APARC Communiqué: Spring 2004

Boston University African Presidential Center
Boston University

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Boston University
Boston University and Morehouse College Inaugurate New Partnership

USAID funds Collaborative between APARC and The Leadership Center to provide students access to APARC programs.

The African Presidential Archives and Research Center at Boston University and The Leadership Center at Morehouse College inaugurated a year-long collaborative on November 18, 2003 when former Zambian President Kenneth D. Kaunda, First Balfour African President-in-Residence, began a residence at Morehouse College. The Collaborative is designed to give Morehouse students access to the full range of programs offered by APARC. The Collaborative is funded by a grant from USAID. (story continued on page 2)

"A Message to My People: Africans in the Diaspora and the Renewal of Africa"
Presented by His Excellency Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda
First President of Zambia
Balfour African President-in-Residence at Morehouse College, Sale Hall in Atlanta, Georgia on November 19, 2003

It is an honor and rare privilege for me to be here at Morehouse College to deliver my last major address of my residence. For this place is of historic importance in the United States of America. It has been the cradle of positive activism and creativity among our people. Indeed, it is the cradle of African American educational achievements. Morehouse College has given black America and America, in general, some of its most outstanding leaders; first and foremost, moral leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr.

Looking Ahead: The Future of Africa
Presented by His Excellency Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda
First President of Zambia
Balfour African President-in-Residence at The Carter Center Atlanta, Georgia on November 20, 2003

My friends, I welcome this opportunity to be here at the Carter Center, an Institution, which under the guidance and dynamic leadership of President Jimmy Carter has been a blessing to humanity. Since he left office more than 20 years ago, President Carter has definitely not been in retirement. He has continued to serve the human race in many ways that are truly meaningful to ordinary people. President Carter and his wife, Rosalyn, have touched millions of people in developing countries through their involvement in the fight against river blindness and malaria.
The Leadership Center

Name: The Leadership Center
Director: Dr. Walter Flicker
Founded: 1995
Location: Morehouse College

Mission:
To build a state-of-the-art facility at Morehouse College to house the academic departments, institutes and projects that will be part of a comprehensive interdisciplinary leadership program featuring the latest technological resources and strategies.

Core Programs:

Contact Information:
The Leadership Center
Morehouse College, 310 Westview Drive, SW, Atlanta, GA 30314
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APARC Newsletter 1-04.qxd  1/8/2004  7:47 AM  Page 2
Export of fully built-up motor vehicles
The privatization process, which is
Senegal came to the forefront in the
APARC Newsletter 1-04.qxd  1/8/2004  7:47 AM  Page 4
"Message to My People" continued from cover page
Martin Luther King, Jr. is an alumna of
President-in-Residence because of the
leaders like Samuel Jackson and Spike
leaders like Benjamin Mays; artistic
leaders like Howard Thurman; educational
Leadership Center outside of
3 4
race in ways they never have before. In
South America, African peoples are
the sun as equals as God created us all. In
place in our journey to claim our place in
all over the world. We are at a unique
time to develop our place in the world.
This is a critical time for African people
all over the world. We are at a unique
time in our journey to claim our place in
the sun as equals as God created us all. In
South America, African peoples are
dealing with the depredations defined by
race in ways they never have before. In
Europe, you see the same. In the United
States, African Americans have reached a
status unimaginable fifty years ago. There
are nearly 9-300 African-Americans elected
officials. There is an African American
Secretary of State and National Security
Advisor in a Republican administration.
No less, African Americans have an
aggregate income of $460 billion. If you
were a separate nation, you would have
the third largest economy in the world.
In Africa, we are moving beyond the days
of despair and depression and emerging
dreams we will no longer be content to
dictate. For my generation, from Martin to
Nelson, the challenge is to redefine the
political landscape of our time. A word for
you Martin. Your dream has been born. It
grows bigger by the day. Do I need to tell
you that your type never die? For this
generation, the challenge is to build on our
efforts and harness new visions of economic
hope and opportunity.
Africa has been central to the global
economy for the last 400 years. Black gold,
which is the form of our ancestors took
from the motherland, helped build the
aeroplane economics and the industrial
foundations of the New World and Old
Europe. The colonization of Africa provided
the raw materials and minerals that literally
fueled the expansion of western economic
prestige. The high tech economies of the present would not
exist without Col-ton from the Congo, so
essential to making computer chips. The
most highly educated immigrant group in
America, which add to the talent pool
essential to running modern economies,
are Africans. A new generation of
corporate leaders like Ken Chenault,
Corporate leaders like Ken Chenault,
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In addition to the fight against river blindness, his involvement with Habitat For Humanity International, building affordable housing for the poor, has been universally recognized. In June 2003, President Carter and I joined efforts with hundreds of other volunteers from many parts of the world to build 27 houses in Valdosta, Georgia. In October of this year, many Habitat for Humanity volunteers braved the tropical heat in my own country, Zambia, to build 20 houses in 5 days.

