

Male Voice (Announcement) - Ladies and gentlemen welcome to the 2023 annual conference of the **Export Import Bank of the United States**. Please welcome to the podium President and chair of the export import Bank of the United States Reta Joe Lewis

Background music playing

Honorable Reta Joe Lewis - oh my God, Good Morning, good morning, ladies, and gentlemen I feel the excitement in the room do you feel it EXIM Bank 2023 annual conference. Well, first of all it's so important to see so many familiar faces over the years that have participated with EXIM and to see all the new faces we have some so many distinguished guests today just for you and for all of us at EXIM team EXIM we are honored and privileged to serve you each and every day you know this year's annual conference is a celebration of our agency's creativity innovation and collaboration to support us businesses to compete and win in the global marketplace and that is exactly what EXIM has been doing for the past 89 years you know in these past 89 years EXIM has been on the forefront of some of the most consequential and groundbreaking projects in the world including the Panama Canal, Burma Road and the PAN American highway that's right it was EXIM support that helped to turn these ideas into reality. So, before you today and tomorrow is an exciting line up of industry leaders policy makers exporters and stakeholders from across the nation and around the world and we are excited to explore new horizons exchange ideas and forge new partnerships that will shape the future of American exporting this conference presents us with a great opportunity to celebrate the remarkable achievements from the past year and where we have been his historically as well as to imagine what our future can hold especially when we consider the resilience and Ingenuity of American business especially all of you right here in this room and that is why this conference is so important it creates this incredible opportunity to turn aspiration into action and to chart a course towards even greater success together. You know in fact the Biden Harris Administration has worked tirelessly to ensure that American businesses are positioned to compete globally while supporting job growth at home, investing in the development of clean and renewable energy, strengthening America's infrastructure and supply chain, and supporting initiatives to bolster America's small business. Now this includes EXIM's newest and potentially we believe most transformative financing tool our make more in America initiative and as we like to call it MMIA, because you know you never met a government program that didn't have an acronym. So, you will hear a lot about MMIA over these next two days because we've already seen results that will create new America manufacturing jobs and we anticipate that this initiative would be the spark to reignite a new era of American manufacturing that will provide goods steady and reliable opportunities for millions of Americans by making more productive products right here in America. So, let's just talk about this fiscal year and this fiscal year has been

great for EXIM in fact it has been our strongest year since Congress reauthorized Excel in 2019 in February 2023. Thank you thank you thank you yes that was a lot of work yes, we surpassed more than 8.7 billion dollars in authorized transactions and that is over three billion more than the year before and the most in a single year since EXIM was reauthorized. Furthermore, it includes more than two billion in authorizations for American small business and nearly. Thank you thank you I was a lot of hard work y'all and nearly 1 billion in EXIM financing for climate and renewable transactions the largest amount EXIM has ever authorized in this sector and just this past August the EXIM board approved the first ever transaction under the make more in America initiative a 4.8 million direct loan to AquaTech a minority-owned small business based in Pennsylvania. Then in September the board approved a \$594 million loan guarantee under CTAP that's our China transformation and Export program. The KTZ, the national railroad of Kazakhstan to support the export of WEB Tech locomotive and critical rail equipment to KCT Freight and KTZ passengers. We have also approved \$57 million loan under EXIM's engineering multiplier program to support preconstruction at Eagle's nuclear engineering and feasibility study for the development of two nuclear reactors at the Cernavoda nuclear power plant complex in Romania we have authorized a \$5 million multiplier insurance policy renewal through EXIM's office of small business brokered by Willis Towers Watson to House of Cheatham a small Cheatham a small business manufacturer to support the export personal and beauty products for women of color and to a portfolio of countries with their top markets being South Africa and Uganda. And a last example of our work this year EXIM approved a \$900 million direct loan to support a project led by South Africa Sun Africa to construct two solar power plants in Angola. You know this transaction is the largest renewable energy project that EXIM has authorized to date and will support over 1600 American jobs across our nation you know the sun Africa project sets the gold standard for President Biden and Pres and Vice President Harris's partnership for Global infrastructure an initiative to strengthen the US Africa commercial relationship so yes we are laying the foundation for even more investment opportunities to come and more investment opportunities will come. We've had a great year at EXIM but we're just getting started and so I am here these next days with our board members Vice chair prior and director on heat and we're so happy that all of you have joined us today. We believe with the new tools and resources provided by the Biden Harris Administration the president's commitment to ensuring domestic manufacturers and The Innovation and aspiration of each of you in this ballroom today that American Business will continue to compete and win in in the global marketplace so we have an exciting lineup for you today and we look forward to many more opportunities to meet so many of you and thank you very much for what is to come thank you all of you in this room thank you [Applause].