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PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
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Skyward Africa to Convene Washington Leaders for Strategic Dialogue on Africa's Role in the Global Space Economy

As space becomes an increasingly important domain for economic development, national security, and technological innovation, African nations are expanding investments in satellite infrastructure, space research, and international partnerships. The salon will examine how Africa's space ambitions intersect with global geopolitical competition, commercial space markets, and the contributions of diaspora talent in shaping the continent's technological future.

"Africa is increasingly becoming part of the global space conversation—from satellite infrastructure to earth observation and international partnerships," said **Nneka S. Achapu, founder of Skyward Africa and CEO of Asha Strategies**. "This salon is designed to bring together policymakers, industry leaders, and diaspora experts to explore how Africa's emerging space capabilities intersect with global cooperation, innovation, and strategic competition."

The salon will feature experts from leading policy institutions, industry organizations, and emerging space companies shaping the future of the global space economy.

Featured speakers include **Meshack Kinyua Ndiritu**, Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council's GeoTech Center, Space Applications Training Officer at the African Space Agency, and CEO of AfriOrbit, **Amber McIntyre**, Senior Director of Civil Space at the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA); and **Rama Afullo**, founder and Chief Executive Officer of Satlyt, a company focused on satellite technology and space innovation.

The event will also feature a **fireside conversation with Matt Petit and Maureen Farrell**. Petit is Mission Lead for Economic Security at Vannevar. Farrell is Vice President at Valar, a U.S. company based in Nairobi, and a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the GeoStrategy Initiative at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. Farrell and Petit previously served together as Directors for Africa at the U.S. National Security Council. Participants will include leaders from the space industry, policy institutions, and international organizations engaged in advancing collaboration between the United States and Africa in emerging technology sectors. The salon is part of **Skyward Africa's broader mission to connect African innovation, diaspora expertise, and global space leadership**.

Event Details

Skyward Africa Space Salon | Africa in Orbit: Space Power, Security & Diaspora Talent

March 26, 2026 | Washington, DC

Register here: <https://bit.ly/SpaceSalon26> Venue details provided upon registration

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About Asha Strategies Asha Strategies LLC is a public affairs, lobbying, and strategic communications firm focused on advancing international policy dialogue, diaspora engagement, and cross-border partnerships between the United States and emerging markets. The firm advises organizations, institutions, and initiatives navigating complex policy environments and building strategic relationships across government, industry, and civil society. Through initiatives such as [Skyward Africa](#), Asha Strategies convenes leaders at the intersection of technology, policy, and global cooperation to explore emerging opportunities in sectors including space, innovation, and economic development. The firm is committed to elevating the role of diaspora talent and fostering partnerships that strengthen international collaboration and inclusive growth. To learn more, visit ashastrategies.com.

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