



WORLD TRADE ASSOCIATION

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Steven Wallace, founder and president of The Omanhene Cocoa Bean Company, oversees the strategic direction of Omanhene and divides his time between the US and Ghana, West Africa. Omanhene is the first entity to sustain exports of fine quality chocolate and premium cocoa powder from a cocoa-growing country-or-origin.

Steve also serves as the North American Project Manager for Niche Cocoa and was instrumental in bringing to Wisconsin the largest African Food & Beverage foreign direct investment in US history.

Steve is the author of *Obroni and the Chocolate Factory: An Unlikely Story of Globalization and Ghana's First Gourmet Chocolate Bar* in which he's credited with coining the phrase, "the New Globalism".

Wallace spent the summer of 1978 in Ghana as an AFS high school foreign exchange student. He returned at the age of 29 to start The Omanhene Cocoa Bean Co., the first entity to sustain exports of gourmet chocolate and cocoa products made entirely in Africa. The company has been recognized by the United Nations Global Compact for its path-breaking business model and corporate citizenship. Prior to starting the company, Wallace worked in broadcasting in the newsroom of WMAL-AM 63, a network-owned radio station in Washington, D.C.; as an attorney with the boutique tax law firm of Silverstein & Mullens, also in Washington, D.C.; and as vice president of Midstates Sportswear.

He was one of the youngest members of the Board of AFS-USA where he established and chaired that Board's first International Committee designed to better relations with other AFS partners and thereby strengthen the entire network. He served as Vice-Chair of the AFS-USA Board and later as an International Trustee where he chaired the Nominating and Board Development Committee.

Wallace was recognized by President Jimmy Carter and former ambassador Shirley Temple Black for his entrepreneurial accomplishment. He is featured in the recently published books, *Food Heroes* by Georgia Pellegrini and *Chocolate Nations* by Orla Ryan. Wallace was invited to the World Economic Forum on Africa and was selected as an inaugural TED Global Fellow in 2007. Wallace enjoys teaching and has been invited to speak at Harvard, Princeton, Brown, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, University of Michigan Graduate School of Business, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Alverno College, and Marquette University.

Wallace earned his bachelor's degree (*magna cum laude* - Phi Beta Kappa) from Brown University and his law degree from the University of Chicago Law School.

Additional:

. Author of "Obroni and the Chocolate Factory: An Unlikely Story of Globalization and Ghana's First Gourmet Chocolate Bar" Skyhorse Publishing, 2017

Featured in Georgia Pellegrini's book "Food Heroes" and in Orla Ryan's book "Chocolate Nations"

Life Member, Council on Foreign Relations

