mr. Andy Olsen	Mr. Olsen	United States Senate
Graham	Bob	Mr. John Dickas	Mr. Dickas	United States Senate
Feingold	Russ	Mr. Sumner Slichter	Mr. Slichter	United States Senate
Grassley	Charles	Mr. Everett Eissenstat	Mr. Eissenstat	United States Senate
Hagel	Chuck	Mr. Joseph Lai	Mr. Lai	United States Senate
Kerry	John	Mr. Arthur Coviello	Mr. Coviello	United States Senate
Landreiu	Mary	Mr. Jason Matthews	Mr. Matthews	United States Senate
Lieberman	Joe	Ms. Sara Hagigh/Chris Povak	Ms. Hagigh	United States Senate
Lincoln	Blanche	Mr. Robert Holifield	Mr. Holifield	United States Senate
Nickles	Donald	Ms. Stacey Lowder	Ms. Lowder	United States Senate
Nickles	Donald	Ms. Yvonne Bartoli	Ms. Bartoli	United States Senate
Santorum	Rick	Mr. George Bernier	Mr. Bernier	United States Senate
Smith	Gordon	Mr. Bryan Mercier	Mr. Mercier	United States Senate
Thomas	Craig	Mr. Bryn Stewart	Mr. Stewart	United States Senate

Congressional Black Caucus List

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization
Bishop	The Honorable Sanford	Congressman	House of Representatives
Butterfield	The Honorable G.K.		House of Representatives
Brown	The Honorable Corrine	Congressman	House of Representatives
Carson	The Honorable Julia	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Christensen	The Honorable Donna M.	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Clay	The Honorable William "Lacy" Jr.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Clyburn	The Honorable James	Congressman	House of Representatives
Conyers	the Honorable John	Congressman	House of Representatives
Cummings	The Honorable Elijah	Congressman	House of Representatives
Davis	The Honorable Danny K.	Congressman	House of Representatives
Fattah	The Honorable Chaka	Congressman	House of Representatives
Ford, Jr.	The Honorable Harold	Congressman	House of Representatives
Hastings	The Honorable Alcee	Congressman	House of Representatives
Jackson, Jr.	The Honorable Jesse	Congressman	House of Representatives
Jackson-Lee	The Honorable Sheila	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Jefferson	The Honorable William	Congressman	House of Representatives
Johnson	The Honorable Eddie Bernice	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Tubbs Jones	The Honorable Stephanie	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Kilpatrick	The Honorable Carolyn	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Lee	The Honorable Barbara	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Lewis	The Honorable John	Congressman	House of Representatives
Majette	The Honorable Denise	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Meek	The Honorable Kendrick	Congressman	House of Representatives
Meeks	The Honorable Gregory	Congressman	House of Representatives
Millender-McDonald	The Honorable Juanita	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Norton	The Honorable Eleanor Holmes	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Owens	The Honorable Major	Congressman	House of Representatives
Payne	The Honorable Donald	Congressman	House of Representatives
Rangel	The Honorable Charles	Congressman	House of Representatives
Rush	The Honorable Bobby	Congressman	House of Representatives
Scott	The Honorable David	Congressman	House of Representatives
Scott	The Honorable Robert	Congressman	House of Representatives
Thompson	The Honorable Bennie	Congressman	House of Representatives
Towns	The Honorable Edolphus	Congressman	House of Representatives
Waters	The Honorable Maxine	Congresswoman	House of Representatives
Watson	The Honorable Diane E.	Congresswoman	House of Representatives

Congressional Black Caucus List

Walt	The Honorable Melvin	Congressman	House of Representatives
Wynn	The Honorable Albert R.	Congressman	House of Representatives
	Congressional Black Caucus		

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Facsimile Transmittal

To: Ambassador Josette Shiner Fax: 202 395 [REDACTED]

From: The Whitaker Group Date: December 7, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks Pages: 4(including cover)

CC:

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle



Please find attached the following articles of interest from the Washington Post on Cote d'Ivoire in anticipation of your meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo of Cote d'Ivoire.

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Washington, DC

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Ivory Coast Leaders Agree New Peace Drive -- Mbeki

Reuters

Tuesday, December 7, 2004; 1:06 AM

By Andrew Gray

ABIDJAN (Reuters) - All sides in Ivory Coast's conflict have agreed on measures to revive a moribund peace plan and speed up its implementation, South African President Thabo Mbeki said on Monday at the end of a mediation mission.

An alarmed African Union asked Mbeki to step in after a major flareup last month raised the prospect of a slide into all-out war and caused thousands of expatriates to flee a country seen for decades as a haven of stability and prosperity.

All parties agreed political reforms must be implemented, disarmament must begin, a power-sharing government should get back to work and normality must be restored after the violence in the main city Abidjan and other areas, Mbeki said.

"We've agreed with everybody on all of these matters and therefore specific programs must be carried out," Mbeki told a news conference concluding his five-day mission.

The crisis in the West African state began in September 2002, when a rebel movement failed to oust President Laurent Gbagbo from power but seized the north of the country.

Mbeki said his delegation -- including United Nations, European Union, World Bank and other international officials -- had set down timelines for implementing the measures but would not make them public right away.

The team had worked on the basis of the peace deal known as the Linas-Marcoussis pact, brokered last year by former colonial power France, rather than trying to produce a new plan. That may not please Gbagbo's camp, which signed the pact reluctantly.

MBEKI CONFIDENT

A succession of mediators and international conferences has failed to turn all the provisions of Linas-Marcoussis into reality and many Ivorians are likely to be skeptical about the new initiative unless it produces results.

Each side has accused the other of failing to honor commitments but Mbeki insisted this time would be different.

"I'm absolutely certain there is mistrust," he said. "If there wasn't mistrust, it would mean there had been no conflict but I'm quite sure that that mistrust will diminish as people see that everybody's sticking to their word."

The conflict generally pits the richer mainly Christian south against the poorer Muslim north but many analysts say in reality it has more to do with rival politicians vying for the spoils of power and control of the lucrative cocoa industry.

Last month's surge in violence began when Gbagbo's forces shattered an 18-month cease-fire to launch an assault on the rebel-held north and killed nine French soldiers in an air raid.

France hit back by crippling the Ivorian air force, an act which triggered days of rioting and looting by Gbagbo supporters targeting French nationals and other Westerners.

Albert Tevoedjre, the head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast, announced his resignation on Monday, saying he could move on now the peace process was getting back on track.

But the 75-year-old from Benin also said he had made his decision the day the Ivorian army broke the cease-fire.

"That was completely against what we expected the parties to do," he told reporters. "If they are not agreeable to do what they have to do, why should we be here?"

© 2004 Reuters

Mbeki: Ivory Coast Peace Talks to Advance

Reuters

Tuesday, December 7, 2004; 1:06 AM

By PAULINE BAX

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast - The government and rebels in war-divided Ivory Coast have agreed to a new timetable to carry out a long-stalled peace plan in West Africa's economic hub, South African President Thabo Mbeki said Monday.

Briefing reporters after a five-day peace mission in Ivory Coast, Mbeki said warring sides have settled on timing of disarmament, security reforms, and other divisive points.

"We've agreed with everybody on all these matters and ... the delegation has indicated the timeframes for all of these things," Mbeki said in the commercial capital, Abidjan.

The peace mission follows a three-day return to government attacks on the rebel north last month.

Both sides have agreed to peace accords but failed to carry them out. President Laurent Gbagbo last month reopened attacks with airstrikes on the rebel-held north for three days, citing insurgents' failure to disarm.

A Nov. 6 airstrike killed nine French peacekeepers and an American aid worker, and prompted brief, unprecedented battles between Ivory Coast's forces and those of its former colonial ruler, France.

A first step in the new timetable will come in early January, Mbeki said, when Ivory Coast's national assembly will convene an emergency session to discuss a contentious constitutional requirement stipulating that any presidential candidate be a second-generation Ivorian.

Ivory Coast's southern-based government has used the requirement to bar a presidential run by an opposition leader with heavy support in the north, Alassane Ouattara, claiming his parents were not born in Ivory Coast.

Mbeki did not give dates for the other steps, including disarmament, or for the restarting of a power-sharing government that rebels have boycotted.

Ivory Coast has been split into rebel-held north and government south since a September 2002 coup attempt propelled the world's largest cocoa grower into civil war.

Mbeki, who has been mandated by the African Union as a mediator, said he would make regular visits to Ivory Coast to see that both sides stick to their agreements.

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facsimile transmittal

To: Dr. Cindy Courville Fax:
From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: December 15, 2004
Re: Cote d'Ivoire Pages: 3 (including cover)
CC:
 Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

Thanks for your comments and suggestions during our visit on Monday. Attached you will find the latest information on the status of parliamentary consideration of the legislation required by Linas Marcousis and Accra III. By the way, 16 bills are usually associated with Linas Marcousis and Accra III but as of this week three additional bills have been added to the parliamentary process for a total of 19 bills under consideration. President Gbagbo has passed all of bills to the Parliament and Parliament has passed 10 of the bills so far. President Gbagbo is actively engaged in lobbying for his legislative package and has pledged to call a special session (from Dec. 17th until Dec. 31st) if Parliament has not voted on all of his proposed legislation by December 17th when the current legislative session ends. Thanks again for your time and effort.