President Carter’s humanitarian work cannot be summed up in a short period of time. But I wish to mention one other important area of his work in many countries, especially in Latin America and Africa. Because he is an honor and sincere man, his involvement in election monitoring, has facilitated the peaceful conduct of elections around the world.

In December, last year, he asked me to co-chair a delegation from the Carter Center to monitor elections in Kenya. We did that, and I am happy to say the process was peaceful and the elections were free and fair. Ladies and gentlemen, President Carter is a man with rare attributes. I wish to take this opportunity to pay special tribute to this great statesman for his contribution to humanity. (Please, join me in a round of applause for President Carter).

It is important that we are meeting at this place, in order to share and exchange views and ideas on the future of Africa. Security experts believe that Africa is of great importance to humanity in many respects especially as a reliable source of raw materials, a significant emerging market, and a focal point for grappling with some of the world’s major moral and political challenges such as balancing the tensions between Islamic and Western values.

No matter how some people may view Africa, it is undeniable that the continent is in transition for the better. Yes, as a people, we have endured a very difficult past characterized by the dark area of slavery, colonization, and apartheid in South Africa. It is, however, necessary to mention that although our aspirations for self-determination have already largely been fulfilled, we are yet to realize economic prosperity for Africa as a whole.

Today, African countries are at different levels of development. Most of them are facing serious challenges in their efforts to attain sustainable development. But it is important to note that we are indeed serious and determined to make a positive difference in the standard of living of our people.

Brothers and sisters, our recent history indicates that most African countries attained their independence during the late 1950s up to the 1980s. This was at the height of the Cold War era between the then, Soviet Union and the United States of America. In their unbridled man for spheres of influence and control in the world, they formed proxy wars in the newly independent African countries with no regard whatsoever for the interests of the people of the countries concerned.

These wars had (and still have) serious consequences for the economies of the countries concerned, as well as entire regions. For instance, in Angola and Mozambique, millions of lidlumuls were laid in many areas during the wars there and are still residing in conditions unsuitable for cultivation. Although the warring factions have ended their fighting, these uncultivated land masses still have the capacity to kill and maim.

It should also be noted that wars of liberation, especially in southern Africa, had serious implications for the host countries of the liberation movements. My own country, Zambia, which played host to freedom fighters from Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe, was constantly attacked by the minority regimes in what was then called Rhodesia and is apartheid South Africa. Our economic infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, were targeted for bombing. Wars of liberation, especially in Southern Africa, had serious implications for the host countries. Many countries are still grappling with security issues, issues such as uncontrolled firearms, some of which have fallen into the hands of criminals. This situation continues to pose some security concerns in the region.

To address the security concerns we have referred to, the countries in Southern Africa, under the Southern African Development Community (SADC), have established a regional security forum for cooperation and action in order to effectively address matters relating to regional security and stability. The result has been encouraging.

They have succeeded in this area especially in addressing the vexing issue of trafficking in small arms, which were being used in criminal activities in national states and across international borders in the region. The police and other security agencies have, since the creation of the regional security commission, been working together to step up appropriate strategies for regional cooperation in order to address this issue effectively. They have been working in close collaboration with the United Nations. As I have already said, their efforts are already bearing fruits.

