

Remarks

by



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at the National Conference
on

**'India-Africa Partnership in a Changing Global Order:
Priorities, Prospects and Challenges'**

**4 September 2019
Sapru House, New Delhi**

Your Excellency the Vice President of India
Distinguished Guests,

India-Africa relations are bound by historical and geographical proximity and the Indian Ocean is the natural uniting channel.

This fraternal relationship has started since the ancient times of maritime trade exchanges, during the colonial and post the two world wars era, and after the cold war period till the contemporary times where India and Africa enjoy cordial relations with prospects of taking higher the friendship and cooperation by overcoming challenges ahead.

Excellencies,

India and Africa have shaped their relations based on mutual respect and have set priorities of the relations through various platforms.

The India Africa Forum Summit is one the prominent forums which highlight priorities in socio-economic development.

African countries enjoy benefits of the yearly summit (IAFS) and it is imperative that the implementation of the bilateral, regional and multilateral programs contained in IAFS resolutions be expedited to achieve required developmental goals.

The world today is experiencing an unprecedented uncertainty in terms of the global order which is facing with difficulty a unipolar domination and inflicts political and economic shocks to the whole world.

India and Africa are looking forward to the necessary review and reform of the current course of the global order, and the prospects would converge mainly on the United Nations Security Council UNSC and the world monetary organizations, the IMF and the WB.

It is indeed worth mentioning that a more representative UN Security Council is needed in a world that requires global assessment of the multiple realities and sentiments of the member nations for a balanced and secure world.

India and Africa will also have to rethink and assert their demographic dividend on the global economy by claiming their role and place in a world facing today trade wars and quasi rejection of long praised liberal economy which might likely trigger disruptions of the global supply chains and affect all economies.

Distinguished guests,

The prospects of India and Africa will face challenges affecting the global situation, and we shall overcome them if we stand united as we have ever been.

The lack of a concerted global consensus on political and economic issues has been at the center of chaos observed in world affairs.

Global terrorism has not till now found a common understanding, the climate change is not addressed with consensus among nations and some have pulled out of the Paris Climate Convention, instability in several parts of the globe has escalated price of basic commodities and affect the global security.

Therefore, it is necessary for India and Africa to work in unison to bring their contribution on the table of the nations while safeguarding their common interests.

I thank the organizers of this forum,

Thank you to the Indian Council of World Affairs for such important meeting and wish you all fruitful resolutions.

