

Remarks by Fred Oladeinde, President the Foundation for Democracy in Africa, at Briefing by the Congressional Sugar Reform Caucus on 15 March 2005 on Capitol Hill

Honorable Mark Kirk, Danny Davis, members of the Congressional Sugar Reform Caucus, distinguished guest, ladies and gentlemen.

The discussion on how to reform the US Sugar program is timely, and I am proud today to be in company of progressive, non profit groups across the political spectrum to advance the cause of Free Markets.

As President Bush said on July 13, 2004 in his remarks during the signing ceremony of the African Growth and Opportunity Act “When nations respect their people, open their markets, expand freedom and opportunity to all their citizens, entire societies can be lifted out of poverty and despair”

The “Subsidies Wall” that separates consumers worldwide from Free Markets must be brought crumbling down so that DEMOCRACY and FREEDOM may spread to all corners of the globe, leaving no room for the tyrants, despot leaders and terrorists that stand in the way of LIBERTY.

Americans must lead this effort, just as we led the effort to defeat Communism which brought the Berlin Wall crumbling down. Addressing the harm created by the current U.S. sugar policy on consumers in the United States, poor and developing countries, particularly in Africa and consumers all over the world, is the first step in the right direction.

Congressman Kirk, Congressman Davis, members of the Sugar Caucus, Mr. President, work with us to bring the “Subsidies Wall” crumbling down across the globe and let us advance Free Markets globally.

Thank You.