Many African countries are at the moment emerging democracies such as Botswana, Benin, Cape Verde, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, and Zambia. While these countries are at different stages of economic development, all of them have undertaken some sort of economic reforms. For example, when the first democratically elected government took office in South Africa, the fiscal deficit was over 9 percent and growing. Yet this year the budget deficit will not be higher than 1.7 percent of the GDP. A final example I could cite, among others, is Mauritius, which has sustained a 4 percent annual growth rate for the last two decades.

To mention the obvious, Africa is endowed with enormous natural resources, most of which are yet to be exploited. It has vast arable land suitable for agriculture and ranching. It has favorable climate and good rainfall. It is the 3rd largest continent in the world with 54 different countries, each offering unique opportunities for investment. Africa has a population of over 750 million people. Given the fact that democracy is taking root in Africa and sound economic policies are being espoused by many African countries, the continent is open for business. We need foreign direct investment in order to boost our capacity to produce quality goods and create jobs for the people, thereby bridging the gap between the rich and the poor.

It is important to mention that while we know that Africa can only be developed by Africans themselves, we need partners in this difficult journey if we are to successfully reach our destination. We need expertise in various fields as well as appropriate levels of capital flows. For this to happen, our potential partners have to make assured of the opportunities that abound in Africa in such sectors as agriculture, banking, mining, tourism, and services, among others.

The continent has welcomed the United States offers aimed at facilitating investment in Africa through the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) of 2000. We believe that AGOA presents real opportunities for African countries to develop the capacity to produce quality goods in order to access America’s markets.

I must, however, point out that AGOA is not a perfect piece of legislation. It needs to be reviewed to take into account Africa’s concerns such as extending its current expiration date beyond 2005 and allowing all products from Africa to enter the United States duty free and quota free. I would also like to mention that it is important that the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) should play a bigger role in supporting Africa’s economy.

“Looking Ahead” continued from previous page
The priority for Africa today is the attainment of sustainable development. As you are no doubt aware, during the struggle for the liberation of the continent, our priority was the attainment of political independence. We can say with pride that the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which coordinated the liberation struggle for many liberation movements in Africa, was impressively successful. We now need to exert our efforts to reclaim our economies. It was, therefore, not surprising that in July 2002 in Durban, South Africa, at the inaugural summit of the African Union (AU), African leaders unanimously committed to giving priority to the economic development of the entire continent. As the AU summit, the leaders endorsed a new initiative known as the New Partnership for Africa’s development (NEPAD), which was presented by President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria, Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal and Abdallahi Benkafli of Algeria. NEPAD has become the plan of action of the African Union.

I wish to state that NEPAD is a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and a firm and shared conviction, that they have a pressing duty to eradicate poverty and to place their countries on a path of sustainable growth and development. Although the initial response of the most industrialized countries, the Group of 8, was in support of this initiative, there is need for follow-up action on their commitments to help address the resource gap envisioned in the NEPAD initiative. It should be stressed that without significant amounts of new capital, Africa’s development objectives will not be realized. Let me also mention that in addition to the offers I have already referred to, the Millennium Development Goals adopted by heads of state and government at the United Nations in September 2000 contain important strategies for tackling issues of poverty, disease, and other social and economic problems faced by Africa and other developing countries. That summit recognized the need for governments, non-governmental organizations and others to work together in addressing issues of underdevelopment, diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and the environment. The commitment by our leaders must translate into concrete action.

My friends, as a way forward, I believe that there are a number of things the people of Africa need to do to foster sustainable development. Some of these are: the need to take deliberate steps towards enhancing democracy, transparency and the rule of law, which are the pillars of good governance. Our leaders and parties in government as well as opposition parties have enormous responsibilities to ensure that fundamental freedom and liberty are enjoyed by all citizens without discrimination.

Our governments need to prioritize development needs. With massive resources in Africa, we need to critically look at priorities and act accordingly. We need to promote regional trade and investment in keeping with the spirit of North-South co-operation and understanding among the people of our regions. Indeed, the regions are the building blocks to Africa's economic integration. We need to take measures against anti-social vices such as corruption, money laundering, drug dealing and trafficking.

