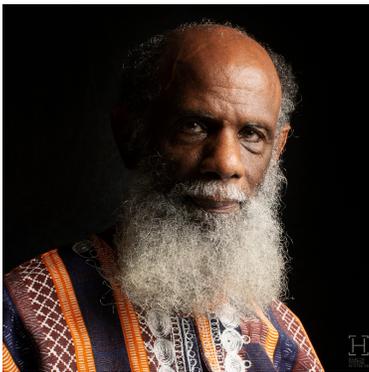




# 21ST ANNUAL TRANS-ATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM

## SPEAKERS BRIEF PROFILE



Khafra Kambon, Doctor of Humane Letters (h.c.), O.R.T.T. C.M. is a national figure in Trinidad and Tobago since 1970 when he was one of the leaders of the Black Power movement. He is Director of Regional and Pan African Affairs of the Emancipation Support Committee of Trinidad and Tobago after service as Chair of the Organisation for 28 years.

Professionally, Khafra Kambon is a UWI trained economist and retired Managing Director of Kaf Sha-Ra Services which provided services in the field of research, data analysis and Human Impact Assessments for major development projects.

He is the Regional Coordinator of the Caribbean Pan African Network (CPAN), an umbrella body of regional civil society organizations formed in 2004 and linked to the Diaspora Initiative of the African Union. CPAN has attained Associate Member status on the CARICOM Reparations Committee.

Kambon has been awarded the Chaconia medal silver for community service and the Distinguished Alumni Award of the UWI. Kambon is the author of numerous articles and the book *For Bread Justice and Freedom: A Political Biography of George Weekes*.



### SENATOR THE HONOURABLE PAULA GOPEE-SCOON

Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon was re-appointed Minister of Trade and Industry on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. She has been a Member of Parliament since 2007 and previously served as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In her second term as Minister of Trade and Industry, she continues to build upon and expand programmes initiated in the last five years in an effort to improve the export capacity of the local manufacturing sector and position Trinidad and Tobago as the business and trade hub of the Caribbean. She will also continue to lead the charge towards stimulating domestic and foreign investments while implementing policies to enhance the global competitiveness of Trinidad and Tobago. She believes in continuous stakeholder engagement to ensure participation in the growth and development of all sectors for a sustainable and vibrant economy.

Her personal interests extend to the deepening of Caribbean integration and she believes in and is committed to equal opportunities for personal growth, self-expression and participation in the development process of Trinidad and Tobago, for all citizens.



### GARTH THOMAS

He is a Hall of Fame member of two venerable institutions TTAIFA (The Trinidad and Tobago Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors) and his Alma Mater TRINITY COLLEGE MOKA MARAVAL.

Garth has a keen interest in the concepts espoused in 'Quantum Theory' as they relate to the nature of the universe as 'the field of all possibilities' where individual and organisational growth must take place. A believer in the awesomeness of the human potential, he sees himself as a human 'becoming' and his life mission is to become the best he can be by helping others to become the best they can be.



MR. ROBERT LE HUNTE - Executive Director for The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, The Inter-American Development Bank

Mr. Robert Le Hunte currently serves as the Executive Director for the Caribbean member countries at the Inter-American Development Bank. He has also been one of the founding advocates for increased Trade and Investment between Trinidad and Tobago and the African continent. He worked for five years in Ghana as Republic Bank's point person, leading the investment team that bought and established Republic Bank in Ghana. After leaving Republic Bank as a member of the Bank's executive team, he served as a government minister in Trinidad and Tobago from 2017 to 2020, responsible for public utilities. To his credit, he has even gone further in bringing the links between the two countries together by having a Ghanaian wife.



- STACY ADAMS - Vice President, Investor Services, InvesTT Trinidad and Tobago

Stacy Adams is a multi-skilled executive professional with over 25 years of experience in leading and motivating teams in diverse, multi-cultural environments across the Caribbean's leading business hubs. Currently Vice President Investor Services at InvesTT, Trinidad & Tobago's national investment promotion agency, Stacy provides strategic management of the Investor Services Division overseeing in-country sales efforts to drive reinvestment in new projects and operationalizing investments. She is also a Director on the Board of ExporTT, Trinidad and Tobago's National Export Facilitation Agency, charged with generating export growth and diversification in the non-energy goods and services sectors.

Stacy holds an MSc. in New Media, Information and Society from the London School of Economics and Political Science in the United Kingdom and a B.A Degree in Mass Communications from the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica. She is also certified in Business Continuity Management and a member of the Caribbean Corporate Governance Institute.



Mr. REGINALD. YOFI GRANT

Reginald Yofi Grant draws from over three decades of a successful career and experience in investment banking and finance as he heads the Ghana Investment Promotion Center, under the Office of the President of Ghana.

Yofi is a skilled leader and a prominent financial policy advisor both in his country and beyond. He has a strong track record of leading advisory mandates for equity and debt transactions, including the creation and implementation of the AAF SME Fund LLC, one of the largest agriculture funds in sub-Saharan Africa.