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at the Department of Justice,
Washington, DC

**STATUS REPORT - HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT'S
EXAMINATION & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION FROM THE LINAS
MARCOUSIS AND ACCRA III PEACE AGREEMENTS
AS RECOMMENDED BY
PRESIDENT LAURENT GBAGBO
REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE**

LEGISLATION	COMMITTEE ACTION	FINAL STATUS
1. AMNESTY LAW	APPROVED	RATIFIED ON AUGUST 6, 2003 –UNANIMOUSLY
2. IDENTITY & RESIDENT STATUS OF FOREIGNERS	APPROVED	APPROVED APRIL 23RD, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS	APPROVED	APPROVED APRIL 23RD, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
4. MODIFICATION OF LAND TENURE LAWS	APPROVED	APPROVED JULY 28TH, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
5. DISCLOSURE OF ASSETS BY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES	APPROVED	APPROVED JULY 28TH, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
6. FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES & PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS	APPROVED	APPROVED SEPTEMBER 9TH 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
7. AUTHORIZATION OF THE PRESIDENT TO ADOPT A PROTOCOL ON THE RIGHTS OF RESIDENCE AND SETTLEMENT	APPROVED	APPROVED JULY 27TH, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT (THIRD STAGE –SETTLEMENTS- DEFERRED BY COMMITTEE)
8. INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION:	APPROVED	APPROVED DECEMBER 9TH, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
9. MODIFICATION OF NATIONALITY CODE	APPROVED DECEMBER 14TH, 2004	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN A SPECIAL SESSION BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST, 2004
10. REGULATION OF THE MEDIA/PRESS	APPROVED	APPROVED DECEMBER 9TH, 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
11. ARTICLE 35 – AMENDEMENT TO CONSTITUTION	APPROVED ON DECEMBER 10TH, 2004	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BY DECEMBER 31ST, 2004.

12. LAW ON AUDIO - VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS	APPROVED	APPROVED DECEMBER 9TH 2004 BY PARLIAMENT
13. STATUS OF OPPOSITION	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST, 2004
14. SURPRESSION OF ECONOMIC ENRICHMENT BY ILLICIT MEANS - CORRUPTION LEGISLATION	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST, 2004
15. ORGANIZATION OF THE REFERENDUM	UNDER DISCUSSION (IN COMMITTEE SINCE NOVEMBER 16, 2004)	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BEFORE DECEMBER 31TH, 2004
16. LAW ON NATURALIZATION	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST, 2004
17. ENTITLEMENT TO IVORIAN CITIZENSHIP	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY DEC. 17TH, 2004
18. DISCLOSURE OF ASSETS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS.	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BY DECEMBER 31ST, 2004
19. COMPENSATION OF WAR VICTIMS & NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WAR VICTIMS, DISPLACED AND EXILED PERSONS.	UNDER DISCUSSION	TO BE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SPECIAL SESSION BY DECEMBER 31ST, 2004

Note: While there has been much discussion about the 16 pieces of legislation that were agreed to at Linas Marcoussis and Accra III, the government and parliament have actually considered and will vote on as many as 19 pieces of legislation relating to Linas Marcoussis and Accra III. All 19 pieces of legislation from Linas Marcoussis and Accra III have been passed by the Cabinet that is Chaired by President Laurent Gbagbo. The Parliament has approved 10 of the 19 pieces of legislation and has scheduled the remaining 9 legislative bills for discussion and approval by December 17th, 2004 or in a Special Session of Parliament by December 31st, 2004. President Laurent Gbagbo has actively worked to ensure passage of the Linas Marcoussis and Accra III legislation as quickly as possible. Unfortunately approval has been delayed due to active political opposition and procedural maneuvering in the Parliament.

12/15/04

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Washington, DC 20006
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202/349-3806 Fax
TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

facsimile transmittal

To: %{First Name} %{Last Name} **Fax:** %{Fax Number}

From: Nicole Amarteifio on behalf of **Date:** December 2, 2004
 Ms. Rosa Whitaker

Re: Revised Invitation Letter **Pages:** 3 (Including Cover Sheet)

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December 1, 2004

%{First Name} %{Last Name}
%{Office}
%{Address 1}
%{Address 2}
%{Address 3}
%{Address 4}

Dear %{Salutation}:

I am pleased to invite you to a luncheon discussion with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Envoy, Office of His Excellency Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire. Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure will be visiting Washington DC to announce new policy initiatives by the government and is interested in discussing the current state of affairs in Cote d'Ivoire. I hope that you will join us for a great meal and a stimulating and informative exchange of views on Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 12:30pm at the Hotel George's Bistro Bis, on 15 E Street, NW, Washington DC.

I have attached Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure's biography for your review and Nicole Amarteifio will contact you about your availability for lunch. Please contact Nicole at (202) 349-3781 for further information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

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at the Department of Justice,
Washington, DC



Republic of Cote d'Ivoire Office of the President

Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure

For decades Ambassador S. Ottro-Toure has been at the forefront of CI's political landscape -- as a freedom fighter, advocate for democracy and leader in the women's movement. Her commitment landed her in jail in 1970 with a group of fellow activists who are now key members of government, including President Gbagbo. When their party, the Ivorian Popular Front, was recognized as the official opposition in 1990, she was named to the shadow cabinet, eventually receiving the foreign affairs portfolio. A linguist, teacher and child psychologist by training, Ambassador Toure has served President Gbagbo as deputy chief of staff since his election in 2000. She acts as a roving envoy and trouble-shooter with a special focus on relations with the US. Her academic credentials include degrees and diplomas earned in the UK and Cote D'Ivoire. She worked for several years as a translator in New York and for the US Foreign Broadcasting Information Service at the embassy in Abidjan.

Congressional Lunch List

Senayit's Contacts

Sarata's Lunch 12.09.04

Last Name	First Name	Salutation	Office	Address 1	Address 2	Address 3	Address 4	Phone	
Aftandilian	Mr. Greg	Mr. Aftandi	Senate For	International	439 Senate	1st and C	Washington, DC	2051	
Blinken	Mr. Anthon	Mr. Blinker	Senate For	439 Senate	1st and C	Washington, DC	20510		
Coviello	Mr. Arthur	Mr. Covielli	Office of S	Senate For	304 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 27	
Davis	Mr. Kolan	Mr. Davis	Senate Fin	219 Senate	1st and C	Washington, DC	20510		
Ellard	Ms. Angela	Ms. Ellard	House Wa	1104 Long	Independen	Washington, DC	20515		
Fernandez	Mr. Enrique	Mr. Fernan	Office of S	Senate For	502 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 47	
Forbes	Mr. Jeff	Mr. Forbes	Senate Finance	Committee					
Giles	Ms. Allison	Ms. Giles	House Wa	1102 Long	Independen	Washington, DC	20515		
Lai	Mr. Joseph	Mr. Lai	Office of S	Senate For	248 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 42	
Luse	Mr. Keith	Mr. Luse	Senate For	International	450 Senate	1st and C	Washington, DC	2051	
Mays	Ms. Janice	Ms. Mays	House Wa	1106 Long	Independen	Washington, DC	2515		
Myers	Mr. Ken	Mr. Myers	Senate For	450 Senate	1st and C	Washington, DC	20510		
Norman	Ms. Patricia	Ms. Norma	Office of S	Senate For	204 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 40	
Olsen	Mr. Andy	Mr. Olsen	Office of S	United Stat	461 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 33	
Pearl	Mr. Jonath	Mr. Pear	Office of S	Senate For	448 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 28	
Ranjaswan	Ms. Viji	Ms. Ranjas	Democratic Trade	Counsel, House Committee on Ways and Means					
Reif	Mr. Tim	Mr. Reif	House Wa	1104 Long	Independen	Washington, DC	20515		
Singh	Ms. Manist	Ms. Sing	Office of S	306 Senate	2nd and C	Washington, DC	20510		
Slichter	Mr. Sumne	Mr. Slichter	Office of S	Senate For	506 Senate	Washington, DC	2051	202 224 53	
Amarteifio	Ms. Nicole	Ms. Amarte	The White	1725 I Stre	Suite 300	Washington, DC	2000	202 349 37	

Congressional Group
 Mike's Contacts
 Sarata's Lunch 12.09.04

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Burton	JD	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 66	202 225 19	1029 Long	Independen	Washington
Chaka	Malik	Mr.	Office of R:	204 225 41	202 226 03	2202 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Condon	Joan	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 45	202 225 11	2110 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Dozier	Damon	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 79	202 225 79	1514 Long	Independen	Washington
Eben	Carle	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 36	202 225 18	2246 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Flynn	Heather	Ms.	Office of S:	202 244 50	202 224 01	201 Russe	1st & C Str	Washington
Galvin	Greg	Mr.	Office of R:	203 225 41	202 226 03	2202 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Hammond	Bert	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 70	202 225 24	125 Canno	1st & Inde	Washington
House	Aysha	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 26	202 225 98	1724 Long	Independen	Washington
Keaton	Jennifer	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 79	202 225 47	2331 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Lusane	Noell	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 34	202 225 41	2209 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Marsh	Pearl Alice	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 35	202 226 41	2413 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Miller	Molly	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 78	202 226 46	1130 Long	Independen	Washington
Parker	Laura	Ms.	Office of S:	202 224 23	202 224 65	140 Russe	1st & C Str	Washington
Parker	Jackie	Ms.	Office of S:	202 224 62	202 224 13	269 Russe	1st & C Str	Washington
Paulson	Adam	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 78	202 226 22	436 Canno	1st & Inde	Washington
Phelan	Michael	Mr.	Office of S:	202 224 48	202 228 03	306 Hart B	2nd & C St	Washington
Plaque	Geoff	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 41	292 225 43	1705 Long	Independen	Washington
Pough	Tracie	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 49	202 225 82	Rayburn H	Independen	Washington
Schultz-He	Laurie	Ms.	Office of S:	202 224 51	202 228 07	413 Dirkse	1st & C Str	Washington
Sheehy	Tom	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 41	202 226 03	2202 Rayb	Independen	Washington
Sonnesyn	Matt	Mr.	Office of S:	202 224 29	202 228 33	302 Hart B	2nd & C St	Washington
Spence	Melvin	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 66	202 225 19	240 Canno	1st & Inde	Washington
Thompson	Mischa	Ms.	Office Rep:	202 225 34	202 226 41	1710 Long	Independen	Washington
Tuttle	Chris	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 56	202 225 57	1314 Long	Independen	Washington
Venable.	Nicole	Ms.	Office of R:	202 225 66	202 225 19	240 Canno	1st & Inde	Washington
Walker	Lance	Mr.	Office of R:	202 225 26	202 226 43	424 Canno	1st & Inde	Washington
Amarteifio	Nicole	Ms.	The Whital	202 349 37	202 349 38	1725 I Stre	Suite 300	Washington

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www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

Ms. Theresa Whelan
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
For African Affairs
U.S. Department of Defense
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Ms. Whalen:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, I am pleased to inform you that Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Special Envoy and Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo, will be in Washington from December 9th-13th. She would very much appreciate a meeting with you to discuss the current situation in her nation and new policy initiatives that will be announced by President Gbagbo in response to UN Resolution 1528.

