



**Africa Center for Strategic Studies
Centre d'études stratégiques de l'Afrique
Centro de Estudos Estratégicos de África**

**African Defense Attaché Seminar
16 – 20 November 2009
Washington, DC**

CONCEPT PAPER

- WHAT:** This seminar is designed to acquaint African Defense Attachés and African embassy personnel with security portfolios who are newly assigned to the U.S., with the structures and workings of the U.S. Government, and with U.S. security policies and programs pertaining to Africa.
- WHERE:** National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC
- WHEN:** Monday, 16 November – Friday, 20 November 2009
- WHO:** African Defense Attachés and embassy personnel who are newly assigned to the U.S., and who are responsible for security policies and programs.
- WHY:** As African Defense Attachés and embassy personnel begin their duties in the United States, they face a broad range of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and a complex set of interactions that affect U.S. Government security policies and programs relating to Africa. An early familiarization with the US government and other organizations, and relationships within and among them will enable seminar participants to execute their duties more effectively and better articulate their countries' interests and concerns to appropriate officials and organizations.
- HOW:** The seminar will be conducted primarily through plenary and question-and-answer sessions with various experts and representatives from the U.S. government. In addition to classroom activities, and to reinforce the concepts addressed during the seminar and broaden practical application, the sessions on the Department of State and Department of Defense will coincide with field trips to these institutions to facilitate in-depth discussions on issues of interest to seminar participants, and to introduce them to key personnel who address Africa-related issues.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

- Keynote address and overview to underline the importance of Africa to the United States, and the many factors that influence U.S. foreign policy development in general, and specifically towards Africa.

National Defense University
300 5th Avenue, Building 62
Fort McNair
Washington, DC 20319-5066

Website: www.africacenter.org
Telephone: 202-685-7300
Facsimile: 202-685-3210

- The U.S. political process, the U.S. security environment, and how they relate to U.S. policies and programs in Africa.
- The role of non-governmental organizations, think tanks, and media in policy development and analysis.

RESOURCE

MATERIALS: The Africa Center will provide a binder with key readings and source documents. The Center will also produce a CD-ROM with reference materials and copies of briefings and course materials.

For more information on this seminar or other programs at the Africa Center, please visit the website at www.africacenter.org.

For more information about United States government security and defense programs in Africa, please visit the following web sites:

www.state.gov

www.usaid.gov

www.defenselink.mil

www.africom.mil

As of: 22 September 23, 2009