As a council member of the Continental Business Network of the African Union, and a member of the board of trustees of the OACP Endowment and Trust Fund he remains passionately committed to shaping the continent's financial and economic transformation.

Yofi serves on the Steering Board of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies representing sub-Saharan Africa and is involved in multiple private and public sector boards and committees, including the Public Private Partnership Approvals Board, Ghana Export Promotion Authority Board, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration Advisory Board, Ghana International Financial Services Advisory Committee, and is co-Chair of the UK-Ghana Investor Group.

Under his leadership, the GIPC has been named the Best Investment Promotion Agency in West & Central Africa for 5 consecutive times. The Centre has also been awarded Best Investment Promotion Agency in Africa four years in a row by CFI.co. He has received recognition for his leadership, including the Outstanding Public Leadership Award at the 2023 Ghana CEO's Summit and being honoured as Business Personality of the Year 2022 by International Investor Magazine.

He is currently working with the GroundUp Project and other partners to raise a \$250 million SDG-SME Fund of Funds with support from Convergence, the global network for blended finance. He is a fellow of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.



MR. KWAME ACQUAH- Managing Director – RDFC Limited

Under the management of Kwame Acquah, the company has established itself as one of Ghana's leading business development and market-entry support Services Company, serving clients in Ghana and the West African sub-region. Established in 1979, RDFC has over time positioned itself as a company of excellence, ensuring transactions are executed to the highest standards of efficiency and transparency. The company is a member of the non-profit organization TRACE International, the Africa Business Centre and NOF Energy (UK).

Mr. Kwame Acquah was appointed Honorary Consul of the Republic of Seychelles in Ghana effective June 13, 2016 with a presentation of an Executor. The Republic of Ghana granted him authority to fulfill duties in promoting investments, trade development, business flow and cross-cultural relations after examination of the Letter of Commission issued by the Republic of Seychelles.



MR. BENJAMIN DZOBOKU - Managing Director Republic Bank Ghana

Mr. Benjamin Dzoboku joined Republic Bank [Ghana] PLC Bank [Ghana] Ltd, in January 2007 as the Head Risk Management from SG SSB where he started his Banking career as an internal Auditor. Prior to this, he worked with Panneil Kerr Forster [PKR Ghana] as a Senior Auditor. He has over the years held several positions of responsibility at Republic Bank including, Head Internal Audit Financial Controller. Treasurer and General Manager, Retail Banking with his responsibilities for the Retail branch network and the Bank's International Trade and Treasury operations. He later moved to the position of General Manager Finance and Strategy before being designated as the Bank's Chief Operating Officer responsible for Finance & Strategy, International Trade, Treasury Administration & Premises, Cash Management, Custody, Internal control Portfolio Management Office, Centralized Support and also the Bank's subsidiary, Republic Trust Company Limited.

Mr. Benjamin Dzoboku has strong academic and professional qualifications underpinning his achievements. These include being a Chartered Accountant [ICA, Ghana] and memberships of the Chartered Institute of Taxation [CIT, Ghana], Institute of Financial Accountants [UK] [fellow] and Certified Fraud Examiners [CFE, USA]. He holds Masters Degrees in Business Administration [MBA] [Financial Management] [St Clements University, [UK] and in Public Administration [MPA] GIMPA, Ghana]. He has also participated in several executive management programmes including the Senior Executive Program in Leadership [Harvard Business School], Corporate Governance & Compliance and High Performance Management Excellence

HAYDEN ALLEYNE - Immediate Past President, Shipping Association of Trinidad and Tobago



Hayden has 23 years professional experience in the Shipping Industry. He started at the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (PATT), where he held management positions in Strategic Planning, Marketing, Operations, and Secretary to the Board of Commissioners. After 10 years at PATT, Hayden moved on to the Pt. Lisas Industrial Port Development Corporation (PLIPDECO), and served 2 years there as the Manager, Marketing and Business Development, before moving abroad with his family for a short bit.

Upon his return from Germany in 2015, Hayden joined the CKHL Shipping and Logistics Group, holding leadership roles in the business units Huggins Shipping, RedXpress and Seaboard Marine Trinidad.

In addition to Hayden's current appointment as President of this Shipping Association of Trinidad and Tobago, he also serves as a Director on the Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Service Industries (TTCSI).

Hayden holds a BSc. Management Studies from UWI and has an MBA with a focus in Shipping and Logistics from the Lloyd's Maritime Academy in conjunction with the Middlesex University UK.

**HERBERT GHENT** -Executive Manager Network Revenue & Distribution, Caribbean Airlines Limited

Herbert Ghent is an airline enthusiast and professional with a career spanning over 30 years in commercial aviation.

Currently as Executive Manager Network, he leads and oversees critical areas such as network planning, revenue management, pricing and revenue integrity at Caribbean Airlines Limited.

Herbert has held several key positions, aside from his current role as Executive Manager of Network Revenue & Distribution and has acted as Chief Commercial Officer on separate occasions with responsibility for sales, marketing, loyalty programs, and government and industry affairs. Herbert is a member of CAL's Executive Management Committee, Fleet Planning Committee and Management Tenders Committee.

