



MEDIA ADVISORY

PRESS OFFICE

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Contact: Tiffani Clements (202) 205-6740

News Releases: www.sba.gov/news/indexheadline.html

MA03-16

SBA and MBDA Celebrate 21st Anniversary of National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) WEEK 2003

Washington-SBA and the Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency will co-sponsor the 21st National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Conference to discuss "*Strategies for Growth in the American Economy, Part 3: Pursuing the Global Economy.*" The MED Week conference will provide a forum for minority-owned firms and representatives from the private and public sectors to interact in a professional business environment and discuss the challenges impacting the nation's minority entrepreneurs. There will be several minority business summits and workshops in which prominent government, corporate and minority business leaders will discuss issues and challenges that impact minority business growth, with special emphasis on strategies for minority businesses to gain access to business opportunities in the global economy and international marketplace.

WHO: **Hector Barreto**, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration
Donald L. Evans, Secretary of Commerce
Ronald Langston, National Director of MBDA
Fred Armendariz, Associate Deputy Administrator of Government Contracting and Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration

Hector V. Barreto, SBA Administrator will be the Keynote Speaker at a luncheon from 12:00-2:00 on October 1, 2003, Press Availability to follow.

WHEN: September 28-October 1, 2003

WHERE: Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20008
1-800-The-Omni

MINORITY BUSINESS SUMMITS AND WORKSHOPS:

- *Trade and Investment Climate for U.S. Companies in Emerging Markets;*
- *SBA Forum: Proven Strategies to Maximize Federal Procurement Opportunities;*
- *Doing Business in Africa;*
- *A Practical Guide to Overseas Transactions;*
- *Major Reconstruction Contracting Opportunities in the Developing World.*

INFORMATIVE BREAKFASTS AND LUNCHEONS: where Senior White House Staff such as Jendayi Frazer, Senior Director for African Affairs for President Bush and others will be available to discuss key initiatives of the Bush Administration (Breakfasts 7:30-8:45 am each morning), and keynote speakers and experts on minority business growth and development will be featured at the luncheons (Luncheons 12:00-2:00 pm each afternoon).

BUSINESS EXPO: in which minority entrepreneurs will showcase their products and services, and representatives of federal, state, and local governments and private companies will provide contractual information and opportunities for competing successfully in international markets

EMERGING BUSINESS LEADERS INSTITUTE: in which college and university students who are aspiring entrepreneurs will learn about business ownership from established minority business owners and leaders.

AWARDS/RECOGNITION CEREMONIES: in honor of national award recipients, minority business advocates and exemplary corporations.

Editor's Note: Media representatives interested in obtaining an interview with SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto regarding MED Week 2003 prior to Sept. 28th should contact Ms. Clements at the number listed above.

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