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SPEAKS AT IFC-USAID “REFORMERS CLUB” DAY

ON: ***HOW TO GET SUPPORT FOR REFORMS***

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RONALD REAGAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

**-Many African countries are mature reformers:** they have successfully graduated from the first phase of reforms and now entering a second phase that is more challenging and more complex

**-Taking into account initial country-specific conditions:** fragile, conflict, and transitional backgrounds dictate a set of reforms that are different from those suited for more stable countries

**-Timing; phasing out; sequencing:** not skinning the elephant in one take  
It is important to pick and choose

**-No gap between rhetoric and action:** for reforms to be endorsed by citizens, there should be consistency between talk and action. It is very important to show results relatively quickly that meet objectives set

**-Need to set up a roadmap and exit strategy:** reforms must be planned; they entail a process that should be sustained

**-Quality of transaction versus deadline:** one has to take care to deliver quality; and resist the urgency of deadlines

**-Quick wins:** prioritizing reforms by how quickly results can show is a way of building support; often starting from smaller and easily fixable changes before moving to more difficult ones is a good way to proceed

**-Dual transition cases:** many times political and economic reforms are necessary; it is important to decide which one to proceed with first; sometimes both should happen in tandem

**-Stability:** policy and country stability are key for sustainability and reversal avoidance

**-State credibility:** an important success factor

**-Promote reforms through constant communication:** reformers have to keep stakeholders abreast of what they are doing and for what purpose