

Accountable Gold Initiative Seeks New U.S.-Africa Approach to African Gold

AGI proposes a US-Africa gold strategy built on incentives, accountability and partnership—not sanctions—promoting responsible production and transparent trade.

WASHINGTON D.C., DC, UNITED STATES, September 7, 2026

/EINPresswire.com/ -- A new proposal is calling for a different U.S. approach to Africa's gold sector—one that relies on incentives, accountability and partnership rather than sanctions and political pressure.

The proposed Accountable Gold Initiative (AGI) seeks to establish a new framework for dealing with African gold by encouraging companies and governments to meet legal, social and environmental standards. Under the initiative, companies—whether private or state-owned—that demonstrate responsible conduct would receive preferential access to partnerships and business opportunities in the USA. Those that fail to meet the standards would simply be in the 'waiting list', rather than automatically subjected to sanctions.

The article that introduced the proposal was published by [The Washington Informer](#), a leading African American community newspaper based in Washington, D.C.

The proposal was put forward by [Mekki ELMOGRABI](#), a [media and governance consultant](#), press writer and former diplomat in Washington, D.C. Elmograbi argues that Washington needs a more proactive Africa policy that is not simply a reaction to China, Russia, human-rights pressure or competition over resources.

The initiative is based on what its described as a middle ground between two competing approaches to African gold.



Consult. MEKKI ELMOGRABI Author at The Washington Informer - AGI Committee

On one side are those who campaign against what is commonly described as “conflict gold,” sometimes turning opposition to gold production and the international gold trade into broader political intervention in Africa. On the other side are states and international actors competing for access to Africa’s enormous gold resources, sometimes benefiting from the instability and conflicts surrounding the sector.

Between “Conflict gold” and the “conflict over gold,” the initiative argues, lies a third option: responsible and accountable gold production.

Africa produces roughly one-third of the world’s gold, making the continent increasingly important to global markets. At the same time, gold has become associated with internal conflicts, illicit economies, weak governance and international competition. The proposed initiative argues that treating African gold as inherently problematic risks pushing legitimate production away from transparent markets and toward shadow economies, where other international actors can gain greater influence.

The proposal argues that restrictions imposed by Western governments can create economic vacuums rather than eliminate the underlying demand for African gold, particularly in a multipolar international system where alternative powers and markets are available.

The Accountable Gold Initiative would therefore operate on two levels. Internationally, it would encourage dialogue on common rules governing the global gold trade and seek to reduce competition among major powers over African resources. Domestically, it would promote dialogue with African governments and local stakeholders on standards for legal, transparent and environmentally responsible gold production.

The initiative also complements existing efforts such as the Clean Gold Initiative, which promotes environmentally responsible methods of gold production. While clean gold focuses particularly on environmental alternatives, Accountable Gold would seek to combine environmental responsibility with legal accountability, social responsibility and transparent international trade.

The proposal is particularly directed toward the American private sector, which its author believes could play a more dynamic role in reshaping U.S.-Africa economic relations. Potential American partners could include the Washington, D.C.-based Corporate Council on Africa, African-American business and relationship-building networks, and think tanks focused on economic and global affairs and serious about strengthening U.S.-Africa relations.

Elmograbi says that the initiative is open to everyone, including those who support the use of sanctions. He argues that they should be engaged in dialogue, and that moderate ‘conflict gold’ experts and activists should also be part of the initiative.

As a next step, after launching AGI Committee, Elmograbi proposes forming a AGI Council representing different sides of the gold debate, including stakeholders who have traditionally focused on combating conflict gold. The committee could also include companies sometimes viewed skeptically because of their involvement in the gold sector, provided they can demonstrate compliance with legal, social and environmental responsibilities.

The objective, according to the proposal, is not to demonize African gold or abandon efforts to combat abuses, but to create incentives for responsible actors and make accountability—not sanctions—the foundation of a new U.S.-Africa policy.

M. Y. Abdalla

MCAA-TT

mc.media.reports@gmail.com

Visit us on social media:

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[TikTok](#)

[X](#)

[Other](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/940112748>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.