



Ivory Coast Informal Lecture and Q&A Session

Aubrey Hooks

U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire



Monday, 25 April

11:00 A.M.

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Ambassador Aubrey Hooks was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 6 August 2004. Hooks previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2001–04) and to the Republic of Congo (Brazzaville, 1996–99). Between the two assignments, he served as coordinator for the African Crisis Response Initiative, a program that provided peacekeeping training to soldiers of participating countries in Africa. Hooks joined the Foreign Service in 1971, when he was assigned as junior officer at Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel (1971–73). He has since had many diverse assignments. He was a member of the Senior Seminar, the senior executive development program for career officials (1996); economic counselor at Embassy Warsaw, Poland (1992–95); a member of the U.S. delegation to the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki, Finland, 1992); after Hebrew language training, he was assigned as an

economic officer to Embassy Tel Aviv; and he attended the NATO Defense College in Rome (1991–92). After a year of university training in economics, Hooks headed the economic section at Embassy Port-au-Prince, Haiti (1984–87); he was economic officer in Ankara, Turkey (1979–83); he worked in the Department of State as cultural affairs officer with responsibility for cultural and educational exchanges with Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary (1976–78); and following Polish language training, he worked as a vice-consul in Warsaw, Poland (1974–76). He received a BA from the University of South Carolina in 1970, subsequently studied at George Washington University, and received an MA in economics from the University of Michigan in 1984. He speaks French, Polish, and Hebrew. Hooks was born in Mullins, South Carolina. He and his wife have three sons and three daughters.

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