A broad US-Ivorian dialogue is critically important to ensure that this important nation successfully returns to the path of peace and stability. I hope that you will devote some time in your busy schedule to meet with her.

My office will follow up this letter with a call regarding your availability to meet. You may also reach Ms. Mesfin in my office at 202-349-3781 or senayit@thewhitakergroup.us.

The Government of Cote d' Ivoire values its relationship with the US and considers this meeting critically important.

I extend my best regards and hopes that our shared vision of a strong, peaceful and prosperous Cote d'Ivoire will soon be realized.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

Enclosure: Ambassador Toure's Biography



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December 1, 2004

Ms. Jackie Parker
Office of Senator Carl Levin
Russell Building – Room 269
1st & C Streets, NE
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ms. Parker:

I am pleased to invite you to a luncheon discussion with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Envoy, Office of His Excellency Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire. Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure will be visiting Washington DC to announce new policy initiatives by the government and is interested in discussing the current state of affairs in Cote d'Ivoire. I hope that you will join us for a great meal and a stimulating and informative exchange of views on Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 12:30pm at the Hotel George's Bistro Bis, on 15 E Street, NW, Washington DC.

I have attached Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure's biography for your review and Nicole Amarteifio will contact you about your availability for lunch. Please contact Nicole at (202) 349-3781 for further information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO



Republic of Cote d'Ivoire Office of the President

Ambassador S. Ottro Zirignon-Toure

For decades Ambassador S. Ottro-Toure has been at the forefront of CI's political landscape -- as a freedom fighter, advocate for democracy and leader in the women's movement. Her commitment landed her in jail in 1970 with a group of fellow activists who are now key members of government, including President Gbagbo. When their party, the Ivorian Popular Front, was recognized as the official opposition in 1990, she was named to the shadow cabinet, eventually receiving the foreign affairs portfolio. A linguist, teacher and child psychologist by training, Ambassador Toure has served President Gbagbo as deputy chief of staff since his election in 2000. She acts as a roving envoy and trouble-shooter with a special focus on relations with the US. Her academic credentials include degrees and diplomas earned in the UK and Cote D'Ivoire. She worked for several years as a translator in New York and for the US Foreign Broadcasting Information Service at the embassy in Abidjan.

THE WHITAKER GROUP
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TO A
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WITH
HIS EXCELLENCY DR. D.R. PHORORO
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
KINGDOM OF LESOTHO
AT
LA PERLA RESTAURANT
LOCATED AT
2600 PENNSYLVANIA, NW
WASHINGTON DC
6:00-8:00PM
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004

DISCUSSION FOCUS

Minister Phororo will share his views on the prospects for transforming Lesotho's Agriculture sector, addressing challenges such as food security and meeting the Agriculture goals of NEPAD. Minister Phororo has been at the forefront of Lesotho's agricultural development and a leading figure on Lesotho's Agriculture positions in the WTO.

RSVP by Wednesday, December 8, 2004
Via Telephone (202) 349-3781
Via facsimile (202) 349-3806
or email at twg@thewhitakergroup.us

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Lesotho AG lunch on Dec 8th invitation list

Last Name	First Name	Title	Company		
Paolo, Esq.	Bernadette B.	Vice President	Africa Society		
Rangwala	Shehnaz	Assistant to the Vice President	Bread for the World		
Karanja	Daniel	Research Fellow	Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa		
Moss	Mr. Ralph	Vice President, Government Affairs	Seaboard Corporation		
Hayes	Stephen	President	The Corporate Council on Africa		
Hanif	Charity		The Corporate Council on Africa		
Yeutter	Mr. Van A.	International Business Development Director	Cargill, Incorporated		
Darragh	Mr. Sean	Executive Director, Food and Agricultural	BIO	sdarragh@bio.org	
Glover	Mr. Jerry P.	Vice President, External Affairs	Monsanto Company		Write a separate note
Chambers	Ms. Judith	Director, International Development	Monsanto Company		
Wilson	Mr. Dwight	Desk Officer for Lesotho	USAID		
Buckley	Mr. Bishop	Desk Officer for RCSEA	USAID		
Pearson	Mr. Lloyd		USAID		
Hamilton	Ms. Connie		USTR		
Coleman	Mr. Patrick		USTR		
Williams	Mr. Walker A.	President	Alternative Marketing Access, Inc./ Church World Service		
Rosegrant	Mr. Mark W.	Senior Research Fellow	International Food Policy Research Institute		
Garrett	Mr. James	Research Fellow	International Food Policy Research Institute		
Chaudry	Amer	Executive Vice President	American Eagle Food Products Group		
Perry	Ambassador Robert C.	Director of Programs/Special Advisor to	The Corporate Council on Africa		
McClafferty	Ms. Bonnie		International Food Policy Research Institute		
Weatherly	Mr. Paul	President	Weatherly Consulting, Inc		
D'Silva	Mr. Brian	Food Security and Trade Advisor	USAID		
Horsch	Mr. Robert		Monsanto Company		
D'Silva	Mr. Brian	Food Security and Trade Advisor	USAID		
Nelson	Mr. Douglas T.	Executive Vice President, General Cou	CropLife America		
Glover	Mr. Jerry	Vice President	Monsanto Company		
Richiedi	Ms. Susan S.	Regional Director, Africa	CEDPA		
Guyton	Mr. Bill	President	World Cocoa Foundation		
Hanif	Ms. Charity	Senior Agribusiness Marketing Specialist	The Corporate Council on Africa		
Wilson	Dr. Patrick	Associate Director, Africa, Europe, East	US Food and Drug Administration		
Hill	Mr. Jeff	Director	Africa Bureau, USAID		
Page	Mr. Lloyd Le	Sustainable Agricultural Development	Pioneer Hi-Bred International		
Sharpless	H.E. Ambassador Ma	Special Assistant to the Deputy Under	Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA		
Siegal	Mr. Robert A.	Manager, Africa Trade Portfolio	USAID		
Steiner	Mr. Jerry	Vice President	Monsanto Company		

Lesotho AG lunch on Dec 8th invitation list

Steiner	Mr. Jerry	Assistant to Mr. Steiner	Monsanto Company		
Wittman	Cori		US Grains Council		
Howard	Ms. Julie	Executive Director	Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa		
Verdoorn	Mr. Tom	Vice President, International Programs	Land O'Lakes, Inc.		
Westneat	Mr. Art		USDA		
Friedman	Ms. Debbie				
Samuels	Ambassador Mike				
Hofstatter	Mr. Benjamin	Country Officer for Lesotho/Namibia	Samuel's International Associates, Inc.		
Mozena	Mr. Dan	Director, Office of Southern African Aff	US Department of State		
Raymond	Mr. Pat		US Department of State		
Fountain	Mr. Galen		United States Senate		
			United States Senate		

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To: Mr. Mike Deegan **Fax:**
From: The Whitaker Group **Date:** December 9, 2004
Re: Dinner Invitation **Pages:** 2 including cover page
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www.thewhitakergroup.us

December 1, 2004

Mr. Chris Tuttle
Office of Congressman Mark Green
1314 Longworth House Office Building
Independence & New Jersey Aves., SE
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Tuttle:

I am pleased to invite you to a luncheon discussion with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Envoy, Office of His Excellency Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire. Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure will be visiting Washington DC to announce new policy initiatives by the government and is interested in discussing the current state of affairs in Cote d'Ivoire. I hope that you will join us for a great meal and a stimulating and informative exchange of views on Thursday, December 9, 2004 at 12:30pm at the Hotel George's Bistro Bis, on 15 E Street, NW, Washington DC.

I have attached Ambassador Ottro Zirignon-Toure's biography for your review and Nicole Amarteifio will contact you about your availability for lunch. Please contact Nicole at (202) 349-3781 for further information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rosa Whitaker
President & CEO

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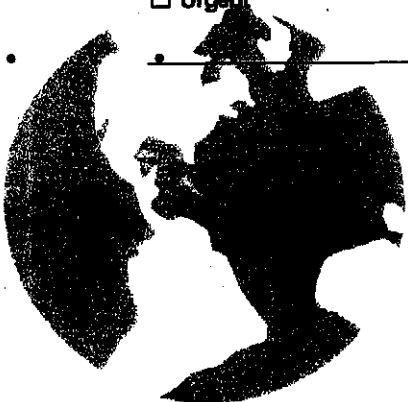
To: Ms. Flori Liser **Fax:**

From: The Whitaker Group **Date:** December 7, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks **Pages:** 4(including cover)

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Please find attached the following articles of interest from the Washington Post on Cote d'Ivoire in anticipation of your meeting with Ambassador Sarata Otro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo of Cote d'Ivoire.

