



**THE THIRD MINISTERIAL REVIEW CONFERENCE
OF THE AFRICA – TÜRKİYE PARTNERSHIP
3 NOVEMBER 2024, DJIBOUTI**

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

1. We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations, representing the African Union and its institutions, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, met in Djibouti on 3 November 2024, for the Third Ministerial Review Conference of the Africa - Türkiye Partnership;
2. We reiterated the commitment to the goals and principles stipulated in the Istanbul Declaration on Africa-Türkiye Partnership adopted during the First Africa-Türkiye Cooperation Summit held in İstanbul, Türkiye on 19 August 2008, the Declaration of the Second Africa-Türkiye Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on 21 November 2014 and the Declaration of the Third Africa-Türkiye Summit held in İstanbul, Türkiye on 18 December 2021;
3. We reemphasized the centrality of the continental priorities as enshrined in the AU Agenda 2063 and its 10-Year Implementation Plans as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the guiding frameworks for Africa-Türkiye Partnership;
4. We recalled with gratitude the solidarity and assistance of the African people generously extended to their Turkish brothers and sisters in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that shook South-East Türkiye in February 2023;
5. We reviewed the state of the Africa-Türkiye strategic partnership inspired by a shared vision of a more prosperous, peaceful, equitable and sustainable future for generations to come. We noted with satisfaction that our partnership has continued to enhance on the basis of equality, mutual respect, trust and a win-win cooperation;
6. We also reviewed the Joint Implementation Report of 2022-2024, on the basis of the Africa-Türkiye Joint Action Plan 2022-2026 adopted as a Road Map at the Third Africa-Türkiye Partnership Summit. In this regard, we took note of the progress achieved and discussed further steps in order to enhance cooperation and to overcome challenges with a view to facilitating the implementation of joint projects;
7. We reaffirmed our mutual commitment to further strengthen bonds between African Union Member States and Türkiye in all fields, such as trade and investments, governance, human development, education, youth and women empowerment, gender equality, health, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, blue economy, tourism,

environment, transport, energy, infrastructure, innovation, science and technology, including artificial intelligence and digitalization as well as peace and security. We underlined the importance of tripartite projects involving Türkiye, African Union Member States and the African Union Commission as well as bilateral engagements tailored to serve each country's individual needs;

8. We took note with satisfaction of the ongoing interactions between Türkiye and the AUC as well as individual African Union Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). We underscored the momentum rendered to our relations by numerous high-level visits and bilateral meetings and encouraged further contacts between Türkiye and the AU Member States. We recognized the large and high-level representation of the African Continent and the AUC at the Second and Third Antalya Diplomacy Forum, which were held respectively in 2022 and in 2024 in Türkiye, as a testament of close relations between African Union Member States and Türkiye;
9. We welcomed the continuation of mutual increase in the diplomatic representation between African Union Member States and Türkiye and its positive contribution to the enhancement of our partnership;
10. Recognizing the essential role played by the RECs in strengthening prosperity as well as peace, security and stability of the African Continent, we are pleased that cooperation between Türkiye and RECs has made considerable progress, as described in the Joint Implementation Report. We encourage stronger interaction between Türkiye and the RECs including formation of institutional ties, signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and taking advantage of existing joint mechanisms. We firmly believe the Africa-Türkiye Partnership can be further advanced with more collaboration with the RECs. In this regard, we welcomed the joining of Türkiye to the Group of Friends and Special Representatives of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in 2023. Furthermore, we are pleased that the first meeting of the Türkiye-Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Joint Monitoring Mechanism was held in March 2024. We also encourage Türkiye to accelerate the negotiations on Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement with the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC);
11. We noted the number and scope of development and technical cooperation projects realized by Türkiye and African countries since the Third Africa-Türkiye Partnership Summit. We underlined the importance of the development assistance from Türkiye to Africa and encourage the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) to further engage with the AUC on deliverable projects;
12. We noted the importance of trade and investment as key components of relations between African Union Member States and Türkiye reflecting positively on the economic growth and job creation. We reiterated our desire to further strengthen economic and commercial relations through examining possibilities of removing tariffs and other obstacles to trade by way of potentially concluding Trade and Economic Partnership Agreements that would be based on an asymmetrical model enabling African countries to protect their sensitive sectors;

