

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

FIFTH TÜRKİYE-AFRICA ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS FORUM İstanbul, 16–17 October 2025

1. The Fifth Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum was held in İstanbul on 16-17 October 2025 under the theme: “Navigating Global Economic Uncertainty: Strengthening Türkiye-Africa Partnership.”
2. The Forum was hosted by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEİK), with a view to deepening strategic economic cooperation and advancing sustainable development through a resilient and mutually beneficial Türkiye-Africa partnership.
3. The Forum was honored by the presence of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Türkiye; H.E. Prof. Dr. Ömer BOLAT, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye; H.E. Mrs. Francisca Tatchouop Belobe, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals of the African Union Commission; and Ministers responsible for trade, economy, and finance from African Union Member States.
4. In light of the current global economic uncertainties characterized by geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions, inflationary pressures, and climate-related risks, the Forum recognized the importance of building resilient, inclusive, and transformative economic partnerships between Türkiye and Africa.
5. The Forum reaffirmed its commitment to the African Union’s Agenda 2063 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emphasizing the shared vision of economic transformation, industrialization, and regional integration.
6. The Forum welcomed the growing strategic importance of Türkiye-Africa economic relations and reiterated the need to further deepen cooperation in the areas of value-chain development, trade diversification, technology transfer, and joint infrastructure investment.

7. Considering current challenges and with a view to building a meaningful partnership anchored on mutually beneficial cooperation between the two sides, the Forum committed to further strengthening bilateral relations and looked forward to continuing Business-to-Business and Business-to-Government cooperation and dialogue in the most respectful, constructive, and win-win context in the following thematic areas:

- a. Food Security and Sustainable Food Production Cooperation
- b. Türkiye-Africa International Civil Aviation Cooperation
- c. Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies
- d. Türkiye-Africa Logistics Hub
- e. Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship
- f. Competitive and Collaborative Textile
- g. Energy and Mining
- h. Financing Infrastructure Needs of Africa
- i. Trade, Technology and Digital Manufacturing

a. Food Security and Sustainable Food Production Cooperation

8. The Forum emphasized the importance of food sovereignty and resilient food systems. It called for enhanced collaboration in agricultural productivity, irrigation, access to quality inputs, food processing, and mechanization. Türkiye's experience in agricultural innovation and agro-industrial development was highlighted as a key contribution to strengthening food systems across Africa.

b. Türkiye-Africa International Civil Aviation Cooperation

9. The Forum identified civil aviation as a strategic sector to enhance connectivity, trade, and tourism between Türkiye and Africa. It encouraged cooperation in the areas of route expansion, air traffic services, aviation training, maintenance infrastructure, and regulatory harmonization, with a view to promoting safe, reliable, and sustainable air transport links.

c. Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies

10. The Forum called for the development of a regional pharmaceutical production capacity through joint ventures, technology transfer, and collaborative R&D initiatives. The forum welcomed Türkiye's commitment to enhancing Africa's access to essential medical supplies and pharmaceutical

products. This support is seen as a vital step toward strengthening healthcare systems across the continent, addressing urgent medical needs, and improving overall public health outcomes.

d. Türkiye-Africa Logistics Hub

11. The Forum recognized the critical importance of integrated logistics systems for facilitating trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). It supported the establishment of Türkiye-Africa logistics hubs and corridors that enhance connectivity through ports, railways, customs modernization, and multimodal transport infrastructure.

e. Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship Dialogue

12. The Forum reaffirmed the commitment to empowering women and youth entrepreneurs as key drivers of inclusive economic growth. The Türkiye-Africa Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship Dialogue, honored by H.E. Emine ERDOĞAN, First Lady of the Republic of Türkiye, underscored the need to scale up women's empowerment policies, access to finance, business incubators, and digital skills for women-led enterprises.

f. Competitive and Collaborative Textile

13. The Forum identified the textile and garment industry as a high-potential area for industrial collaboration. It encouraged the formation of joint ventures, regional value chains, and capacity-building programs to enhance competitiveness, sustainability, and export orientation in both African and Turkish textile ecosystems.

g. Energy and Mining

14. The Forum emphasized the strategic role of energy and mineral resources in driving industrialization and economic diversification; encouraged investments in renewable energy, power generation, grid expansion, and clean energy technologies. Furthermore, the Forum highlighted opportunities for sustainable mining, joint exploration, and development of critical minerals, with a focus on value addition and adherence to environmental and social standards.

h. Financing Infrastructure Needs of Africa

15. The Forum recognized the urgent need to bridge Africa's infrastructure financing gap, especially in transport, energy, water, and digital infrastructure. It welcomed Türkiye's financial institutions and private sector as key partners in mobilizing capital through public-private partnerships (PPPs), blended finance, and innovative funding instruments. The Forum also stressed the importance of project preparation facilities and risk mitigation mechanisms to attract bankable investments.

i. Trade, Technology and Digital Manufacturing

16. The Forum underscored the transformative potential of technology and innovation in boosting trade and industrial productivity. It advocated for deeper cooperation in digital manufacturing, smart technologies, and e-commerce, with an emphasis on building innovation ecosystems and digital infrastructure. Türkiye's advanced manufacturing capabilities and Africa's growing tech ecosystem were recognized as complementary strengths for mutual development.

j. Commendation

17. The Forum expressed its sincere appreciation to H.E. President Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the Government, and the people of the Republic of Türkiye for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to all delegations during the event.

18. The Forum commended the continued partnership between the African Union Commission, the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, and DEİK for their effective coordination in organizing the Forum and facilitating constructive dialogue among all stakeholders.

19. The Forum agreed to implement the outcomes of the Fifth Forum and committed to reconvening for the Sixth Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum in 2027 to further consolidate the partnership.

Done in İstanbul on 17 October 2025.