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MSC Leadership at AfrICANDO 2010 Event

MIAMI, FL (September 2010) – Ronald J. Thomason, Vice President – Strategic Programs for the Maritime Security Council, participated in the Foundation for Democracy in Africa's 13th Annual AfrICANDO Conference. The theme of this year's event is *AfrICANDO 2010: Focusing on the Stability/Security Nexus to Development in Africa*. Mr. Thomason served as the moderator for the Transportation Infrastructure Security panel, and led discussions on the evolving regulatory environment for security for the global supply chain, and its impact on the design, engineering, and effective operation of Africa's multi-modal transportation infrastructure.

The speaking agenda included:

- His Excellency Ade Adefuye: Ambassador, Federal Republic of Nigeria to the U.S.
- Dennis Moss: Chairman, Miami Dade County Board of County Commissioners
- Michael Trulson: US State Department's Office of Counterproliferation Initiatives
- Hector Pesquera: Director of Security, Port of Miami
- Oscar Enciso: President, Global Transportation Security Compliance Corporation

The presentations and panel discussions explored the challenges and benefits of integrating security practices into all of Africa's expanding trade and transportation modalities to achieve secure transportation corridors necessary to support sustainable economic development throughout the continent.

AfrICANDO 2010 served as a platform for the identification and discussion of the symbiotic relationship that must exist between the U.S. and African governments, from the local through the national level, that are linked by trade and partnership agreements. This included interactive exchanges between representatives between participating African governments, and the commercial transportation, business, and educational communities in order to ensure the broadest understanding of the requirements for security compliance through each link of the supply chain between Africa and the U.S.

This year's event was held September 28th at the DoubleTree Grand Hotel Biscayne Bay in Miami, Florida and was attended by representatives from the African and American government, trade, transportation, and investment banking communities. Mr. Thomason's presentation may be viewed on the MSC's website at: www.maritimesecurity.org.



About the Maritime Security Council (MSC)

The Maritime Security Council is the world's premier organization dedicated solely to the security of the maritime industry, and is a leading advocate for the security and policy interests of the global maritime and supply chain communities. Founded in 1988, the MSC is a not-for-profit organization that has played a pioneering role in developing the US Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA), and associated security 'best practice' programs such as the Carrier Initiative Program, the Supercarrier Initiative, Business Alliance for Secure Commerce (BASC), and the Customs-Trade partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).

About Ronald Thomason

Ron Thomason is the Vice President for Strategic Programs for the Maritime Security Council, and has served as a Governor of the organization for ten years. In his capacity as Governor he has served as a maritime security industry representative to organizations such as the: Department of Transportation's Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council (MTSNAC); Organization of American States (OAS); the International Police Organization (INTERPOL); and, the US Department of State's Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC).

Ron Thomason is also President of Infrastructure Security Solutions LLC (ISS), a small/minority business enterprise that provides security consulting and solution services for the international trade & transportation, critical infrastructure, and supply chain communities.

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