

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT  
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**GIC is partnering with the largest African festival in the U.S. to bring together ambassadors from five African countries for a roundtable discussion.**

**TWEET:** Join [@interdependence](https://twitter.com/interdependence) and [@ODUNDE365](https://twitter.com/ODUNDE365) in Philadelphia on 6/8 for the annual African Business Roundtable! <http://bit.ly/2jGNJRt>

PHILADELPHIA, PA-

#### **WHAT**

**African Business Roundtable:** GIC's African Business Roundtable, held in collaboration with the Annual ODUNDE Festival, will take place on Friday, June 8, 2018. This annual event is free, but registration is required. Participants' Organization and Countries include the African Union (AU), The Republic of Cameroon, The Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Republic of Liberia, and the Republic of Ghana.

#### **WHO**

- Susan Akbarpour, CEO and Co-Founder, Mavatar
- H.E. Dr. Barfuor Adjei-Barwuah, Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana
- H.E. Dr. Erieka Bennett, Founder and Head of Mission of the (AU) African Diaspora Forum
- Jannie L. Blackwell, Member of the City Council of Philadelphia
- Harold T. Epps, Director of Commerce at the City of Philadelphia
- H.E. Henri Etoundi Essomba, Ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon to the United States of America
- Oshunbumi Fernandez, CEO of ODUNDE, Inc.
- H.E. Gurly Gibson, Ambassador from Republic of Liberia
- H.E. Mamadou Haidara, Ambassador from Cote d'Ivoire
- Alan Kyerematen, Ghana Minister of State - Trade & Industry
- Donald Rissmiller, Founding Partner of Strategas
- Stanley Straughter, Chairman, African Caribbean Business Council
- Senator Sharif Street, Pennsylvania State Senator representing the Third Senatorial District of Philadelphia

**WHEN** Friday, June 8, 2018 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE** Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Boehne Auditorium  
(Address: 100 N. 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

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**Contact:** To register for this event or for more information please contact Colleen Murphy, Manager of Marketing and Communications, at [cmurphy@interdependence.org](mailto:cmurphy@interdependence.org) or 215-238-0990.

**About the Global Interdependence Center:** The Global Interdependence Center (GIC) is a Philadelphia-based nonprofit organization that seeks to stimulate thoughtful, global dialogue on a wide range of issues that affect the international community, including economics, health care and government. GIC convenes conferences and roundtable discussions, both domestically and internationally, to identify and address emerging global issues. For more information, visit GIC's website at [www.interdependence.org](http://www.interdependence.org).

**About the ODUNDE Festival:** Created in 1975, Odunde provides opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to meet, engage, cultivate, and learn about the African Diaspora's heritage, communities, leadership and arts. Odunde is the largest African festival in the United States. For more information, visit [odundefestival.org](http://odundefestival.org).