13. We acknowledged the positive outcomes of the Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forums, latest of which was held in October 2023, in Istanbul, with broad participation from African Union Member States;
14. We supported the realization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which is designed to eliminate all trade barriers within the African continent. We believe the AfCFTA has the potential to help boost industrialization and continental trade as well as to further support the increase in investments, resulting in the creation of new job opportunities. We took note of the first meeting of Türkiye-AfCFTA Working Group in May 2023 and encourage this partnership to be deepened with concrete projects;
15. We encouraged Türkiye and African Union Member States to seek opportunities for cooperation in the fields of artificial intelligence and digital technologies that will accelerate the digital transformation processes of the participants and unlock the potential of new digital technologies, including in the context of the Resolution on “seizing the opportunities of safe, secure and trustworthy artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development”, adopted by the United Nations Assembly in March 2024. Such collaborations aim to make significant contributions to sustainable development, economic growth, social welfare and human development;
16. We welcomed the significant contributions of the UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (UNTB/LDC), headquartered in Gebze/Türkiye, to bridge the digital gap between the developed countries and the LDCs. We took note with appreciation of the contributions made to the UNTB/LDC by the host country Türkiye. We acknowledged that working in partnership with the UNTB/LDC, we can support the LDCs within the African Union Member States in determining their national strategies and policy frameworks by analyzing Technology Needs Assessments. We support and promote closer collaboration between the African LDCs and the UNTB/LDC;
17. We agreed to strengthen collaboration in the industrial sector with a special emphasis on technical support, training programs and workshops related to the Organized Industrial Zones, with the aim of stimulating economic growth and ensuring efficiency in production as well as collaboration on Technology Development Zones (Technoparks) where universities, research institutions, and companies collaborate on technology-focused production;
18. Recognising the importance of local authorities as actors of development, we encouraged cooperation between Türkiye and local authorities in Africa as a way to achieve development and further enhance friendship amongst citizens from both parties;
19. Recognizing the significant role of SMEs in inclusive economic growth as well as trade and economic relations between Africa and Türkiye, we reaffirmed the importance of digital and green transformation through wider applications of new technologies, fostering entrepreneurship, start-ups and supporting SMEs, striving

to ensure free and fair trade, enhancing people's well-being and achieving gender equality as well as social and digital inclusion;

20. We reaffirmed our commitment to continue advancing our cooperation in primary and secondary education as well as in tertiary education including through provision of scholarships and Maarif schools in Africa. We welcome the signing of an MoU between the AUC and the Council of Higher Education of Türkiye (YÖK), which is designed to increase student mobility between Türkiye and Africa through exchange programmes and joint Degree programmes as well as YÖK scholarships to be granted to the Pan African University (PAU). We also agreed on strengthening collaboration in the fields of technical and vocational training to enhance youth employment. We supported a consultative approach between Türkiye and African Union Member States' governments in mutually identifying training programs that are strategic and relevant to the development and human capital needs and aspirations of recipient countries;
21. We reaffirmed our commitment to further boosting cooperation between African universities and their Turkish counterparts and concluding cooperation, twinning and partnership agreements with the aim of boosting student and university mobility, including enhancing cooperation between African and Turkish university and research institutions and presenting joint research projects in the field of higher education as a tool for achieving economic and social development, building knowledge and enhancing capacities;
22. We emphasized the importance of exchanging best practices on university programs for technology transfer to achieve better operational efficiency and exchanging experiences in the field of virtual and connected education. Furthermore, we encouraged exchanging experiences on evaluation, quality and accreditation of higher education and scientific research institutions and university partnerships with the business sector. Exchanging information on reforming and restructuring the higher education system and new technology dedicated to the purpose;
23. We recognized the importance of Investing in new technologies, innovation and technology transfer in the fields of agriculture, clean energy, higher education and health, which cannot be achieved without developing and renewing the partnership and moving to a knowledge-based economy based on innovation and renewables;
24. We encouraged further collaboration between Türkiye and the African Union Member States to integrate innovation and entrepreneurship into educational system and preparing students for challenges of the global market;
25. We agreed to continue providing scholarship for students who excel in Turkish language and help them to proceed their academic path;
26. We welcomed the signing of an MoU between the AUC and the African Culture House of Türkiye to promote cultural and creative industries, on 19 September 2023, on the margins of the 78th UN General Assembly, which will serve as an instrument for strengthening cultural ties between Türkiye and African Union

Member States and for contributing to the women empowerment endeavours of African countries;

