



## **CONSTITUENCY FOR AFRICA AND THE AFRICA SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA MEET WITH THE NEW NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA**

WASHINGTON, DC (October 4, 2017) – Mr. Melvin P. Foote, President and CEO of the Constituency for Africa, accompanied Ambassador Pamela E. Bridgewater, Chairman of the Board and CEO of The Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa, for an introductory meeting last week with the new Senior Director for Africa at the National Security Council (NSC), Mr. Cyril E. Sartor. Mr. Sartor assumed his duties at the NSC in early August, 2017.



*From left to right, Ambassador Pamela E. Bridgewater, Mr. Cyril E. Sartor, and Mr. Melvin P. Foote*

The discussion focused on a range of key issues and topics as to how stakeholders can work cooperatively with Mr. Sartor in the interest of both Africa and the United States.

Ambassador Bridgewater, Mr. Foote, and NSC Director Sartor agreed to convene follow-up discussions with a broad range of Africa-focused experts and groups to further the dialogue.

“Our initial meeting with Mr. Sartor was quite productive,” stated Mr. Foote. “Having recently concluded CFA’s annual Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series, this meeting with a senior representative of the U.S. Administration

helps set the stage for CFA’s follow-up activities as we mobilize our stakeholders in the U.S. and throughout the Diaspora in support of strengthened U.S.-Africa relations.”

CFA’s 2017 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series was held from September 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> in Washington, DC. The theme of this year’s series was *Mobilizing the Diaspora in Support of the U.S.-Africa Agenda*.

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The purpose of the series was to bring together stakeholders from the U.S., Africa, and throughout the Diaspora to assess the U.S. Administration's Africa policy, and to identify challenges and opportunities in a number of key areas, including Healthcare Infrastructure, Democracy & Governance, Trade & Investment, Next Generation Leadership, Agriculture, and Diaspora Engagement.

Videos of the sessions are available at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTxyVmXOIxRs2ZJh7\\_6917Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTxyVmXOIxRs2ZJh7_6917Q).



*CFA presents Recording Artist Jidenna with its Leadership Award during the recent Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series. From left to right, Dr. Jamechia Hoyle, Deputy Coordinator of CFA's African Healthcare Infrastructure Committee, Ms. Jeannine Scott, CFA Board Member, Jidenna, and Mr. Melvin Foote, CFA's President & CEO*

CFA's Report of Proceedings, including a Diaspora strategy with policy recommendations for the U.S. Administration and the African Union, will be released in late October, 2017.

This year's series was organized by CFA, in cooperation with the African Union Mission in Washington, DC, and the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University.

CFA's sponsors for the 2017 Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series included the African Union Mission to the United States, AllAfrica, the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, Gilead Sciences, Nixon Peabody LLP, Kibwe Engineering, Cannabis Science Research Foundation, and Chevron.

### **About the Constituency for Africa**

For over 26 years, CFA has established itself as one of the leading, non-partisan organizations focused on educating and mobilizing the American public and the African Diaspora in the U.S. on U.S.-Africa policy. As a result, CFA has helped to increase the level of cooperation and coordination among a broad-based coalition of individuals and organizations committed to the progress, development, and empowerment of Africa and African people worldwide.

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