

tices to improve the ability of citizens to research and disseminate information relating to, among other things, the economy, education, trade, health, agriculture, the environment, and the media.

“(3) Agriculture, particularly in processing and capacity enhancement.

“SEC. 12. FACILITATION OF TRANSPORTATION.

“In order to facilitate and increase trade flows between eligible sub-Saharan African countries and the United States, the President shall foster improved port-to-port and airport-to-airport relationships. These relationships should facilitate—

“(1) increased coordination between customs services at ports and airports in the United States and such countries in order to reduce time in transit;

“(2) interaction between customs and technical staff from ports and airports in the United States and such countries in order to increase efficiency and safety procedures and protocols relating to trade;

“(3) coordination between chambers of commerce, freight forwarders, customs brokers, and others involved in consolidating and moving freight; and

“(4) trade through air service between airports in the United States and such countries by increasing frequency and capacity.

“SEC. 13. AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

“(a) IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES.—The President, through the Secretary of Agriculture, shall identify eligible sub-Saharan African countries that have potential to increase marketable exports of agricultural products to the United States and the greatest need for technical assistance, particularly with respect to pest risk assessments, complying with sanitary and phytosanitary rules of the United States, and developing food safety standards.

“(b) PERSONNEL.—The President shall assign at least 30 full-time personnel for the purpose of providing assistance to the countries identified under subsection (a) to ensure that exports of agricultural products from those countries, particularly from businesses and sectors that engage women farmers and entrepreneurs, meet the requirements of United States law.

“(c) COORDINATION.—The President shall take such measures as are necessary to ensure adequate coordination of similar activities of agencies of the United States Government relating to agricultural technical assistance for sub-Saharan Africa.

“SEC. 14. TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AFRICA.

“The President shall convene the trade advisory committee on Africa established by Executive Order 11846 of March 27, 1975 [19 U.S.C. 2111 note], under section 135(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 [19 U.S.C. 2155(c)], in order to facilitate the goals and objectives of the African Growth and Opportunity Act [19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.] and this Act, and to maintain ongoing discussions with African trade and agriculture ministries and private sector organizations on issues of mutual concern, including regional and international trade concerns and World Trade Organization issues.”

[Functions of President under section 13(c) of Pub. L. 108–274, set out above, assigned to Administrator of United States Agency for International Development, in collaboration with Secretary of Agriculture, see Ex. Ord. No. 13720, §1(c), Feb. 26, 2016, 81 F.R. 11089, set out as a note under section 2466a of this title.]

[Pub. L. 108–429, title II, §2004(j)(2), Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2595, provided that:

[“(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending Pub. L. 108–274, set out above] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 8 of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 [Pub. L. 108–274].

[“(B) REQUESTS FOR RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—Section 8(b) of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 shall be applied with respect to the amendment made by paragraph (1) by substituting ‘90 days after the date of the enactment of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical

Corrections Act of 2004 [Dec. 3, 2004]’ for ‘90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.’”]

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 114–27, title I, §112, June 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 371, provided that: “In this title [see Short Title of 2015 Amendment note above]:

“(1) BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRY.—The term ‘beneficiary sub-Saharan African country’ means a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country described in subsection (e) of section 506A of the Trade Act of 1974 [19 U.S.C. 2466a(e)] (as redesignated by this Act).

“(2) SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRY.—The term ‘sub-Saharan African country’ has the meaning given the term in section 107 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act [19 U.S.C. 3706].”

§ 3702. Statement of policy

Congress supports—

(1) encouraging increased trade and investment between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa;

(2) reducing tariff and nontariff barriers and other obstacles to sub-Saharan African and United States trade;

(3) expanding United States assistance to sub-Saharan Africa’s regional integration efforts;

(4) negotiating reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade agreements, including the possibility of establishing free trade areas that serve the interests of both the United States and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa;

(5) focusing on countries committed to the rule of law, economic reform, and the eradication of poverty;

(6) strengthening and expanding the private sector in sub-Saharan Africa, especially enterprises owned by women and small businesses;

(7) facilitating the development of civil societies and political freedom in sub-Saharan Africa;

(8) establishing a United States-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum;

(9) the accession of the countries in sub-Saharan Africa to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions; and

(10) promoting the role of women in social, political, and economic development in sub-Saharan Africa.