27. We emphasized the importance of media, strategic communication and public diplomacy in the development of our societies and decided further to enhance our cooperation in areas mutually agreed upon, particularly signing MoUs, Cooperation Protocols, exchange of experience and media contents, capacity building and training programs. We welcomed the participation of Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT) in the African Union of Broadcasting (AUB) and the launch of TRT Afrika, as a manifestation of Türkiye's constructive and friendly approach towards Africa in the media sector, with the motto "Africa as it is";
28. We recognised the importance of regional cooperation and access to affordable and clean energy for global economic recovery and facilitating environmental sustainability. We are looking forward to cooperation opportunities for promoting just energy transition that could be provided in terms of investment, trade, transfer of new technologies and innovation, including renewable energy and energy efficiency;
29. Realizing the important role Critical Raw Materials (CRM) and Rare Earth Elements (REE) will play in the increasing demand for renewable energy technologies, we encourage Türkiye and African Union Member States to cooperate in this field to bring increased economic benefit to the local population;
30. Acknowledging the massive negative impact of climate change, we reaffirmed our commitment to align our efforts in combating climate change and continue to cooperate in adaptation, mitigation and resilience attempts. We recognized that Africa is the most affected Continent by the impacts of climate change, despite contributing the least to global carbon emissions. We strongly urged developed countries to fulfil their climate finance commitments to support meaningful mitigation and adaptation actions as well as disaster risk management and to scale up funds in the years ahead for a strong global response to climate change. We also stressed the importance of exploring innovative ways of financing climate action in Africa, such as the African Adaptation Initiative (AAI), the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and the African Agriculture Adaptation Initiative (AAAI), and welcomed the efforts of the three African climate commissions for the Congo Basin, the Sahel Region and Small Island States, set up at the African Action Summit held on the side-lines of COP22 in Marrakech;
31. We encouraged further collaboration between Türkiye and the African Union Member States in the fields of integrated wastewater management, experience sharing in planning, construction, operation and sludge management of wastewater treatment facilities and reuse of wastewater as well as chemicals management. We acknowledged that embracing Zero Waste philosophy at all levels of society, from individual households to businesses and governments, would significantly contribute to a sustainable and resilient Africa. In this regard, we encouraged further cooperation and experience sharing in Zero-Waste practices;

32. We commended the ongoing cooperation between the African Union and Türkiye in many areas pertaining to peace and security, particularly Türkiye's contribution to the AU's peace support operations budget in these areas together with the remarkable record in providing training for the military and police as well as diplomats from African Union Member States. We agreed to continue our collaboration in areas mutually agreed upon, relevant to peace and security, including conflict prevention, resolution and mediation, through the exchange of expertise and information and through strengthening the culture of peace;
33. We are deeply concerned about the conflict in Sudan and support the African Union's efforts, including the Ad-Hoc Presidential Committee and the implementation of the Roadmap, to find a lasting, inclusive solution that respects Sudan's sovereignty;
34. We welcomed the participation of Türkiye in the peace and conflict resolution initiatives of the AU, such as the Expanded Mechanism for the Resolution of the Sudan Crisis. We encouraged, without prejudice to the principle of "African solutions to African problems", stronger engagement among Türkiye and the AUC, RECs and United Nations' efforts, and neighbouring countries' initiatives towards the resolution of crises and conflicts in the African continent, including through mediation;
35. We welcomed the efforts of the African Union to re-establish peace, security and national reconciliation in Libya, Mozambique, the Horn of Africa and the Sahel. Furthermore, we commended the efforts of the African Union High-Level Committee on Libya under the Leadership of H.E President Denis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of Congo;
36. We further welcome the efforts made by His Excellency Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco, President of the Republic of Angola, African Union Champion for Peace and Reconciliation in Africa and mediator appointed by the African Union to defuse tension between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda and restore peace in the Eastern DRC in particular in the Grate Lake region in general, and support therefore ongoing effort under the Rwanda and Nairobi processes;
37. We agreed to continue cooperating in diplomat training through bilateral programs prepared by the Diplomacy Academy of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for young diplomats from African Union Member States as well as multilateral programs such as "The Mediation for Peace Certificate Program" designed for junior diplomats from AU Organs, RECs and African Union Member States;
38. We agreed to strengthen our cooperation to fight and eliminate all forms and manifestations of terrorism, violent extremism conducive to terrorism and radicalization including the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters. We also decided to intensify collaboration to enhance efforts for international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime including combatting trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants within the framework of relevant international conventions and protocols;

