

# Chimera™

Improving the Environment for Intercontinental Exchanges

Volume 2 Issue 1 / Spring 2004

*Anniversary Edition*

*The Chimera, monster of Greek mythology, part lion, part goat, and part dragon, is a symbol for fantastic ideas and “the creation of imagination.”*



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## Chimera™

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Chimera™ is interested in original manuscripts concerning US-African relations within the following core areas: diplomacy, health, technology, economic development, education and culture. The Institute reserves the right to select, reject or edit contributions. Contributions may be sent via e-mail to Chimera@usafrica.org. The Institute accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials.

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## Publisher's Note

Welcome to the anniversary issue of Chimera. Since our founding, the USA/Africa Institute has sought to improve the environment for exchanges between Africa and the United States. Chimera is our platform for exchanging ideas, stimulating discussion and encouraging engagements on both continents. We have had a very successful year and look forward to an even broader audience this year. To enhance our electronic distribution, we have been selected by a number of indices and have engaged web based aggregation services. This has significantly expanded our opt-in-only subscriber list. We have enjoyed the ever increasing downloads of Chimera from the Internet. Due to the overall popularity of Chimera, distribution of the printed version has also been increased.

This issue is no exception to our history. We have selected authors who represent the knowledge, wisdom and experience that our readers have come to expect.

Since its inception in 1945, the United Nations has been concerned with dismantling colonialism. More than 80 nations whose peoples were under colonial rule have joined the United Nations as sovereign independent states. This is especially true in Africa. From 1945 through the 1970's, Africa gave birth to several nations. Due to the cold war and its considerations, several of these were stillborn.

The continent is afflicted with the vestiges of both colonialism and the cold war. More recently, African nation states created their own path to the future by organizing the African Union. Like its European counterpart, the African Union is aggressively adapting a number of institutions to assist in its mission of achieving Pan Africanism in the shortest time possible. They have

formed a Pan African Congress and adopted a Code of African Leadership.

In our first article, Yvette Stevens, Director of the UN Office of the Special Advisor for Africa reviews past initiatives and outlines a path forward utilizing the African Union and its New Partnership for African Development. One of the institutions adopted is that of democracy, which in turn depends upon elections. Drs. Steven Block, Karen Ferree and Smita Singh review political economic cycles and the implications for democratic transitions and the compatibility of economic and political reform in nascent democracies. As Africa develops political parties and political leadership, this article provides significant guidance to both groups as well as the global African Diaspora and policy makers worldwide, in designing successful strategies.

The World Health Organization has produced a highly successful model in Africa for managing disease. Sevim Ahmedov not only evaluates the model, but also duplicated it successfully in Florida creating a valid basis for global evaluation and management of curable diseases. To further highlight international relations, Dr. Amadu Jacky Kaba reviews the history of European and Unites States' relations with Africa and provides statistical support for the proposition that USA/African partnerships are the way forward. Drs. Chinua Akukwe, Sidi Jammeh and Melvin Foote provide the anchor to this special anniversary issue by elucidating on issues related to African engagement of the Diaspora. As we look to another year, the Institute plans to engage the Diaspora and the African Union. We hope that you will too.