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INITIATIVE FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIP TO CUT HUNGER AND POVERTY IN AFRICA JOIN TOGETHER TO DRIVE AFRICA'S TRANSFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

WASHINGTON – June 6, 2017 – The Initiative for Global Development (IGD) and the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa (Partnership) announced today that the Partnership will be merged into IGD. The Partnership's programming, expertise and operations will contribute to IGD's robust platform to help accelerate Africa's economic, industrial and agricultural transformation. The merger will take place on July 1, 2017.

The merger of IGD and the Partnership will bring together an influential network of African and global business leaders with a strong U.S. and African policy and advocacy group. This merger will help drive innovation and action-oriented solutions to help transform Africa's economic landscape, especially in the agricultural, manufacturing, and infrastructure sectors.

IGD is a nonprofit organization that engages and harnesses the power of the private sector to advance sustainable development and inclusive growth in Africa through business investment. Since 2003, IGD has carried out its efforts through high-level forums with sector-leading CEOs and senior executives from its Frontier Leader network, communications and advocacy, and advisory services.

The Partnership was founded in 2001 by several African Presidents and US public, civic and academic leaders. The Partnership is a substantially independent organization that is part of and long supported by Michigan State University (MSU). The Partnership has effectively fought for increased US public and multilateral investment in Africa's agricultural sector to alleviate hunger and poverty. The Partnership has forged strong alliances, built consensus, and increased participation of African leaders in key discussions in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Mima S. Nedelcovych, President and CEO of IGD, sits on the Board of the Partnership. IGD and the Partnership have long collaborated on programming, including co-hosting events in Washington, D.C. and on Capitol Hill, as well as pursuing joint funding for advocacy and public-private partnership programs.

By joining the two organizations, the merger will enhance the strategic effectiveness and impact of IGD to promote public-private sector solutions for more effective African development, and will strengthen the Partnership's mission by leveraging development through IGD's vast network of private sector partners. The Partnership will now become a program of IGD known as the *US-Africa Partnership Program*. Dr. Nedelcovych will continue his leadership as President and CEO of IGD and Daniel Karanja, Executive Director of the Partnership, will join the staff of IGD in a leadership capacity.

Dr. Nedelcovych said: "Given the dynamic changes occurring across the African continent over the last two decades, the



merger aims to bolster greater opportunities for creating new jobs and economic prosperity among youth, women and whole communities in Africa.”

“The Partnership and IGD are joining together during a time of tremendous progress on the continent,” said Dr. Nedelcovych. “With the advocacy and research expertise and powerful connections of the Partnership, IGD will harness these opportunities to advance inclusive growth and improve the lives of people in Africa.”

IGD Board Chair Robert A. Mosbacher, Jr., Chairman of Mosbacher Energy Company and former President & CEO of OPIC noted that the mission of the Partnership is highly aligned and complementary to IGD’s focus and vision to spur growth and economic opportunity in Africa. “We are extremely excited about this merger and the enormous benefits it will bring to IGD in expanding its capacity, expertise and impact in Africa,” said Mosbacher.

“Because of increasing alignment of our programs and interests and the fact that many development problems can better be resolved through public and private sector solutions, the coming together of IGD and the Partnership is a natural thing to do,” said Peter McPherson, Partnership Board co-chair, formally President of MSU and now President of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

McPherson said, “The Partnership appreciates the enormous efforts of Daniel Karanja as Partnership Executive Director and also wishes to recognize the creative and dedicated leadership over many years of Julie Howard who preceded Daniel as Executive Director of the Partnership.” McPherson said. “The Partnership values the long and effective Board membership of Dr. Nedelcovych. We believe that the goals of the Partnership will now be well served through IGD and its strong leadership team.”

“We shall always be grateful to MSU for their support of our secretariat staff and program for over 15 years, and look forward to a successful program under IGD,” said Carol Peasley, Partnership Board co-chair.

Members of the Partnership Board will join IGD’s strong Advisory Board, expanding its capabilities and experience throughout Africa, the US and worldwide.

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ABOUT INITIATIVE FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT (IGD)

The Initiative for Global Development (IGD) is a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization that engages and harnesses the power of the private sector to advance sustainable development and inclusive growth in Africa through business investment. We bring together CEOs and senior executives from leading African and global companies through our Frontier Leader Network to catalyze greater business investment and impact on the continent. For more information, please visit www.igdleaders.org.