



Press Release

***Pakistan Endorses Enhanced Role for African States in
Global Security and Development***

New York – May 23, 2024

The United Nations Security Council organized an open debate on the subject of “Maintenance of international peace and security: Strengthening the role of African States in addressing global security and development challenges”

Taking part in the open debate, Ambassador Munir Akram, Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, highlighted the significance of Africa's role in addressing global security and development challenges as well as the vast potential of economic and trade relations between Pakistan and the African continent.

The Pakistan UN envoy said that Pakistan actively participated in the liberation of African nations following its own independence in August 1947. He said that many African freedom fighters were facilitated to travel on Pakistani passports to promote their national freedom struggles.

Referring to the evolution of African institutions, Ambassador Munir Akram said that African states have rapidly evolved their national, regional, and continental institutions, such as the African Union, SADC, and the African Security Council, reflecting African solidarity and cooperation.

He also listed the multiple challenges facing Africa and stated that despite progress, the continent continues to face challenges such as foreign exploitation of resources, external intervention, and the emergence of terrorist groups and criminal gangs, exacerbating conflicts across the region.

Ambassador Akram, however, expressed optimism for Africa's future and said that despite these challenges, Africa is on the rise, with dynamic economic growth and determination in an effort to find African solutions to African problems.

Ambassador Akram said that Pakistan supports Africa's demand for rectification of historic injustices in its representation on the Security Council and other international organizations.

He said that Pakistan supports the development of new forms of peace operations, including peace enforcement, with broader mandates, adequate resources, and training for peacekeepers in line with the recommendations of the UN Secretary General. He said that Pakistan looks forward to working with African countries to realize these objectives, including as a member of the Security Council, if elected.

Ambassador Akram highlighted the key features of Pakistan's "Engage Africa" policy, which, he said, aims to strengthen ties with African states through trade, investment, and security cooperation. Pakistan, he said, will serve as a bridge to bring Asia and Africa closer together, thanks to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Ambassador Munir Akram also emphasized the historic significance of resolution 2719 (2023), aimed at enabling Africa to preserve and enforce peace and security on the continent.