



Republic of Zambia

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF ZAMBIA HER HONOUR MRS. INONGE WINA DURING THE
THIRD INDIA - AFRICA SUMMIT**

NEW DELHI, INDIA ON 29TH OCTOBER, 2015

Your Excellency, Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India;

**His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and
Chairperson of the African Union;**

Your Majesties;

Your Excellencies, Heads of State and Government;

Chairperson of the African Union Commission;

Honourable Ministers;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset, allow me to extend my profound gratitude to His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Republic of India Mr. Narendra Modi for inviting His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, who was making preparations to attend the Summit, but however, could not do so due to equally important national undertakings which coincided with this event. Because of the value he attaches to the Forum, he assigned me to represent him. It is indeed an honour and privilege for me to not only be in this beautiful and vibrant city of New Delhi, but to also address this important Assembly.

Your Excellencies

On behalf of the Zambian delegation, I wish to thank our host, the Government and people of the Republic of India, for the

hospitality and excellent facilities placed at our disposal for this Summit.

We in Africa have followed with keen interest the impressive developments in Asian economies and particularly of India. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently referred to India as the “bright spot” on the global landscape, because of its economic growth - a feat which we in Africa can learn from.

This year’s theme “**Partners in Progress towards a Dynamic and Transformative Development Agenda**” reminds us of the strong bond that exists between our two peoples for a long time and suggests that more can still be done. I am confident that this synergy will enable us overcome any bottlenecks that hinder progress. The partnership is a true example of South - South cooperation.

Distinguished Guests

The successes and realization of the commitments made under this initiative have continued to contribute significantly to the development of Africa in many spheres of our economies. As such we would like to urge the development of mutual partnership for a win win situation where both Africa and India are equal beneficiaries.

Your Excellencies

The draft Delhi Declaration and the 2015 India - Africa Framework for Strategic Cooperation provide us with a suitable platform that will guide our cooperation. The various areas outlined in the two documents are critical for the developmental agenda of both India and Africa. My Government therefore supports the adoption of the two documents as well as the idea to come up with a monitoring and evaluation mechanism within the next three months.

Your Excellencies

Distinguished Guests

We in Africa have identified that **infrastructure** development is critical to Africa's accelerated economic growth and development and boosting intra - Africa trade. However, infrastructure alone in Africa requires about US\$38 billion of investment per year, and a further US\$37 billion per year for operations and maintenance, which entails an overall price tag of US\$75 billion to redress Africa's infrastructure deficit. As a continent, we have an annual funding gap of US\$35 billion.

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen

The India - Africa partnership has grown. The sustenance, therefore of the Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme is critical for Africa. It is important that India continues to provide this scheme as it will allow more participation of our people in profitable economic activities that will go a long way in alleviating poverty. Further, African countries need to do more to gain increased access into the Indian market through **value addition as well as improved productive capacities**.

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a fact that Africa is the worst affected by **climate change** but is the least contributor to green-house gas emissions. We must work together to mitigate adverse effects of deteriorating climatic conditions, of which the energy crisis in parts of Africa is a case in point. **The energy crisis** in itself provides an opportunity for investment.

In view of the fact that India is a member of the G20, Africa through the spirit of the partnership expects India to provide a voice for Africa under the G20 fora. In the same vein, Africa demands a favourable outcome at the United Nations Conference on Climatic Change to be held in France between November and December this year.

Distinguished Guests

The African continent is of the firm belief that the reform of the United Nations (UN) is crucial in ensuring fair representation, accountability, transparency and effectiveness. We continue to urge all our cooperating partners, including India, to support the Ezulwini Consensus. Africa also notes India's desire for permanent membership on the UN Security Council.

**Your Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,**

Allow me to **underscore some key elements** upon which the **success of this Forum will depend:**

- Productivity is a function of a **healthy citizenry**. Therefore, Africa must invest in the health of its people. I therefore take this opportunity to urge a stronger partnership in the fundamentals of service delivery. These being, human resource development, pharmaceutical manufacturing, infrastructure development, health care financing as we aspire to attain universal access to health.
- Second, **India should provide incentives to Indian companies to invest in Africa.**

- Third, as it has been observed that Africa has 60 percent of the world's arable land, and yet only contributes 10 percent of the total **agriculture** output, it follows that the bulk of the world's output be generated from Africa. With the correct harnessing of our abundant land and water resources, the agricultural sector provides a sure source of employment for our people. We therefore call upon our Indian partners to join hands with us in developing the agriculture sector through investment in agriculture mechanization, irrigation and agro processing.

In the same vein, close attention must be paid to developing **entrepreneurship** as a **means to bring the women and youth who are unemployed into some form of employment through skills development**. Empowerment of women and youth will bring this vital productive group into the main stream of economic activity.

- Fourth, **education** is key towards having an educated and productive population. In this regard, I call upon on our Indian partners to invest in appropriate skills development and capacity building.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to **reiterate Zambia's commitment to the India – Africa Forum Summit**, and to be partners in implementing, reviewing the progress of cooperation projects, and sharing of information as well as seeking areas of further collaboration.

I wish you all very successful deliberations, and trust that you will come out of this session re-invigorated.

I thank you.