He has been involved in several strategic projects over the years that have improved overall system revenue and profitability with responsibility for leading the Commercial division's input, co-ordination, analysis, feedback and implementation. Significant projects during the period 2016 to 2019 include: -

The ICF 2016 Network Study which led to the Caribbean Airlines' Boeing 738 aircraft cabin re-configuration to introduce Caribbean Plus, extra leg room seats. The introduction of Plusgrade, business cabin upgrade bidding system. The implementation of Branded Fares and the selection and implementation of a Revenue Management System.

Herbert holds an MBA from the University of Bedfordshire with focus on Strategy and the Global Competitive Environment in addition to professional certifications in Airline and Hotel Revenue Management.

**ALETTE WRIGHT-PAUL** -Manager, Government and Industry Affairs, Caribbean Airlines Limited

Alette is an accomplished professional with over 25 years of experience in the aviation industry. Currently serving as the Manager of Government and Industry Affairs at Caribbean Airlines, she plays a pivotal role in fostering relationships with government stakeholders and industry partners to drive strategic initiatives and ensure regulatory compliance.

Her journey with Caribbean Airlines began in 2007, where she has consistently demonstrated her expertise and dedication to the organization's success. Her experience in the aviation industry dates from 1995, providing her with a deep understanding of the sector's complexities, challenges, and opportunities.

One of Alette's notable achievements includes being instrumental in the successful start-up of the Havana, Cuba station in 2018. Her strategic planning, collaboration skills, and ability to navigate complex regulatory environments were critical in establishing and expanding Caribbean Airlines' operations to this market.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in International Relations from the University of West Indies, which has provided her with a strong foundation in global business dynamics and intergovernmental relations. Her educational background complements her professional expertise, enabling her to effectively navigate the intricate landscape of government affairs and international business.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Alette is actively engaged in industry involvement and community engagement initiatives. She participates in industry conferences, workshops, and forums. She is committed to continuous learning and staying abreast of industry trends that position leaders in her field.

Driven by a passion for aviation and international relations, she is dedicated to fostering strong relationships with government entities, industry partners, and stakeholders to drive positive change and contribute to the growth and success of Caribbean Airlines.



Hon. HILTON JOHN MITCHELL, CMILT, PhD

Hilton John Mitchell is the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the Republic of Ghana. He was appointed as the Honorary Consul in 2008.

He was instrumental in pursuing the implementation of a reciprocal visa waiver regime between the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and The Republic of Ghana, which came into effect on August 1, 2008.

He has overseen and coordinated State visits between Ghana and Trinidad and Tobago which bears positive results that considerably strengthen not only diplomatic relations between the two nations but also, the areas of mutual co-operation which, in the long term, will rebound positively to the people, the economies and industry.

Other initiatives spearheaded by Dr. Mitchell include:

- ▶ Three (3) trade and investment missions to Ghana by the Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago which resulted in areas of co-operation, particularly with the Chamber providing support to the Sekondi-Takoradi Chamber of Commerce for, among other things, promoting proactive approaches in the policies for occupational health and safety; education on safety awareness and encouraging organisations and employees here in Ghana to pursue safety.
- ▶ Introduction of technical co-operation between The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited and Ghana National Petroleum Corporation & Ghana National Gas Company for knowledge transfer.
- ▶ Facilitation of co-operation between Republic Bank Limited of Trinidad and Tobago and the then HFC Bank Ghana, now, Republic Bank (Ghana) Limited.
- ▶ Promotion of the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago, the steelpan, in Ghana with three major visits and performances featuring twice, the NGC Couva Joylanders and once, the NGC La Brea Nightingales Steelpan Band with some prominent Ghanaian artistes.
- ▶ Been Instrumental in facilitating Five (5) State visits by the Heads of States of Trinidad and Tobago and Ghana between 2008 – 2020.

Dr. Mitchell is also an International Business Executive. He is the Founder, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Jonmoore International Limited, a specialised transport and project logistics company that creates and encourages excellence, morale and top performance under his outstanding leadership skills.

He is a Fellow of the Institute of Logistics and Transport (UK) and a CSEP Graduate with a Certificate in Business Excellence (C.I.B.E.) in Strategy and Leadership from Columbia Business School, New York, U.S.A.

He has a wide range of experience in various fields including engineering fabrication projects and construction, steel salvaging and re-cycling, personal and protective safety consultancy, transport and project logistics.

Some initiatives by Dr. Mitchell led to formalizing Joint Venture agreements and delivering technical support to Ghana's Energy Sector.

In April 2016, he was conferred an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Philosophy in Humanities by the I-Change Nations Foundation and the United Graduate College and Seminary in Washington D.C. for his service to humanity, building relationships between nations and accomplishments in industry.

His love for Pan Africanism has also led to the encouragement of musical collaborations promoting Steel Bands of Trinidad and Tobago with Ghanaian High Life Musicians.

He is married to Ame Charima Mitchell and a father to four (4) children. © 2019 Honorary Consular Corps of Ghana | All rights reserved.