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202/349-3806 F
TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

Facsimile Transmittal

To: Mr. David Loevinger Fax:

From: The Whitaker Group Date: December 7, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks Pages: 4(including cover)

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Washington, DC

.....

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TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

Facsimile Transmittal

To: The Honorable William H. Lash **Fax:**
From: The Whitaker Group **Date:** December 7, 2004
Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks **Pages:** 4(including cover)
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Please find attached the following articles of interest from the Washington Post on Cote d'Ivoire in anticipation of your meeting with Ambassador Sarata Ottro Zirignon-Toure, Deputy Chief of Staff to President Laurent Gbagbo of Cote d'Ivoire.

This material is distributed
by the Whitaker Group, LLC
on behalf of the Government of Cote d'Ivoire.
Additional information is available
at the Department of Justice,
Washington, DC

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Washington, DC 20006
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202/349-3806 F
TWG@thewhitakergroup.us

Facsimile Transmittal

To: Ms. Constance Berry Newman Fax: [REDACTED]

From: The Whitaker Group Date: December 7, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks Pages: 4(including cover)

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Facsimile Transmittal

To: Mr. Michael Kozak

Fax: /

From: The Whitaker Group

Date: December 7, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks

Pages: 4(including cover)

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For Review

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Facsimile Transmittal

To: Ms. Theresa Whelan Fax: [Redacted]
From: The Whitaker Group Date: December 7, 2004
Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks Pages: 4(Including cover)
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Facsimile Transmittal

To: The Honorable Bobby Pittman Fax: 202-349-3806
From: The Whitaker Group Date: December 7, 2004
Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks Pages: 4(including cover)
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Facsimile Transmittal

To: Dr. Cindy Courville
From: The Whitaker Group
Re: Cote D'Ivoire: Articles on Mbeki Peace Talks
CC:

Fax: 202 349 3806
Date: December 7, 2004
Pages: 4(including cover)

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Ivory Coast Leaders Agree New Peace Drive -- Mbeki

Reuters

Tuesday, December 7, 2004; 1:06 AM

By Andrew Gray

ABIDJAN (Reuters) - All sides in Ivory Coast's conflict have agreed on measures to revive a moribund peace plan and speed up its implementation, South African President Thabo Mbeki said on Monday at the end of a mediation mission.

An alarmed African Union asked Mbeki to step in after a major flareup last month raised the prospect of a slide into all-out war and caused thousands of expatriates to flee a country seen for decades as a haven of stability and prosperity.

All parties agreed political reforms must be implemented, disarmament must begin, a power-sharing government should get back to work and normality must be restored after the violence in the main city Abidjan and other areas, Mbeki said.

"We've agreed with everybody on all of these matters and therefore specific programs must be carried out," Mbeki told a news conference concluding his five-day mission.

The crisis in the West African state began in September 2002, when a rebel movement failed to oust President Laurent Gbagbo from power but seized the north of the country.

Mbeki said his delegation -- including United Nations, European Union, World Bank and other international officials -- had set down timelines for implementing the measures but would not make them public right away.

The team had worked on the basis of the peace deal known as the Linas-Marcoussis pact, brokered last year by former colonial power France, rather than trying to produce a new plan. That may not please Gbagbo's camp, which signed the pact reluctantly.

MBEKI CONFIDENT

A succession of mediators and international conferences has failed to turn all the provisions of Linas-Marcoussis into reality and many Ivorians are likely to be skeptical about the new initiative unless it produces results.

Each side has accused the other of failing to honor commitments but Mbeki insisted this time would be different.

"I'm absolutely certain there is mistrust," he said. "If there wasn't mistrust, it would mean there had been no conflict but I'm quite sure that that mistrust will diminish as people see that everybody's sticking to their word."

The conflict generally pits the richer mainly Christian south against the poorer Muslim north but many analysts say in reality it has more to do with rival politicians vying for the spoils of power and control of the lucrative cocoa industry.

Last month's surge in violence began when Gbagbo's forces shattered an 18-month cease-fire to launch an assault on the rebel-held north and killed nine French soldiers in an air raid.

France hit back by crippling the Ivorian air force, an act which triggered days of rioting and looting by Gbagbo supporters targeting French nationals and other Westerners.

Albert Tevoedjre, the head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast, announced his resignation on Monday, saying he could move on now the peace process was getting back on track.

But the 75-year-old from Benin also said he had made his decision the day the Ivorian army broke the cease-fire.

"That was completely against what we expected the parties to do," he told reporters. "If they are not agreeable to do what they have to do, why should we be here?"

© 2004 Reuters

Mbeki: Ivory Coast Peace Talks to Advance

Reuters

Tuesday, December 7, 2004; 1:06 AM

By PAULINE BAX

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast - The government and rebels in war-divided Ivory Coast have agreed to a new timetable to carry out a long-stalled peace plan in West Africa's economic hub, South African President Thabo Mbeki said Monday.

Briefing reporters after a five-day peace mission in Ivory Coast, Mbeki said warring sides have settled on timing of disarmament, security reforms, and other divisive points.

"We've agreed with everybody on all these matters and ... the delegation has indicated the timeframes for all of these things," Mbeki said in the commercial capital, Abidjan.

The peace mission follows a three-day return to government attacks on the rebel north last month.

Both sides have agreed to peace accords but failed to carry them out. President Laurent Gbagbo last month reopened attacks with airstrikes on the rebel-held north for three days, citing insurgents' failure to disarm.

A Nov. 6 airstrike killed nine French peacekeepers and an American aid worker, and prompted brief, unprecedented battles between Ivory Coast's forces and those of its former colonial ruler, France.

A first step in the new timetable will come in early January, Mbeki said, when Ivory Coast's national assembly will convene an emergency session to discuss a contentious constitutional requirement stipulating that any presidential candidate be a second-generation Ivorian.

Ivory Coast's southern-based government has used the requirement to bar a presidential run by an opposition leader with heavy support in the north, Alassane Ouattara, claiming his parents were not born in Ivory Coast.

Mbeki did not give dates for the other steps, including disarmament, or for the restarting of a power-sharing government that rebels have boycotted.

Ivory Coast has been split into rebel-held north and government south since a September 2002 coup attempt propelled the world's largest cocoa grower into civil war.

Mbeki, who has been mandated by the African Union as a mediator, said he would make regular visits to Ivory Coast to see that both sides stick to their agreements.

Lesotho Proposal Recipients

The Lesotho proposal was hand delivered to the following at USTR:

- Ambassador Zoellick
- Mr. Chris Moore
- Ms. Flori Liser
- Ambassador Josette Shiner
- Ms. Mary Ryckman

The Lesotho proposal was mailed to the following at USAID:

- Mr. Dwight Wilson
Desk officer for Lesotho
USAID
Mailed
- Mr. Bishop Buckley
Desk Officer for RCSA
USAID
Mailed
- Mr. Lloyd Pearson
USAID
Mailed

The following received emails of the proposal:

- K. Robinson, USAID
- Ms. D. Thomas, USAID
- Mr. Mokhethi Shelile

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 the Whitaker group

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December 3, 2004

Ms. Mary E. Ryckman
Assistant US Trade Representative for
Trade Capacity Building
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ms. Ryckman:

The Whitaker Group is engaged by the Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC) to promote trade and investment for Lesotho. In this regard I attach a proposal for funding of a trade promotion tour from Lesotho to the United States in January 2005.

The Whitaker Group believes that this tour would enhance and strengthen relationships between US sourcing companies and the Lesotho apparel sector and help establish new relationships. It is crucial for Lesotho to solidify and build on its extraordinary response to the benefits AGOA has afforded the continent in the apparel sector. The tour will consist of:

- Visits, meetings and technical discussions with US retailers to deepen the relationships while exploring and diversifying new sourcing opportunities;
- A roundtable with the US Importers of Textiles and Apparel to strengthen the partnership and devise strategies to address post-2004 challenges and US Customs compliance issues;
- A seminar with USTR on STOP (Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy);
- Meetings with the trade and retail industry press;
- Expos showcasing Lesotho's diverse line of apparel and related products;
- Meetings in North Carolina to identify opportunities to source US equipment and fabric inputs to support anticipated growth in Lesotho's textile/apparel sector and;
- A seminar on strategies to diversify Lesotho's US exports outside of the apparel sector.

Lesotho has trumped the efforts of all other African countries in its achievements in this sector and has attempted to meet the challenges of unemployment and negative growth by doing so, but still has a mountain of challenges to face. The end of quotas in January pose an additional challenge to the country in that sourcing companies have already started to shift some orders to China.

The US Ambassador to Lesotho, H.E. Ms. Carter Perry wholly endorses the impetus for the trip and will show her support by forming part of the delegation.

Although this request is unsolicited, however, we believe it fits well within the RCSA's Regional Strategic Plan for 2004-2010 and specifically SO 14: A more competitive Southern African Economy. We appreciate your considering funding the attached proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Lee Gillespie-White

Lee Gillespie-White
Sr. Counsel & Director of Trade & Investment Practice

This material is distributed
by the Whitaker Group, LLC
on behalf of LNDC.
Additional information is available
at the Department of Justice,
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December 3, 2004

Mr. Dwight Wilson
Desk Officer for Lesotho
Bureau for Africa
USAID
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, DC 20523

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A proposal to
Strengthen AGOA's Gains in Lesotho
US Trade Promotion Tour
January 2005

Submitted by The Whitaker Group LLC
To the United States Agency for International Development
November 24, 2004

OVERVIEW

The Whitaker Group (TWG), on behalf of the Government of Lesotho, requests United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funding to support a Lesotho Trade Promotion tour for five public and private sector leaders of the Lesotho's apparel sector. The tour primarily focuses on the apparel trade as it is the nation's fastest and most promising sector of economic growth. The tour, however, will also focus on trade diversification and strategies to address global pirating and counterfeiting in trade – all important pillars of export growth.

