## US opens second embassy in Ethiopia

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The United States government has opened a second embassy in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa that will be responsible for the African Union diplomatic missions.

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This move comes after the appointment of Donald Yamamoto, deputy assistant secretary for African affairs, by the state department to serve as the next United State's ambassador to Ethiopia. His appointment, however, is subject to an endorsement by the president and ratification by US Congress.

United States will become the first country to have two ambassadors in an African country, if this happens. Most countries use their bilateral mission to Ethiopia as representatives to the AU.

"Hopefully, other countries, in particular the European Commission, will follow suit," said an American diplomat in Addis.

Ethiopia's capital, Addis will be the only African capital to host two missions from one western country. For the US government, Addis Ababa will become one of five capitals where it has two missions, including Brussels and Geneva, Switzerland.

The US Embassy in Addis Abeba has been represented by its Chargé d'Affaires, ambassador Vicki Huddleston since the departure of Aurelia E Brazeal, in September 2005.

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