39. We acknowledged the fact that African and Turkish citizens residing outside the African Continent and Türkiye experience similar obstacles. Therefore, we encouraged cooperation and exchange of views and expertise between our public institutions responsible for our diasporas while increasing joint efforts towards the fight against racism, discrimination, xenophobia, hate speech and all forms of hate against religion as well as human right abuses;
40. We underlined the importance of effective multilateralism to address the numerous political, security, economic and social challenges that the world faces and reaffirm our full support for the efforts to strengthen and reinvigorate the multilateral system with the UN at its center. We pledged to continue our partnership in multilateral fora based on our common aspiration for a more prosperous, peaceful, just and inclusive world and in this context acknowledge the need for the reform of the UN Security Council to make it more representative, democratic, transparent and effective. In this regard, we also underlined the necessity of strengthening the representation of Africa in the UN Security Council. African Union Member States reaffirmed the importance of considering their legitimate demands concerning the UNSC Reform, in line with the African Union common position articulated in the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration;
41. We welcomed Cameroonian Presidency of the 79th UN General Assembly and pledged to accord full support for the success of this mandate;
42. We welcome the Pact of the Future which was adopted by World Leaders at the UN on 22 September 2024 and its emphasis on accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
43. We consider the fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, scheduled for June 30 to July 3, 2025, in Spain, a significant opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and support the reform of the global financial architecture, to better address the challenges of the twenty first century;
44. We look forward to the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), to be held in Gaborone, Botswana in late 2024 and we commend Türkiye's commitment to support the LLDCs in their connectivity efforts;
45. Türkiye congratulates AU for becoming a permanent member of G20 and expresses its strong support. We look forward to South Africa's incoming Presidency of the G20;
46. We welcomed the broader recognition of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine on all its land with East Jerusalem as its capital. We reiterated that a peaceful solution to the conflict could only be achieved by giving the Palestinian people all their historical rights. In this regard, we welcomed the UN General Assembly's 10 May 2024 resolution titled "Admission of new Members to the UN" that upgrades Palestine's rights at the UN as a permanent observer state, urging the Security Council to favourably consider its full membership;

47. We expressed grave concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Gaza and condemned indiscriminate targeting of civilians in Gaza by Israel; called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, release of all hostages and detainees, and unhindered humanitarian access to the Gaza Strip in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions 2720, 2722, 2728 and 2735; as well as the International Court of Justice provisional measures. In this regard, we welcomed:
- The application filed by the Republic of South Africa to the International Court of Justice. We urged Israel to implement the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice, in full and without delay;
 - Algeria's efforts within the UN Security Council, as non-permanent member for the cessation of Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people;
 - The efforts made by His Majesty King Mohamed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, as Chairman of the Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) Al Quds Committee, to deliver humanitarian aid by land to 2,000 Maqdessi families, and for providing an emergency coordination room at the Jerusalem hospital;
 - Türkiye's humanitarian efforts as the top donor to Gaza which delivered almost 70.000 tons of humanitarian aid.
48. We further welcomed the tremendous efforts exerted by Egypt, Qatar and the USA to mediate between the parties with a view to reach a ceasefire agreement, and call upon the parties involved – especially Israel – to agree to an immediate and permanent ceasefire, hostage-detainee exchange and unhindered humanitarian access to Gaza as stipulated in UN Resolution 2735;
49. We commended the Organization of Islamic Cooperation-Arab League Ministerial Contact Group, of which Türkiye and Egypt are members, for its efforts to stop the conflict in Gaza and help achieve lasting peace. We welcomed the recognition of the State of Palestine by increasing number of countries;
50. We underlined the crucial importance of UNRWA as it constitutes the main organ of the United Nations providing humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation for State of Palestine in its five areas of operations;
51. We condemned Israel's aggression on Lebanon and its continued violation of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity including through launching a ground offensive. Almost one million people are internally displaced and this number continues to grow every day. Steps should be taken to prevent a much more catastrophic humanitarian crisis in Lebanon and a ceasefire should be reached immediately. These violations and war in Lebanon must come to an end immediately, and Israeli troops must fully withdraw from Lebanese territory;
52. We further encouraged cooperation and coordination between OIC and AU in all relevant forums;

53. We welcomed regular interactions at the technical level within the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism of the Africa-Türkiye Partnership, as listed in the Joint Implementation Report;
54. We called on both sides to pursue efforts for the successful organization of the Fourth Africa-Türkiye Partnership Summit to be held in Libya in 2026;
55. We agreed to continue working on new concrete projects in line with the AU Agenda 2063 and its Second Ten Year Implementation Plan within the preparatory process of the Fourth Summit;
56. We expressed our sincere thanks and gratitude to H.E. Ismaïl Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti, the Government and the people of Djibouti for their warm welcome and generous hospitality and for the excellent organization of the Third Ministerial Review Conference of the Africa-Türkiye Partnership.