

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION



**STATE OF LIBYA**

**The speech of  
Dr. Ali Al-Isawi  
in  
the Third India-Africa Forum Summit  
(IAFS)**

**Foreign Ministers Meeting**

**New Delhi, 27/10/2015**

**Her Excellency Minister of External Affairs,  
Mrs. Sushma Swaraj**

**Hon'ble Ministers**

**Excellences**

**Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen**

At the beginning of my speech, I am pleased to extend my sincere thanks to the government of India and its people for hosting the Third India Africa Forum Summit , for the second time after hosting this important event in the year 2008. It is my great pleasure today to address my country in this unique event that is being organized by the friendly state of India with which we are enjoying close ties for more than forty five years , during which India had been positively participating in all fields and sectors. During this period , Libya had witnessed important developments and changes , most recently is the seventeenth of February Revolution in the year two thousand and eleven and its transition to a new phase characterized by democratic approach and active participation of common people in all what belongs to them. While we are passing through an extremely sensitive transition phase , we have been facing many difficulties and challenges due to the political divide and security situation , however the efforts are still going on under the auspices of the United Nations and support of the friendly and brotherly countries in order to form a national government through

dialogue and consensus which is the only way and the best way out of the present situation. All the past years have proved that no military solution is possible to the crisis and this government – with the support of all Libyans – will address all concerns and challenges that affect not only to Libya alone but the whole region.

While we continue these intensive efforts to complete the transition phase and prepare a draft constitution that is under process now, we confirm that we are fully confident that Libya will regain its desired positive role in the region and it will become a source of concern or threat to any of its neighbors and it will sincerely work on both bilateral and collective levels within its African affiliation to achieve stability and development. In this regard, we look forward to support and assistance of our friends and brothers in Africa and India to move beyond this stage.

Hon'ble Excellency The Minister of External Affairs of India

In spite of the transitional period and the conditions that my country is passing through, it is interesting to point out that the bilateral cooperation between our two countries remained unaffected , in contrary, the bilateral trade volume between our two countries has increased by 22.5% between 2011 and 2015. As for the first time all the available opportunities were fully utilized within the programme of economic and technical cooperation for the year 2013. For the first time, new horizons of cooperation were opened in the scientific and technical fields and other areas such as cooperation between the election commission of both the countries, development of relations between investors of private sector

in both the countries. However and at the same time , we emphasize that there are tremendous possibilities and opportunities of cooperation between our two countries of which a minimum portion have been exploited so far which also applies to the level of cooperation between India and Africa where we must work together to change it.

The reality of relations between India and Africa today is just a reflection of their common history for struggle against challenges of poverty, colonialism, underdevelopment, and tyranny. India and Africa have followed similar pathways in their ancient and contemporary history . The great leaders have illuminated this path and have inspired their peoples to insist for changing their reality and uplifting of their countries to become better than they were , the most important thing that we are witnessing today is the evidence of the possibility to complete the path together by India and Africa to arrive at the best place worthy of our two countries and their peoples politically, economically and socially in the framework of partnership and scientific cooperation for development and peace. We in this regard, appreciate the participation of India in UN peacekeeping missions in the world which has amounted to approximately 70% of peacekeeping operations in the world thus becoming the first country contributing to the effectiveness and unity of women police set up by United Nations in Africa. We also appreciate its support for a permanent representation for Africa in UN Security Council at a time when there is increasing need for a comprehensive reform of United Nations including the Security Council to be more representative. We affirm our full readiness to work together in order to do so.

Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs and Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

Please allow me to extend my thanks once again to the government of India and its people to hosting this summit and I thank your all for your kind listening.

Thanks