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Robert Gates to Speak at Spring Meeting

Alexandria, VA (December 1, 2017) — Robert Gates, the former U.S. Secretary of Defense, will speak at ALDA's 2018 Spring Meeting for Senior Executives. Dr. Gates' presentation is set for Tuesday morning, May 1.

Dr. Gates served as Secretary of Defense from 2006 to 2011 and is the only Secretary of Defense in U.S. history to be asked to remain in that office by a newly elected President. President Barack Obama is the eighth president Gates has served. He previously served under President George W. Bush. On Gates' last day in office, President Barack Obama awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor.

Before becoming Secretary of Defense in 2006, Gates served as President of Texas A&M University, the nation's seventh largest university.

Dr. Gates joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1966 and spent nearly 27 years as an intelligence professional. During that period, he spent nearly nine years at the National Security Council, serving four presidents of both political parties.

Dr. Gates served as Director of Central Intelligence from 1991 to 1993 and is the only career officer in CIA's history to rise from entry-level employee to director. He served as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence from 1986 until 1989 and as Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser at the White House from January 20, 1989 until November 6, 1991, for President George H.W. Bush.

Dr. Gates is expected to share his insights with attendees at the Spring Meeting on the how the international landscape is evolving and what the future holds in relation to President Trump, Brexit, Russia, China and North Korea and the implications.

For more information regarding ALDA, contact Mike Duff, President, at 703-647-6214. More information regarding ALDA, its purposes, objectives and programs, and links to its members' websites can be found at www.thealda.org.

Based in the Washington DC suburb of Alexandria, VA, ALDA is an industry trade association for companies that develop and supply life science, analytical and diagnostic products and services used to conduct research, drug discovery, QA/QC testing and diagnostics in a wide range of industries and applications. Major customer segments including pharmaceuticals, biotech, academic and government research, food safety and environmental testing, personalized

medicine and diagnostics.

ALDA's Mission is to be an advocate for our industry and a valuable aid to our members' global business success and to their customers' advancement of healthcare, science and industrial innovation by providing meetings with strategic content, networking, global market and business intelligence, and insights on emerging technologies, markets and business strategies.