The primary objectives of the program are to:

- Expand, strengthen and diversify sourcing relationships with U.S. apparel retailers and importers;
- Develop a marketing and export strategy that will sustain Lesotho's success in the apparel sector after quotas are lifted.
- Explore sourcing of US textile and apparel equipment to support new factories and related projects in Lesotho; and
- Participate in technical consultations with US government officials on the new US “Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy” (STOP) initiative.

Funding is requested to support the travel and per diem for five members of the anticipated seven-person delegation. The total cost of this project is **\$ 65, 400.00**.

Lesotho has successfully utilized the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) as a springboard to developing a strong apparel sector. Lesotho's garment exports to the US tripled in two years, from \$130 million in 2001 to \$370 million in 2003. Employment in this sector increased from 20 000 to more than 50 000 in the same period. This is good news in a country where the annual per capita income is a little more than USD\$500; the HIV/AIDS infection rates continue to soar; and the unemployment rate reached 45% in 2002. Lesotho's apparel sector has tremendous growth potential if it can clearly define its market opportunities and strengthen its understanding of U.S. apparel quality standards and requirements. Lesotho also represents an excellent market opportunity for US exporters of apparel/textile equipment and fabric.

This proposed US Trade Promotion Tour combines strengthening and expanding market opportunities with technical assistance, networking and showcasing of both US and Basotho products to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

This program will make invaluable contributions to Lesotho's comprehensive export expansion efforts. It will help to ensure that Lesotho is a regional survivor in the post-2005 era. Specifically, the tour will provide Lesotho with an opportunity to deepen its

**Rosa Whitaker - TWG / FARA - August 2004 to February 2005
Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
<p>Lesotho Delegation – Minister Mpho Malie, Minister of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing (MTICM) Ambassador June Cater Perry, US Ambassador to Lesotho Ambassador Rapolaki, Lesotho Ambassador to the US Mr. Rantekoa, Principal Secretary, MTICM Mr. Peete Molap, CEO, Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC)</p>	<p>Meeting with Mr. Dwight Wilson, Mr. Patrick Fleuret and Ms. Kate Almquist of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</p>	<p>Monday, January 31, 2005 at 1pm</p>	<p>Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.</p>	
<p>Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)</p>	<p>Meeting with Mr. Paul Appelgarth, Chair, Millennium Challenge Corporation</p>	<p>Monday, January 31, 2005 at 230pm</p>	<p>Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.</p>	
<p>Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)</p>	<p>Meeting with Honorable Constance Newman, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Department of State</p>	<p>Monday, January 31, 2005 at 4pm</p>	<p>Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.</p>	

**Note: Please use the Log to report meetings with government officials related to our international TWG clients.
Rosa Whitaker - TWG / FARA - August 2004 to February 2005 - Meeting Log**

Name/Title/Country Represented	Meeting/Event Held/Requested with	Date Meeting/Event Scheduled	Subject	Employee Initial
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with Mr. Mark Dybul, Assistant US Global AIDS Coordinator, Office of US Global AIDS Coordinator	Monday, January 31, 2005 at 5pm	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with Congressman Ed Royce, Chairman of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa	Tuesday, February 1, 2005 at 1pm	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with Dr. Cindy Courville, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the NSC	Tuesday, February 1, 2005 at 130pm	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with Robert Blaire, Office of Congressman Jim Kolbe's Office	Monday, February 7, 2005 at 10am	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with Mr. David Spooner, Special Textiles Negotiator, Office of USTR	Monday, February 7, 2005 at 12pm	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	
Lesotho Delegation (Please see names above)	Meeting with James Person, Office of Congresswoman Sue Myrick	Monday, February 7, 2005 at 2pm	Regarding Lesotho's efforts to expand its apparel trade and participate more fully in the global economy.	

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TWG Correspondence, Press Release(s), etc.

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September 28, 2004

The Honorable Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick
Member of Congress
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Congresswoman Kilpatrick:

I am writing on behalf of the Honorable Yaw Osafo-Mafo, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Republic of Ghana, to request a meeting with you in Detroit on October 6, 2004.

Minister Osafo-Mafo will be visiting the city of Detroit and would like to meet to discuss ways in which the Ghanaian Government can establish better economic and cultural ties with the people of Detroit and their business community. Thousands of Ghanaian Americans live in the Detroit area and with the recent implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) the Minister believes that the potential for two-way trade could be larger than ever.

I am enclosing a copy of the Minister's biography for your review.

I hope that you can find time in your busy schedule to meet with Minister Osafo-Mafo and I look forward to speaking with your staff regarding the specific time.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker
President

Enclosure

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November 22, 2004

The Honorable Constance B. Newman
Assistant Secretary for African Affairs
US Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Connie:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

Cote d'Ivoire's recent security crisis underscores the importance of keeping the AGOA process on track. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is cooperating with the United Nations and the African Union to resolve the current crisis, which was precipitated by the consistent refusal over many months by rebel forces occupying the northern part of the nation to disarm as required by UN, ECOWAS and Africa Union resolutions. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire eventually deemed preemptive military action necessary and prudent after receiving information that the rebels were amassing weapons for new attack on Abidjan.

Since then, President Gbagbo has personally conveyed his regrets for the loss of innocent lives caused by friendly fire to the French military camp in Bouake. The Government is committed to finding a peaceful resolution to this complex crisis via previously agreed frameworks (Linas-Marcoussis and Accra III agreements). Over the past year, Cote d'Ivoire has made strides in strengthening the rule of law, good governance and economic growth -- the primary policy goals of AGOA.

Now more than ever, Cote d'Ivoire -- accounting for 40% of the economy of francophone West Africa -- needs more, not less economic support and engagement. AGOA is an indispensable tool that is helping nations create a market-oriented trade and investment environment, which in turn fosters long-term prosperity and security. Cote d'Ivoire's status as an AGOA beneficiary country serves as a beacon of hope to its citizens, and any reversal of that status could have serious negative consequences for the country's economic and social future, and therefore also for the wider West African region of which Cote d'Ivoire's economy remains a cornerstone. From 2002 through 2003, Cote

d'Ivoire's AGOA exports to the U.S. increased by 70%. These exports continue to show strength and are expected to diversify in 2004, despite the conflict.

Opportunities for economic growth will help to ensure long-term peace and security in Cote d'Ivoire. Ivorians generally view AGOA as the most significant economic opportunity accorded the nation in decades.

As you know AGOA is not a Marshall Plan and does not provide funds. It provides what Cote d'Ivoire needs most -- an opportunity to trade and grow.

Cote d'Ivoire has made substantive progress in meeting AGOA's eligibility requirements and the benchmarks established in Secretary Powell's March 30, 2004 letter to Ivorian Minister Bamba. This progress includes:

- Taking numerous measures to strengthen the integrity of the judicial system, combat corruption and improve discipline and professionalism in law enforcement. These steps include the establishment of an Independent Constitutional Council to review and monitor the judiciary, reforms in the administration of and new training programs for officers of the court, raising the educational standard required for admission to the police force and improving the salaries and living conditions of its personnel, new in-service training programs for police and also the removal of "opportunities for corruption" such as unnecessary security roadblocks.
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Sincerely,



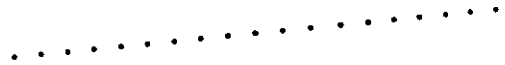
Rosa Whitaker

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To: Ms. Flori Liser Fax: _____
From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: November 22, 2004
Re: Cote d'Ivoire-AGOA Renewal Pages: 4 (Including Cover)
CC: *AGOA interagency committee ; ms Carrie Hamilton*

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AGOA interagency committee:

Oren Whyche
Department of Treasury

Bobby Pittman
Department of Treasury

Holly Vineyard
US Department of Commerce

Connie Hamilton
Senior Director
Office of the US Trade Representative

Flori Liser
Office of the US Trade Representative

Dr. Cindy Courville
Special Assistant to the President
National Security Council

Constance Berry Newman
Assistant Secretary for African Affairs
Department of State

Al Larson
Under Secretary, Agricultural Affairs
Department of State

Mary Jo Wills
Economic Policy Staff
US Department of State

Michael Kozak
Acting Assistant Secretary
US Department of State

William Lash
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
US Department of Commerce

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November 22, 2004

Ms. Flori Liser
Assistant US Trade Representative
for Africa
Office of the US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Flori:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

Cote d'Ivoire's recent security crisis underscores the importance of keeping the AGOA process on track. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is cooperating with the United Nations and the African Union to resolve the current crisis, which was precipitated by the consistent refusal over many months by rebel forces occupying the northern part of the nation to disarm as required by UN, ECOWAS and Africa Union resolutions. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire eventually deemed preemptive military action necessary and prudent after receiving information that the rebels were amassing weapons for new attack on Abidjan.

Since then, President Gbagbo has personally conveyed his regrets for the loss of innocent lives caused by friendly fire to the French military camp in Bouake. The Government is committed to finding a peaceful resolution to this complex crisis via previously agreed frameworks (Linas-Marcoussis and Accra III agreements). Over the past year, Cote d'Ivoire has made strides in strengthening the rule of law, good governance and economic growth -- the primary policy goals of AGOA.

Now more than ever, Cote d'Ivoire -- accounting for 40% of the economy of francophone West Africa -- needs more, not less economic support and engagement. AGOA is an indispensable tool that is helping nations create a market-oriented trade and investment environment, which in turn fosters long-term prosperity and security. Cote d'Ivoire's status as an AGOA beneficiary country serves as a beacon of hope to its citizens, and any reversal of that status could have serious negative consequences for the country's economic and social future, and therefore also for the wider West African region of which Cote d'Ivoire's economy remains a cornerstone. From 2002 through 2003, Cote

d'Ivoire's AGOA exports to the U.S. increased by 70%. These exports continue to show strength and are expected to diversify in 2004, despite the conflict.

