## <u>Press Releases: Bicentennial Statement</u> <u>to Cabo Verde</u>

Press Statement Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC December 7, 2018

On behalf of the United States, I send my best wishes to the people of Cabo Verde as we celebrate the bicentennial anniversary of relations between our two nations. Our friendship dates back to December 1818, when the first U.S. consulate in sub-Saharan Africa opened in Cabo Verde. We have maintained strong and enduring ties for two hundred years.

As we reflect upon our partnership, we recognize our mutual commitment to good governance, maritime security, and economic prosperity. Last year, the United States and Cabo Verde signed the Status of Forces Agreement, strengthening the U.S.-Cabo Verde security partnership, and advancing our shared security goals in West Africa.

The United States celebrates this momentous occasion of 200 years of relations and remains committed to our partnership. We look forward to continuing our nations' efforts to strengthen peace, security, and economic prosperity.

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