

**1. Welcome to New Affiliates:** We warmly welcome six new affiliates to our federation. They are Nigeria USA Chamber of Commerce, Haitian American Chamber of Commerce, Miami Black Chamber of Commerce, Canada Black Chamber of Commerce, Milwaukee African American Chamber of Commerce and the Grand Bahamas Chamber of Commerce. They now belong to the largest Black business association in the world.

**2. We impressed Botswana:** We thank the Ambassador of Botswana, Honorable Tebelelo M. Seretse, for her [very kind words](#) regarding our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. It inspires us to go further. We look forward to our trade mission to the nation in late October. Those wanting more information about the trade mission should contact Chuck at [cdebow@nationalbcc.org](mailto:cdebow@nationalbcc.org)

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**3. Larry Ivory gets big Appointment:** We congratulate NBCC Board Member Larry Ivory on his recent appointment to the **Procurement Policy Board** for the state of Illinois. Things are about to get better for our business owners in this state as Larry will make a big difference. Congratulations!

**4. Attention Architects and Engineers:** We will be taking a group of architects and engineers to Nairobi, Kenya in early October. The purpose of the trip is to get them licensed in Kenya and to get details on upcoming RFP's and aid them in the submission of applicable "Tenders". Also, they can interview local talent for operating an office in Nairobi. Any A/E firms that have an interest but have yet to contact us please email Chuck at [cdebow@nationalbcc.org](mailto:cdebow@nationalbcc.org)

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**5. Rally Around Patrick:** Patrick Lozes, founder of the French African Diaspora Chamber of Commerce, will officially announce his campaign for the Presidency of France. Come join us in supporting his effort on September 22. The day before that we will take a train ride into the Burgundy wine country where we will visit a Black owned vintner, Ray Walker. You will love Paris in September! For more information contact Ryan at [ey@nationalbcc.org](mailto:ey@nationalbcc.org)

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**6. Fall Summit:** This year's **Annual Fall Summit** will be held in New Orleans, LA. Circle the dates of Nov. 17 – 19, 2011. More details will follow.

**7. Words from Conway Jones:** **Dateline Norway, July 31, 2011** –“Norway began to bury its dead yesterday, one week after 77 were killed in a bombing and shooting rampage. Norwegians are resolute not to let this massacre alter their openness and democracy. The tragedy that has befallen the Norwegian people has been too great to comprehend. The country has not yet begun to grieve.”