Opportunities for economic growth will help to ensure long-term peace and security in Cote d'Ivoire. Ivorians generally view AGOA as the most significant economic opportunity accorded the nation in decades.

As you know AGOA is not a Marshall Plan and does not provide funds. It provides what Cote d'Ivoire needs most -- an opportunity to trade and grow.

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Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker

cc: Ms. Connie Hamilton

AGOA Interagency Committee

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November 22, 2004

The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Zoellick:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

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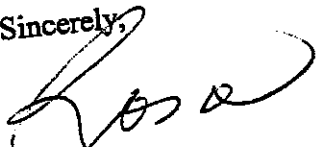
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I thank you again for your leadership in advancing trade and investment opportunities in Africa. Your contributions are much appreciated by leaders and people from all walks of life in the region.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker

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cc: Ambassador Josette Shiner
Ms. Flori Liser



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November 22, 2004

The Honorable Dr. Cindy Courville
Special Assistant to the President &
Senior Director for African Affairs
National Security Council
Eisenhower Office Building
Washington, DC 20504

Dear Cindy:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

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Rosa Whitaker

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November 22, 2004

The Honorable Grant Aldonas
Under Secretary for International Trade
US Department of Commerce
International Trade Administration
Washington DC, 20230

Dear Grant:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

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Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker

Cc: The Honorable William Lash
Ms. Holly Vineyard

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To: The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick Fax: [REDACTED]

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: November 22, 2004

Re: Lesotho Update Pages: 6 (Including Cover Sheet)

CC: Hon. Florio L. [REDACTED]

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Washington, DC 20006
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facsimile transmittal

To: The Honorable Josette Shiner

Fax: [REDACTED]

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker

Date: November 22, 2004

Re: Lesotho Update

Pages: 6 (Including Cover Sheet)

CC:

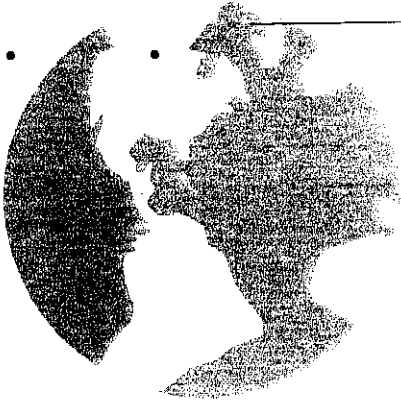
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November 23, 2004

The Honorable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

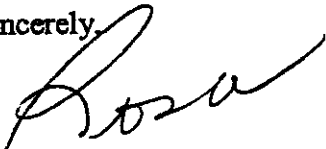
Dear Ambassador Zoellick:

As promised, I am pleased to provide you with the first edition of the Lesotho Update, prepared by the Whitaker Group.

It highlights the quality of Lesotho's Government and the productivity of the Basotho workforce. We are excited that you will travel to Lesotho in the coming weeks. Please feel free to call on us if we can provide any assistance for your trip.

With warm regards.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker

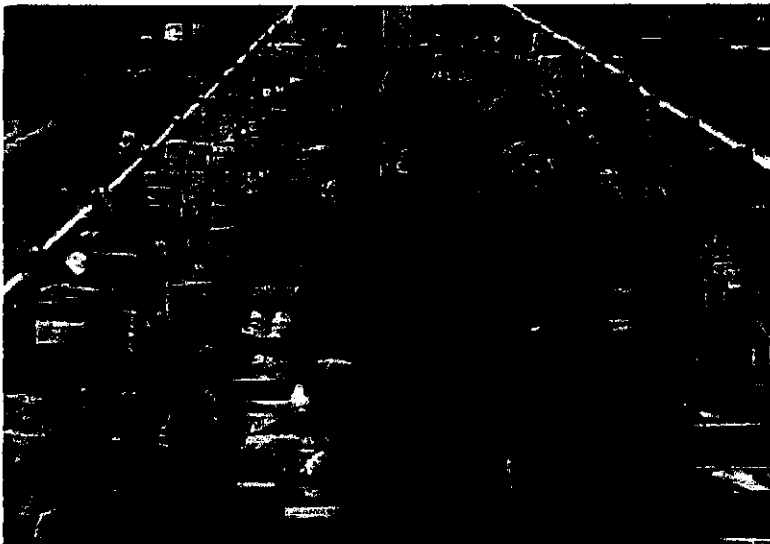
cc Ambassador Josette Shiner
Ms. Florie Liser

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LESOTHO UPDATE

In Lesotho they have a saying. *Tlotlo le oele mokhoabane*. Literally, the field is ripe for harvesting. Lesotho's economy is ripening fast. Endowed with a highly productive labour force, the mountain kingdom has quietly built itself a name as a first rate base for export-oriented light manufacturing. With passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act in 2000, Lesotho promptly became the region's number one supplier of apparel to major US retailers like Target and Old Navy. Now it has been rated as one of a handful of developing nations governed well enough to have a good shot at leveraging substantial new aid flows into strong private investment-led growth.

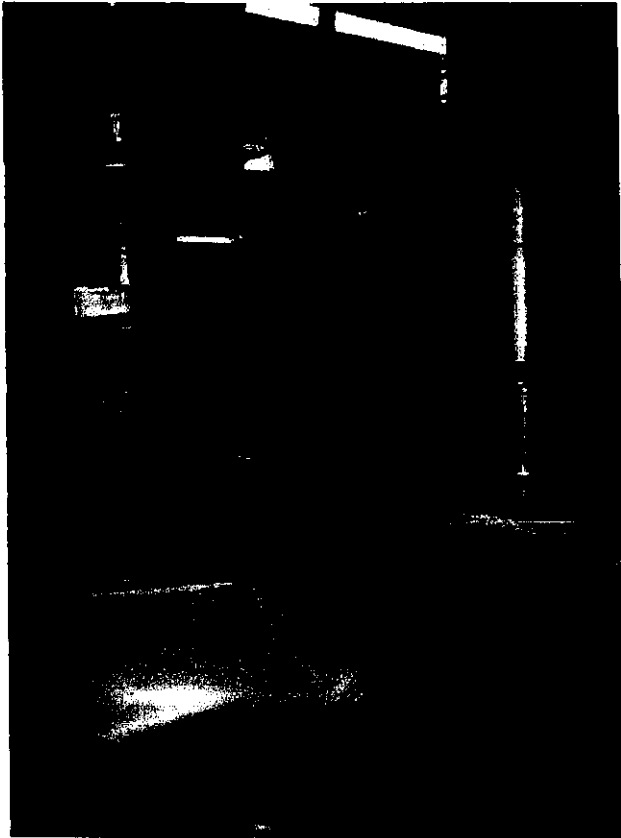
RIPE FOR INVESTMENT



Capacity to grow and diversify. Currently producing a range of women's and children's shoes for South Africa and the region, Springfield Footwear is well placed to supply top quality products to the US and other high-end markets.

Lesotho was among the first countries selected to submit a proposal to the US Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), the novel foreign assistance fund which encourages would-be beneficiaries to compete for grants by scoring well on a range of "good government" indicators. These measure the degree to which candidate governments are ruling justly, controlling corruption, investing in their people and promoting economic freedom through sound economic management. Lesotho has received high marks in virtually every department.

Paul Applegarth, CEO of the Millennium Challenge Corporation which oversees the MCA, liked what he found



A Good Fit. Carca Footwear makes the internationally known Island Style brand, as well as its own brands, Blue Zoo, Comfi Flex and Inca, for the regional market.

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Paul Applegarth, CEO of the Millennium Challenge Corp.

during a mid-November visit. "In Lesotho we had a good feeling about our mutual [development] partner and the quality of the proposal" the government has submitted, he said. He was impressed because "the Basotho were quite explicit about following a private-sector led strategy to growth, development and poverty reduction."

Not that such kudos should come as a surprise. A year ago, the Fitch rating agency upgraded Lesotho's sovereign debt to B+ with a positive outlook – stronger than Turkey, Indonesia or Brazil. The agency highlighted the country's low political risk, stability, sound macroeconomic environment, historically low external debt, strong external liquidity and increasingly effective revenue collection.

Gearing for the Future

The government's immediate priorities are to expand and diversify the country's already strong apparel-based manufacturing sector and to make more of the country's extraordinary, but under exploited, tourism potential. Both are high on the agenda because from next year, Lesotho's garment makers will be vying for US market share with newly quota-free competition from Asia. So the need to diversify products and markets is being tackled urgently.

Plans call for dam construction to meet the medium and long-term demands of industrial growth around the capital, Maseru, and to expand agriculture. Roses, asparagus and merino wool have significant export potential. To draw tourism dollars into the country's spectacular mountains, the government is looking for investment for the first ski resort of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa as well as lodges for pony trekkers and other "adventure" tourists. Lesotho's trout fishing is legendary.

As remarkable as its response to AGOA incentives has been – its garment exports to the US nearly tripled in two years to \$400 million in 2003, with sectoral employment shooting from 20 000 to more than 50 000 – the country had already proven its competitiveness.

A 1998 report by the World Bank highlighted Lesotho's success in attracting investment well before AGOA. It concluded that while this success was

due in part to pre-AGOA trade preferences, there was a lot more to the story, not least the winning combination of “a productive and well-educated labor force, competitive unit labor costs and stable labor relations”. And if Lesotho’s nominal wage levels were high compared to those in other parts of Africa, the Bank said, the difference was more than offset by both “the high productivity of Basotho labor...yield(ing) unit labor costs comparable to some of the world’s lowest cost countries” and “the much more reliable access to infrastructure (roads, utilities and ports) which reduces the overall costs of production, shipping and transportation”. These costs are likely to continue falling with the planned upgrade of the Maseru container terminal and as South Africa, Lesotho’s gateway to global markets, pumps major new investment into its own harbors and railways.

Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili’s strong economic and planning team recognizes that the quality of spending is as important as the quantity. Without good planning, committed and well-trained public servants, and broad popular buy-in, even the best designed projects are not worth the paper they are written on. So the Lesotho authorities have devoted a lot of thought and energy to laying solid foundations. They have built a national consensus around a comprehensive long-term development strategy, Vision 2020. Internationally, the best known member of the team is Finance Minister Tim Thahane. A former World Bank vice president, Thahane helped with the planning for South Africa’s “miracle” transition to a well-managed post-apartheid economy. He then served as deputy governor of South Africa’s world class central bank before taking up his current post.

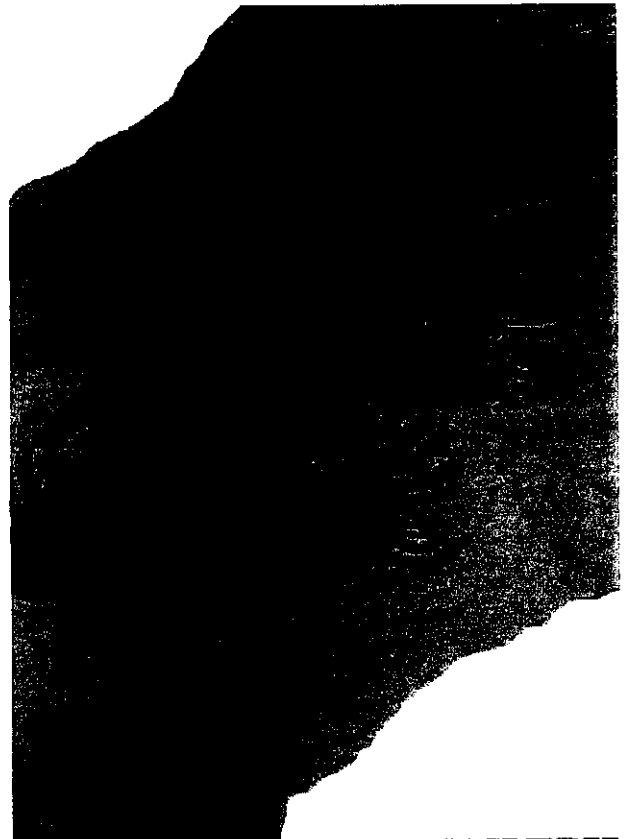
Strong Fundamentals

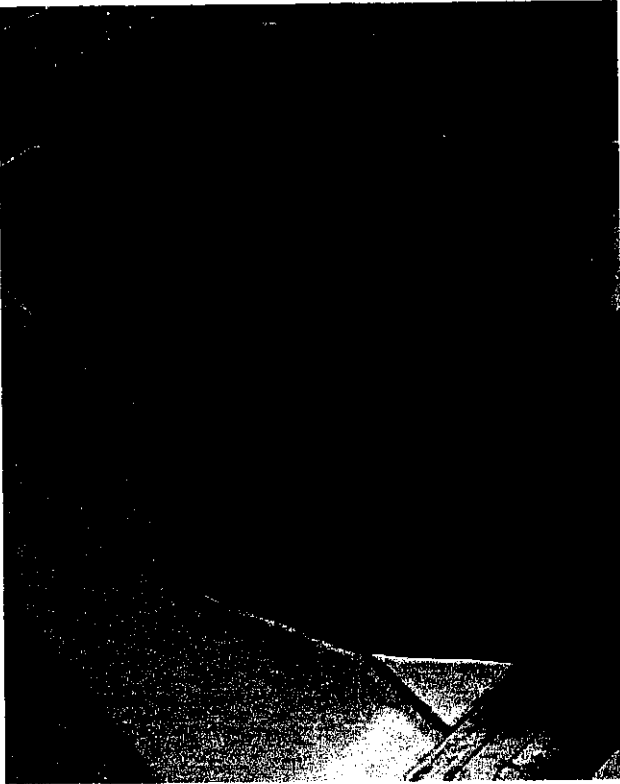
Working closely with South Africa, one of the world’s leading practitioners of the politics of reconciliation and consensus-building, Lesotho, a constitutional monarchy, has overhauled its political system to ensure no return to the unrest that intermittently erupted between independence from Britain in 1965 and the late 1990’s. The new proportional representation system under which the ruling

The high productivity of Basotho labor...yields unit labor costs comparable to some of the world’s lowest cost countries.

The World Bank

State of the Art. This silk screen lizard is one of the ways Mountain Textiles adds value and appeal to fabric and garments for companies filling orders for major US brands.





Headed to a mall near you. Old Navy is just one of the brands served by Lesotho Precious Garments, which makes polo shirts, turtle necks, jogging suits, embroidered garments and baby clothes for buyers like the GAP.

Lesotho Congress for Democracy was returned to office in 2002 guarantees opposition parties a voice in parliament and is a major stabilizing factor.

The one MCA criterion that would-be beneficiaries must satisfy without exception is control of corruption. Lesotho met this requirement with flying colors. The authorities have been remorseless in prosecuting companies and individuals who gave or took bribes in the letting of contracts for the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. This is the multi-billion dollar scheme which allows Lesotho to export the one natural resource it has in abundance, water, and the hydropower derived from it, to neighboring South Africa's thirsty industrial heartland.

Lesotho is meeting the challenge of HIV/AIDS with candor and determination. UNAIDS has estimated that 330 000 of the country's 2.2 million people are infected. Admirably, senior officials, including the prime minister and the trade minister, have publicly had themselves tested for HIV to convince their fellow citizens to do likewise and to reduce the stigma of infection. Lesotho has received support from the Global Fund but has thus far been excluded from President George Bush's AIDS relief initiative.

The year ahead will be critical. The elimination of importing country quotas on Asian apparel from January 1 2005 is a major challenge. Lesotho's exporters will continue to enjoy significant duty preferences under AGOA for garments sewn from low cost Asian fabric until 2007. After that, only clothing made from regionally made fabric will qualify. Investors think making textiles – not just apparel – in Lesotho makes more and more sense. A new \$90 million denim mill went on line this year. The returns on a knitted fabric mill could be extremely healthy. Given Lesotho's talent base and track record of productivity and investor-friendly governance, there is plenty of scope for expansion in other sectors including footwear and electronics, and to other markets, including the growing southern Africa subregion.

Tlotlo le oele mokhoabane.

Prepared and distributed by
The Whitaker Group
Registered foreign agent for Lesotho



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November 22, 2004

The Honorable Constance B. Newman
Assistant Secretary for African Affairs
US Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Connie:

Subject: Cote d'Ivoire -- AGOA Renewal

Cote d'Ivoire's recent security crisis underscores the importance of keeping the AGOA process on track. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is cooperating with the United Nations and the African Union to resolve the current crisis, which was precipitated by the consistent refusal over many months by rebel forces occupying the northern part of the nation to disarm as required by UN, ECOWAS and Africa Union resolutions. The Government of Cote d'Ivoire eventually deemed preemptive military action necessary and prudent after receiving information that the rebels were amassing weapons for new attack on Abidjan.

Since then, President Gbagbo has personally conveyed his regrets for the loss of innocent lives caused by friendly fire to the French military camp in Bouake. The Government is committed to finding a peaceful resolution to this complex crisis via previously agreed frameworks (Linas-Marcoussis and Accra III agreements). Over the past year, Cote d'Ivoire has made strides in strengthening the rule of law, good governance and economic growth -- the primary policy goals of AGOA.

Now more than ever, Cote d'Ivoire -- accounting for 40% of the economy of francophone West Africa -- needs more, not less economic support and engagement. AGOA is an indispensable tool that is helping nations create a market-oriented trade and investment environment, which in turn fosters long-term prosperity and security. Cote d'Ivoire's status as an AGOA beneficiary country serves as a beacon of hope to its citizens, and any reversal of that status could have serious negative consequences for the country's economic and social future, and therefore also for the wider West African region of which Cote d'Ivoire's economy remains a cornerstone. From 2002 through 2003, Cote

d'Ivoire's AGOA exports to the U.S. increased by 70%. These exports continue to show strength and are expected to diversify in 2004, despite the conflict.

Opportunities for economic growth will help to ensure long-term peace and security in Cote d'Ivoire. Ivorians generally view AGOA as the most significant economic opportunity accorded the nation in decades.

As you know AGOA is not a Marshall Plan and does not provide funds. It provides what Cote d'Ivoire needs most – an opportunity to trade and grow.

