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TRANSAFRICA FORUM SCHOLARS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The TransAfrica Forum Scholars Advisory Council, which was established in January 1993, is composed of prominent scholars of foreign policy, international law, and a variety of academic disciplines relevant to the development of principled U.S. policy towards Africa and the Caribbean. The Scholars Council serves in an advisory capacity to TransAfrica Forum and supports its programs. The purpose of the TransAfrica Forum Scholars Council is to address longstanding problems by developing proactive policy positions rather than reacting to crisis situations only after they have occurred.

The members of the Council will use their collective expertise and experience to develop and articulate the intellectual bases for changes in U.S. policy that are deemed requisite. Individual members of the Council will address current events in "op-ed" pieces or media interviews.

The Scholars Council is co-chaired by Charles Ogletree of Harvard Law School and Ruth Hamilton of Michigan State University. It is organized into eight issues committees. These committees are: Culture, Agency and the Reconceptualization of African/Global African Development; Reconceptualization and Restructuring of Economic Development Assistance, and Multilateralism; Gender Analysis/Role and Status of Women; Natural and Human Resource Management, and Quality of Life; Human-Social Displacement: Refugees, Exiles and Displaced Persons; Political Process and the Relationship between State and Civil Society; Security Issues and Norms of Intervention; and Understanding U.S. Policy Formation Toward Africa/Global Africa as a Process. Members of the Scholars Advisory Council are encouraged to work with their colleagues on the issues committees to produce policy papers and issue briefs for publication.

This is a critical time for African peoples throughout the globe. Continued resistance to democratic change in South Africa, and the crises in Haiti, Liberia, and Somalia emphasize the urgent need for substantive, insightful analysis. The expertise and commitment of the TransAfrica Forum Scholars Advisory Council will make it an influential force in shaping policy in the new administration and beyond.