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THIRD PAN-AFRICAN FORUM ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE TO TAKE PLACE IN DAKAR, SENEGAL

The Third Pan-African Consultative Forum on Corporate Governance (PACFCG) will be held November 8-10, 2005 at Le Meridien President Hotel in Dakar, Senegal. The forum is being hosted by the West African Bankers Association and organized with the support of leading international and regional institutions including the African Development Bank, the Centre for Corporate Governance, the Center for International Private Enterprise, the Global Corporate Governance Forum, the International Finance Corporation, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Good corporate governance is crucial not only for the effective internal management of companies, it also demands related public institutions and practices that support sustainable development, such as capital markets, disclosure rules, and accountability systems. The forum will include representatives from Africa's private sector and state-owned enterprises, policymakers, regulators, and leading corporate governance organizations experienced in effecting reform and building capacity. National, regional, and international institutions with an interest in corporate governance and the activities of the PACFCG will also be in attendance. Participants will:

- Discuss the current status of corporate governance in Africa;
- Review key issues identified at the previous Pan-African Forum, including the role of banks, state-owned enterprises, and investors;
- Examine the issue of corporate governance in small, micro, and medium-sized enterprises and other structures such as cooperatives;
- Share lessons learned from different sectors of enterprise and society through country-level and corporate case studies; and
- Draft a list of next steps to advance the implementation of corporate governance principles.

The forum will consist of panel discussions and breakout sessions as well as speeches and presentations by experts in the field.

The Center for International Private Enterprise is a non-profit affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and one of the four core institutes of the National Endowment for Democracy. CIPE has supported more than 900 local initiatives in over 100 developing countries, involving the private sector in policy advocacy and institutional reform, improving governance and building understanding of market-based democratic systems. CIPE provides management assistance, practical experience and financial support to local organizations to strengthen their capacity to implement democratic and economic reforms. CIPE programs are also supported through the United States Agency for International Development.

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