Cote d'Ivoire has made substantive progress in meeting AGOA's eligibility requirements and the benchmarks established in Secretary Powell's March 30, 2004 letter to Ivorian Minister Bamba. This progress includes:

- Taking numerous measures to strengthen the integrity of the judicial system, combat corruption and improve discipline and professionalism in law enforcement. These steps include the establishment of an Independent Constitutional Council to review and monitor the judiciary, reforms in the administration of and new training programs for officers of the court, raising the educational standard required for admission to the police force and improving the salaries and living conditions of its personnel, new in-service training programs for police and also the removal of "opportunities for corruption" such as unnecessary security roadblocks.
- Establishing the Court of Arbitration of Cote d'Ivoire for the resolution of investment and commercial disputes, which – once parliament approves the requisite legislation – will enforce the arbitration procedures outlined in the OHADA legal framework.
- Cooperating with the Ivorian and international private sector, as well as the U.S. Treasury and international labor bodies to create mechanisms to eliminate the practice of child labor, and to monitor and certify Cote d'Ivoire's performance in this regard.
- Building the productive capacity of Cote d'Ivoire's garment and textile industries via a feasibility study whose findings will help direct domestic and foreign investment in ways that maximize returns from the opportunities afforded by AGOA.
- Working in close coordination with the Ivorian private sector, organized through APEX-CI, to promote and disseminate a thorough understanding of the relevant trade and business laws pertaining to AGOA, creating a basis for the Ivorian business community to seize the new opportunities afforded by AGOA status.
- Establishing the U.S.-Cote D'Ivoire Trade and Economic Council (USCITEC) in July 2004, with its headquarters in Washington, D.C. and its mission being to promote awareness within the U.S. commercial and investment community of opportunities emerging in CI, and to facilitate the entry of U.S. corporations and investors into Ivorian markets. Cote d'Ivoire continues to offer tremendous opportunities for U.S.

business in sectors ranging from oil exploration, telecommunications and banking in sub-Saharan Africa's third-largest economy to manufacturing, the extraction and processing of coffee, cocoa, cotton, rubber and scores of other primary products. President Gbagbo has long called for the nation to diversify its trade and investment partners and has been favorable to U.S. business interests.

- Actively pursuing, at ministerial level, a solution to the dispute with U.S.-based shareholders of the telecommunications company Cora de Comstra on the basis of mediation and dialogue. Both sides have submitted proposals and counter proposals for settling the matter. Negotiations on these proposals, scheduled for November 2, 2004, were postponed by mutual agreement and both sides have agreed that negotiations were proceeding well. The shareholders of Core de Comstra have yet to petition the Supreme Court to confirm the validity, enforceability and finality of the ownership of Cora de Comstar, but that issue aside, both sides to the dispute believe the matter is close to settlement. Of course the Government fully appreciates the significance of this case as a confirmation of Cote d'Ivoire's respect for the sanctity of contractual obligations, but progress has been made in brokering good-faith negotiations between the parties towards a solution. Unfortunately, the recent security crisis in the country has delayed the negotiation process, but the easing of that crisis will offer an opportunity to move speedily towards a resolution.

AGOA has provided Cote d'Ivoire with both a framework and an overriding incentive to put in place the legal and commercial infrastructure for long-term integration into the global economy as an investment-friendly emerging market. The process is designed to accomplish epochal changes that entirely transform the economic prospects not only of Cote d'Ivoire, but of the entire West African region.

Cote d'Ivoire has demonstrated commitment to AGOA's eligibility requirements and benchmarks. I am, however, increasingly concerned, particularly in the Cora d'Comstar case, that some U.S. companies are threatening AGOA eligibility to gain unfair advantage in a negotiating process. This is a dangerous precedent and there is simply too much at stake for AGOA to be used as a pawn in this manner.

Sincerely,



Rosa Whitaker

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facsimile transmittal

To: Mr. Vincent Valle Fax: 202 22 32 55
From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: November 24, 2004
Re: Cote D'Ivoire—AGOA Renewal Pages: 4 (Including Cover)
cc: *of Constance Newman letter*

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facsimile transmittal

To: H.E. Aubrey Hooks Fax: 11/24/04 09:59

From: Ms. Rosa Whitaker Date: November 24, 2004

Re: Cote D'Ivoire—AGOA Renewal Pages: 4 (Including Cover)

cc: *of Constance Newman letter*

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Rosa Whitaker

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Lesotho Update Recipient List

- US and Africa Press List (faxed and Emailed), **94 contacts**
- Key congressional staffer list on Africa, Trade, and Health Committees, **14 contacts**
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee, **19 contacts**
- Key US Government officials (faxed), **51 contacts** in USTR, Commerce, State, Treasury, White House, Defense, NSC, congress
- Congressional Senate Staff, **23 contacts**
- Africa Press list (Fax and Email), **52 contacts**
- Congressional Black Caucus, **38 contacts**
- Heritage Foundation Contacts (MCA rating agency) (faxed), **4 contacts**
- Freedom House (MCA rating agency), **41 contacts**
- World Bank Governance Group (MCA Rating Agency) (faxed & email) **20 contacts**
- IMF Stats Dept (MCA Rating Agency), **1 contact**
- Institutional Investor Magazine (MCA Rating Agency), **2 contacts**
- AGOA African Ambassadors, **38 contacts**
- AGOA 3 Coalition list (NGO and Private Sector groups)(fax &email), **57 contacts**
- Lesotho Contacts from Lee during her visit, **16 contacts**
- World Bank Contacts (Africa Regional Office; Poverty reduction and Economics Management Network; Development Economics and Chief Economist; World Bank Institute; Lesotho Country Team), **55 contacts**
- State Department, **158 contacts**
- Other: Mr. Demba Ba, World Bank, Mr. ~~Khama~~ ^{Khama} ~~Khama~~ ^{Khama}

Total Contacts: 668

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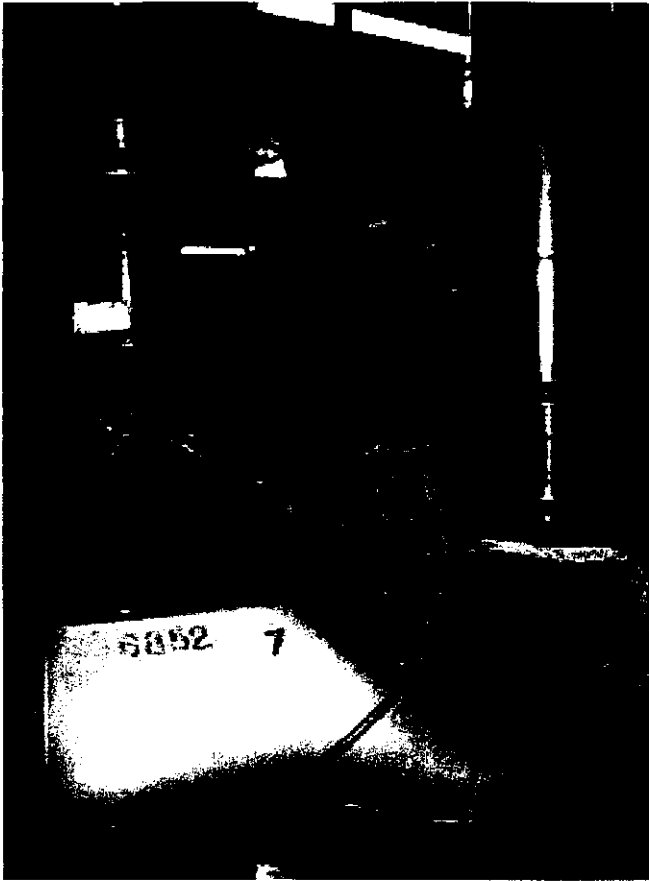
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Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili’s strong economic and planning team recognizes that the quality of spending is as important as the quantity. Without good planning, committed and well-trained public servants, and broad popular buy-in, even the best designed projects are not worth the paper they are written on. So the Lesotho authorities have devoted a lot of thought and energy to laying solid foundations. They have built a national consensus around a comprehensive long-term development strategy, Vision 2020. Internationally, the best known member of the team is Finance Minister Tim Thahane. A former World Bank vice president, Thahane helped with the planning for South Africa’s “miracle” transition to a well-managed post-apartheid economy. He then served as deputy governor of South Africa’s world class central bank before taking up his current post.

Strong Fundamentals

Working closely with South Africa, one of the world’s leading practitioners of the politics of reconciliation and consensus-building, Lesotho, a constitutional monarchy, has overhauled its political system to ensure no return to the unrest that intermittently erupted between independence from Britain in 1965 and the late 1990’s. The new proportional representation system under which the ruling

The high productivity of Basotho labor...yields unit labor costs comparable to some of the world’s lowest cost countries.

The World Bank

State of the Art. This silk screen lizard is one of the ways Mountain Textiles adds value and appeal to fabric and garments for companies filling orders for major US brands.





Headed to a mall near you. Old Navy is just one of the brands served by Lesotho Precious Garments, which makes polo shirts, turtle necks, jogging suits, embroidered garments and baby clothes for buyers like the GAP.

Lesotho Congress for Democracy was returned to office in 2002 guarantees opposition parties a voice in parliament and is a major stabilizing factor.

The one MCA criterion that would-be beneficiaries must satisfy without exception is control of corruption. Lesotho met this requirement with flying colors. The authorities have been remorseless in prosecuting companies and individuals who gave or took bribes in the letting of contracts for the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. This is the multi-billion dollar scheme which allows Lesotho to export the one natural resource it has in abundance, water, and the hydropower derived from it, to neighboring South Africa's thirsty industrial heartland.

Lesotho is meeting the challenge of HIV/AIDS with candor and determination. UNAIDS has estimated that 330 000 of the country's 2.2 million people are infected. Admirably, senior officials, including the prime minister and the trade minister, have publicly had themselves tested for HIV to convince their fellow citizens to do likewise and to reduce the stigma of infection. Lesotho has received support from the Global Fund but has thus far been excluded from President George Bush's AIDS relief initiative.

The year ahead will be critical. The elimination of importing country quotas on Asian apparel from January 1 2005 is a major challenge. Lesotho's exporters will continue to enjoy significant duty preferences under AGOA for garments sewn from low cost Asian fabric until 2007. After that, only clothing made from regionally made fabric will qualify. Investors think making textiles – not just apparel -- in Lesotho makes more and more sense. A new \$90 million denim mill went on line this year. The returns on a knitted fabric mill could be extremely healthy. Given Lesotho's talent base and track record of productivity and investor-friendly governance, there is plenty of scope for expansion in other sectors including footwear and electronics, and to other markets, including the growing southern Africa subregion.

Ttoto le oele mokhoabane.

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AGOA 3 Coalition List

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