

# GREAT DECISIONS

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## 5. U.S. policy toward Africa

### Acronyms and abbreviations

AFRICOM—U.S. Africa Command  
AFISMA—African-led International Support Mission to Mali  
AGOA—African Growth and Opportunity Act  
AMISON—African Union Mission in Somalia  
APRRP—African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership  
AU—African Union  
CAR—Central African Republic  
CBC—Congressional Black Caucus  
CPA—Comprehensive Peace Agreement  
DRC—Democratic Republic of the Congo  
ECCAS—Economic Community of Central African States  
ECOWAS—Economic Community of West African States  
ICC—International Criminal Court  
LRA—Lord’s Resistance Army  
NTC—National Transitional Council  
PEPFAR—President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief  
USAID—U.S. Agency for International Development

### Glossary

**African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA):** Signed into law by President Clinton in May 2000, AGOA’s objective is to expand U.S. trade and investment with sub-Saharan Africa, to stimulate economic growth, to encourage economic integration, and to facilitate sub-Saharan Africa’s integration into the global economy.

**African Union:** A group of 54 African states that meet to discuss important events and issues concerning the African continent.

**Fouad Ajami:** A Lebanese-born academic and broadcast commentator who played a part in advocating for the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq.

**Omar al-Bashir:** He became the president of Sudan in 1989 after a bloodless military coup and has been under scrutiny for corruption and other abuses of power.

**Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali (Tunisia):** General Ben Ali who was serving as prime minister, became president after Habib Bourguiba was forced to step down after being declared mentally unfit. Ben Ali ruled until Jan. 2011, when he left the country following continued violent demonstrations in the country.

**Boko Haram:** A militant Islamist movement based in Nigeria that gained international attention in 2014 when it kidnapped over 200 girls, planning to sell them into slavery.

**Omar Bongo:** President of Gabon for 41 years until his death in 2009. Despite periodic accusations of corruption, he maintained relative stability during his time in office, and, at the time of his death, was the longest-serving head of state in Africa.

**Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA):** A set of agreements seeking to end years of civil war in Sudan.

**Conference of Berlin:** A meeting of mostly European states from 1884 to 1885 where the African continent was divided among colonial powers.

**Congressional Black Caucus (CBC):** A U.S. congressional organization representing African American members of Congress. As of October 2014, the CBC has one senator out of 100 and 42 out of 435 members in the U.S. House of Representatives.

**Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS):** A regional group of 10 African countries seeking to promote economic integration.

**Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS):** A regional group of 15 West African countries, found-

ed in 1975, seeking to promote economic integration.

**Global Fund to Fight AIDS:** An organization that raises and donates nearly \$4 billion a year to support programs fighting AIDS.

**Group of Eight (G8):** A group of eight highly industrialized nations, including France, Germany, Italy, the U.K., Japan, the U.S., Canada and Russia.

**International Criminal Court (ICC):** Since 2002, the ICC has served as an independent, permanent court that prosecutes individuals for international crimes, such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. At the moment, there are 123 states that are members of the ICC.

**International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA):** An African-led military mission sent to support the government of Mali against Islamist rebels in 2013.

**Goodluck Jonathan:** He became vice president of Nigeria in 2007 and president in 2010, promising to bring reform to Nigeria's electoral process.

**Uhuru Kenyatta:** The fourth and current president of Kenya, elected in 2013. In December 2014, the ICC dropped charges of crimes against humanity against him.

**Joseph Kony:** A Ugandan rebel leader who leads the Lord's Resistance Army, a group that used to operate in Uganda. He was indicted for war crimes and crimes against humanity by the ICC in 2005; however, his current location is unknown.

**Mwai Kibaki:** The third President of Kenya, serving from December 2002 to April 2013.

**Dedan Kimathi:** A Kenyan rebel leader of the Mau Mau movement. He fought against British colonization in Kenya in the 1950s.

**Mau Mau:** A militant nationalist movement in Kenya aiming to end British colonization.

**Mahatma Gandhi:** A leader in India's independence movement that advocated nonviolent civil disobedience to gain freedom from the British.

**Thabo Mbeki:** A South African politician who succeeded Nelson Mandela as South Africa's president.

**Kgalema Motlanthe:** A South African politician who served as president of South Africa from Sept. 25, 2008 to May 9, 2009.

**Hosni Mubarak:** Egypt's president for nearly 30 years following Anwar Sadat's assassination in 1981. Mubarak was swept from power in 2011 during a popular uprising. Although sentenced to life imprisonment for his role in the deaths of protestors during Egypt's 2011 revolution, he was acquitted on all charges on Nov. 29, 2014.

**Muslim Brotherhood (Egypt):** A Sunni Islamist political, religious and social organization founded in Egypt in 1928. Although the movement spread to other Muslim countries, the Egyptian branch remains the largest in the organization, despite being declared illegal in 1954. In 2011, the Muslim Brotherhood was legalized in Egypt after the overthrow of Hosni Mubarak. Following the January 2011 revolutions, the Brotherhood established and received legal status for a new party—the Freedom and Justice Party—whose candidate, Mohammad Morsi, was elected president on June 24, 2012 (and ousted in July 2013). The Egyptian court ordered the shutdown of the Muslim Brotherhood in 2013 and consequently seized its assets.

**Muslim Brotherhood (Global):** The Muslim Brotherhood spread from Egypt to other Muslim countries through different affiliations and offshoots, creating a network of social and political movements among its adherents. It is considered a terrorist organization by the governments of Bahrain, Egypt, Russia, Syria, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

**Nelson Mandela:** A South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician and philanthropist who served as president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999.

**Kwame Nkrumah:** He led Ghana to independence from British colonization and was the first president and prime minister of Ghana, from 1951 to 1966.

**President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR):** U.S. government global initiative to help save the lives of those suffering from HIV/AIDS. The largest commitment by any nation to combat a single disease internationally.

**Muammar Qadhafi:** An authoritarian dictator in Libya for more than 40 years. Corruption and human rights abuses turned much of the Libyan population against him and led to his overthrow in 2011.

**William Ruto:** He has been deputy president of Kenya since 2013 and has a case concerning crimes against humanity being considered by the ICC, along with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta.

**Ellen Johnson Sirleaf:** From Liberia, she is the first elected (2005) female head of state in Africa. She was part of a trio of women to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011.

**General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi:** Formerly defense minister in Egypt's military-led government, he was elected president of Egypt in 2014. In 2013, he became deputy prime minister after President Mohamed Morsi was ousted in what many have characterized as a coup on July 3 of that year.

**Tuareg:** A traditionally nomadic people who inhabit parts of the Saharan interior of North Africa.

**Desmond Tutu:** An archbishop emeritus of Cape Town

and a Nobel peace laureate known for his role in the opposition to apartheid in South Africa.

**Umaru Musa Yar'Adua:** The 13th president of Nigeria from 2007 until his death in 2010. He won a decisive landslide victory in the presidential election on April 21, 2007, but it was marred by reports of widespread electoral malpractice. His inauguration marked the first time in the country's history that an elected civilian head of state had handed over power to another.

**Abdel Fattah Younes:** A senior military official and former minister of interior for former Libyan President Muammar Qadhafi, Younes resigned in Feb. 2011 to join the rebels. He was reported dead in July 2011.

**Young African Leaders Initiative:** A long-term effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders and strengthen partnerships between the United States and Africa.