Africa has enormous potential for real growth and development. The partnerships we are forging with the rest of the world hold promise for a bright future. African countries need to continue in that path. It is the right direction to attain economic growth and development. We must remain focused and relentless in our efforts. I am optimistic that if we continue along this path, we will reach our destiny in a glorious manner.

I thank you.

Dr. Walter E. Fluker, Ambassador Charles R. Stith, Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda at The Kilgore Student Center.

"A Message to My People" continued from page 6

- The inflation has continued to fall since the first quarter of 2002. Inflation decelerated from about 19 percent in the first quarter of 2002 to about 14.8 percent at the end of the third quarter. We expect inflation to be around 14 percent at the end of 2002.
- The movement and return to normalcy of 1.7 million citizens who had sought refuge in neighboring countries for over sixteen years of destabilizing war, and of 8.5 million displaced people, are indeed among Mbeki’s major political accomplishments.
- This stable political environment, coupled with macroeconomic policies, has made it possible to check inflation, stabilize our currency, and maintain the economy in a continuous growth average of 8 percent per year between 1994 and 2002, with double-digit growth in 1997, 1999 and 2001.
- We have witnessed the birth, on Mozambican soil, of a state-of-the-art aluminum smelting industry. I am talking about Mozal, a $3 billion investment in two plants, the first one of which is in full operation, with an expected output of 500,000 tons of aluminum ingots after the completion of the second phase.
- Mozambique has impressively performed in the last two decades, first directly by export, then by textiles, apparel and tourism, and most recently by financial services.
- Mozambique is now classified as a middle-income country and ranks, on the basis of the recent Human Development Index for 173 countries, sixty-seventh globally.
- Zambia.
- Zambia has extensively reformed its trade regime and today is one of the most liberalized in sub-Saharan Africa. As a result, there has been a surge in imports reaching $7,288 million by 2001.
- In 2001, the tourism sector grew by 26.2 percent, up from a growth rate of 12.9 percent.
- By September 2002, a total of 254 companies had been privatized out of a working portfolio of 280.

The point of the report in a nutshell is that Africa is more than the rate of its problems.

Why is this important to understand? It is important to understand because validating Africa and its place in the development of human culture is important if we, as the human race, are going to create a world community that is truly human.

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A Message to My People continued from page 8

...and to those who are not

I believe that in Africa you have

the promise and potential that are real.

The greatest irony of Africans in the Diaspora is not filling positions for expatriates from other countries at an annual cost of some $4 billion. Translated this means we are paying other people money to do things we need (and can) do, with money we need to keep. This is a good transition to my next point.

Africa needs your time and talent, but also your resources. In April, under the auspices of the African Presidential Archives and Research Center at Boston University, I convened a gathering of six former African heads of state (and private and public sector leaders) to talk about increasing capital flows to Africa. I convened this meeting not simply because Africa only attracts 4% of global capital flows, 40% of the private wealth held by African people is located outside the continent. Despite the fact that “diaspora return on investment (in Africa) are among the highest in the world.” This tragic state of affairs is compounded by the fact that enormous amounts of wealth and income held by Africans never finds its way to the continent. Let me put this last point in a minute.

According to a recent study conducted by the Soli Society Group, African Americans have an aggregate income of close to $700 billion annually. In a few years it is projected to be somewhere in the neighborhood of $850 billion. Clearly, out of all this money is discriminatory, in terms of how it is spent. But, if 10% (or even 1%) were invested in Africa or used to purchase materials or merchandise produced on the continent, the impact would be enormous. Ten percent of the aggregate income of African Americans in today’s dollars would be $30 billion. Even 1% would be $7 billion. Either number is much more than the combined total of all foreign assistance given to African countries by the United States government. African Americans and Africans throughout the Diaspora have the power within their purse to significantly change Africa for the better.

