



**For Immediate Release**  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Leon H. Sullivan Foundation to Host Town Hall Meeting on NEPAD**  
*Dialogue to Focus on Most Important Issues Facing African Continent*

Washington, DC – On Wednesday, October 12, 2005, The Leon H. Sullivan Foundation will host the second in a series of historic evenings in celebration of its new working relationship with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The evening will consist of a town hall meeting for approximately 500 guests and will honor the leaders and founders of NEPAD. Featured panelists for the event are Professor Firminio Mucavele, CEO of NEPAD. George Obiozor Ambassador of Nigeria, Gerard Byam, Acting V.P. of the World Bank's Africa region and Chairman of the Foundation, Ambassador Andrew Young who will moderate.

“We expect that this town hall meeting will provide substantive dialogue and will answer the many questions circulating around the future of Africa and the Diaspora,” said Hope Masters, President and CEO of the Sullivan Foundation. “Our panelists are high level decision makers representing institutions focused on African development and committed to helping Africa meet its goals in economic growth, human development and poverty reduction.”

NEPAD was created by the shared vision of Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo, Thabo Mbeki and Abdelaziz Bouteflika in July of 2001 to place their countries on a path of sustainable growth and poverty reduction. President Abdoulaye Wade later joined and together they are strategically setting the agenda for Africa's renewal. Some of the primary objectives of NEPAD's leaders are to give priority to capacity building and to bridge the basic infrastructure gaps that exist between Africa and developed countries. “We all represent organizations that in one way or another are focused on one or more of NEPAD's objectives. Perhaps this is the appropriate forum in which to assess the opportunities that exist right now,” stated Masters.

Admission to the Town Hall meeting is complimentary. For more information or to register for the event call the Sullivan Foundation at 202.7236.2239 or visit.

<http://www.thesullivanfoundation.org/>.

**When:** October 12, 2005

**Where:** The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade

1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Amphitheatre

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.- 7:30 P.M.

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