

Statement of Stanley L. Brown
Nominee for U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
June 25, 2026

Chairman Hagerty, Ranking Member, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before you as President Trump's nominee for U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. I deeply appreciate the confidence and trust the President and Secretary of State have shown in nominating me. If confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress to advance our interests in Equatorial Guinea. I am grateful to my family – my wife who is here today and our children and their families who are watching – for their support and sacrifices including during my time in uniform. I could not be here without their unwavering support.

I am from a North Carolina family of educators, farmers, first responders, and military members who served from World War II through the Gulf War. I served first in the military and continued that service at the State Department, where I have the privilege to advance U.S. national security priorities. I spent my military career and civil service in challenging environments furthering those priorities, including counterterrorism, commercial diplomacy, and supporting the safety of U.S. citizens.

U.S. energy companies have invested billions in Equatorial Guinea and, if confirmed, my priority will be to improve the investment climate and promote further opportunities for U.S. companies. I will work with the government and like-minded partners to develop Equatorial Guinea's economic potential, and I

look forward to encouraging investment in the underdeveloped health and education sectors.

If confirmed, I will also work with the U.S. interagency and the government of Equatorial Guinea to enhance maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea. Mutual goals include the protection of offshore oil and gas facilities and countering piracy and illegal fishing. I will harness my foreign policy experiences to strengthen our partnership with Equatorial Guinea.

If confirmed, I will harness available tools to address corruption and will use U.S. influence to encourage the government to respect inalienable human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Equatoguineans. Combatting Trafficking in Persons also remains a significant U.S. priority.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with the talented, hardworking U.S. Mission team in Malabo to achieve our objectives of promoting U.S. trade and investments and strengthening the relationship between our governments. If confirmed, as Chief of Mission I will prioritize the safety, health, and resilience of the U.S. Embassy community under the ethos of “One Team, One Mission.” Coordinating and consultations with Congress will be essential to achieving our goals.

Chairman and Ranking Member, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I look forward to your questions.