Having said this, I know that there are some things that we need to do on the Africa side of the equation to make things more transparent and easier for you to invest, but let us work together to solve these problems. We need to believe in each other; we need to talk to each other! That is what is so important about this partnership between the African Presidential Archives and Research Center at Boston University and the Leadership Center at Morehouse College; it provides a context for us to have these very important conversations.

If we, as African people, in the words of the prophet, “will but sit and reason together,” we can solve the middle of Africa’s neglect. I know we can! I know we can! I know we can! I know we can! I know we can! I know we can! I know we can! Africans, our ancestors, were stolen from the homeland and brought here as slaves. They had nothing, not even their own names. Now as a group, African Americans are among the most prosperous people on the planet. “Still we rise!”

The brothers and sisters, the ancestors you left behind, under the burden of colonialism were literally made “slaves in our own land.” There was a time when the sun never set on the British Empire. There are some people that always wanted it to be that way. But, today we are free. We are free from Cairo to Capetown. And not only do we have our countries back, but now that the Cold War is over we are starting to make them work. Still we rise!

Apartheid. And then, as if that weren’t bad enough, we had to endure colonialism. Then, its trade. And then, if that wasn’t bad enough, we had to endure colonialism. Then, in equally ugly and exploitative system of apartheid. And then, as if that wasn’t bad enough, we now have to deal with HIV/Aids. But despite those bad things, as Maya Angelou wrote “still we rise!”

God has blessed me to live a long life. God has blessed me to overcome some great trials and tribulations— like being jailed for wanting to be a free man in my own country. I look around and so many of my contemporaries have passed on—Nkruma, Nyerere, Cabral, Lumumba, Mandela, Nkruma, Kenyatta, and others. Yet God has spared me. I know God is not through with me yet. I believe that God among other things—I have been spared for this time and place to deliver this message to my people, be a bridge. So, I say to you that Africa’s time is now; and it will be your discipline and dedication that will determine if Africa and her children, all over the world, fulfill their destiny.

“ notamment” continued from page 2

Over the course of the 2003-2004 academic year, other significant activities and initiatives will occur as part of the Collaborative. On February 4, 2003 The President’s Convocation Video Conferencing Project will be inaugurated. This project will involve Morehouse College students and Boston University students in an interactive web-cast with African public and private sector leaders. Technology will be further used during the Collaborative with a website link between the Leadership Center at Morehouse College and APARC at Boston University.

Another key feature of the Collaborative is providing Morehouse students with the African Leaders State of Africa Report. On February 15, 2004 APARC will release this report, which presents the perspectives of current African Presidents on their respective regions and countries. This report contains the “views” and strategies of these leaders for future generations of scholars, policy makers and leaders.

The final major project of the Collaborative involves Morehouse students and faculty in APARC’s African Presidential Roundtable 2004. In April 2004, Morehouse College students and faculty will be official observers in a two-continent “dialogue” with nine former African heads of state, and public and private sector leaders from around the world. The focus of these deliberations will be assessing business and increasing capital flows to Africa. President Kaunda noting that the Collaborative is part of a tradition of cooperation between BU and Morehouse said, “It is fitting, that this be the place of my last major address as the Belfer African President-in-Residence because of the historic connections between Boston University and Morehouse College,” Martin Luther King. It is a shame of both institutions. Howard Thurman’s spiritual legacy beholds both institutions. Diane Lawrence Carter and Dr. Walter Fluker are the latest extensions of this ongoing connection. And, of course, given my residency here this week and my primary residency at Boston University, I complete the circle.”

The APARC Historically Black College and University Collaborative is a pedagogical bridge that helps close the gap between the future architects of change in the African Diaspora and the past pillars of modern Africa’s independence and development.

Boys of Africa rise and fight
Girls of Africa rise and shine
in the name of great Africa
We shall fight and conquer
SAVE THE DATE
AFRICAN PRESIDENTIAL
ROUNDTABLE 2004
will convene
April 22, 2004
at Boston University’s Kennsington Campus in London, England and
April 27-8, 2004
at Boston University’s Charles River Campus in Boston, Massachusetts.