(Pub. L. 106–200, title I, §103, May 18, 2000, 114 Stat. 253; Pub. L. 114–27, title I, §106(a), June 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 368.)

AMENDMENTS

2015—Par. (10). Pub. L. 114–27 added par. (10).

§ 3703. Eligibility requirements

The President is authorized to designate a sub-Saharan African country as an eligible sub-Saharan African country if the President determines that the country—

(1) has established, or is making continual progress toward establishing—

(A) a market-based economy that protects private property rights for men and women, incorporates an open rules-based trading

system, and minimizes government interference in the economy through measures such as price controls, subsidies, and government ownership of economic assets;

(B) the rule of law, political pluralism, and the right to due process, a fair trial, and equal protection under the law;

(C) the elimination of barriers to United States trade and investment, including by—

(i) the provision of national treatment and measures to create an environment conducive to domestic and foreign investment;

(ii) the protection of intellectual property; and

(iii) the resolution of bilateral trade and investment disputes;

(D) economic policies to reduce poverty, increase the availability of health care and educational opportunities, expand physical infrastructure, promote the development of private enterprise, and encourage the formation of capital markets through micro-credit or other programs;

(E) a system to combat corruption and bribery, such as signing and implementing the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions; and

(F) protection of internationally recognized worker rights, including the right of association, the right to organize and bargain collectively, a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor, a minimum age for the employment of children, and acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health;

(2) does not engage in activities that undermine United States national security or foreign policy interests; and

(3) does not engage in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or provide support for acts of international terrorism and cooperates in international efforts to eliminate human rights violations and terrorist activities.

(Pub. L. 106-200, title I, §104, May 18, 2000, 114 Stat. 254; Pub. L. 114-27, title I, §§106(b), 111, June 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 368, 370.)

AMENDMENTS

2015—Pub. L. 114-27, §111, struck out subsec. (a) designation and heading before “The President is authorized” and struck out subsec. (b). Prior to amendment, text of subsec. (b) read as follows: “If the President determines that an eligible sub-Saharan African country is not making continual progress in meeting the requirements described in subsection (a)(1) of this section, the President shall terminate the designation of the country made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.”

Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 114-27, §106(b), inserted “for men and women” after “rights”.

§ 3704. United States-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum

(a) Declaration of policy

The President shall convene annual high-level meetings between appropriate officials of the

United States Government and officials of the governments of sub-Saharan African countries in order to foster close economic ties between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) Establishment

Not later than 12 months after May 18, 2000, the President, after consulting with Congress and the governments concerned, shall establish a United States-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (in this section referred to as the “Forum”).

(c) Requirements

In creating the Forum, the President shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The President shall direct the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of State, and the United States Trade Representative to host the first annual meeting with their counterparts from the governments of sub-Saharan African countries eligible under section 3703 of this title, and those sub-Saharan African countries that the President determines are taking substantial positive steps towards meeting the eligibility requirements in section 3703 of this title. The purpose of the meeting shall be to discuss expanding trade and investment relations between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa and the implementation of this chapter including encouraging joint ventures between small and large businesses. The President shall also direct the Secretaries and the United States Trade Representative to invite to the meeting representatives from appropriate sub-Saharan African regional organizations and government officials from other appropriate countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

(2)(A) The President, in consultation with the Congress, shall encourage United States nongovernmental organizations to host annual meetings with nongovernmental organizations from sub-Saharan Africa in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Forum for the purpose of discussing the issues described in paragraph (1).

(B) The President, in consultation with the Congress, shall encourage United States representatives of the private sector to host annual meetings with representatives of the private sector from sub-Saharan Africa in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Forum for the purpose of discussing the issues described in paragraph (1).

(3) The President shall, to the extent practicable, meet with the heads of governments of sub-Saharan African countries eligible under section 3703 of this title, and those sub-Saharan African countries that the President determines are taking substantial positive steps toward meeting the eligibility requirements in section 3703 of this title, not less than once every 2 years for the purpose of discussing the issues described in paragraph (1). The first such meeting should take place not later than 12 months after May 18, 2000.

(d) Dissemination of information by USIS

In order to assist in carrying out the purposes of the Forum, the United States Information Service shall disseminate regularly, through