

## **BIOGRAPHY**

**Heyward B. Davenport**  
**Northeast Regional Director**  
**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)**



Heyward B. Davenport was appointed Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) in March of 1995. In this capacity, Mr. Davenport oversees MBDA-funded business assistance services for the 14-state northeast region. Prior to joining MBDA,

he served as Deputy Commissioner of the New York State Department of Economic Development, Minority and Women's Business Division for 12 years.

Mr. Davenport has a wealth of management, planning, financial services and community involvement experience essential in serving the diverse minority community in the northeast. He held several executive positions with the City of New York from 1970 to 1983, including Commissioner, Model Cities Administration; Deputy Commissioner, N.Y. City Human Resources Administration; and Deputy Executive Director of the New York City Department of City Planning. He was recently appointed by the Mayor of New York City as Chair of the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Advisory Board, which provides significant input for the establishment of a goals-based program for City contract awards to minority and woman-owned businesses.

Mr. Davenport holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Johnson C. Smith University and Columbia University, respectively; and he did postgraduate work at New York University and Duke University.

Mr. Davenport was inducted into the Minority Business Hall of Fame in 2009.