

**Statement by Ambassador Salih Omar Abdu
at the 7th AU–EU Summit**



Statement by: Ambassador Salih Omar Abdu Head of the Delegation of the State of Eritrea at the 7th African Union – European Union Summit Under Session I: “Peace, Security and Governance; and Multilateralism” 24th November 2025, Luanda, Republic of Angola

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

All protocol observed,

It is my great honor to address, on behalf of the State of Eritrea, the 7th AU-EU Summit being held under the theme “*Promoting Peace and Prosperity through Effective Multilateralism.*”

Allow me at the outset to convey to this august Summit the warm greetings of H.E. Mr. Isaias Afwerki, President of the State of Eritrea.

I also wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the people and Government of the sisterly Republic of Angola for the warm hospitality accorded to me and my delegation since our arrival in this beautiful city of Luanda.

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

The partnership between AU and EU in this format has existed since the year 2000. It goes without saying, the interaction between the two neighboring

continents goes back to millennia. At this juncture, it is imperative to seriously evaluate the strengths and shortcomings of the partnership over the last quarter of a century and chart out a road map that optimizes the added value of the partnership, based on the principles of co-ownership, shared responsibilities and mutual benefits. This task becomes urgent as we are witnessing heightened competition and conflicts resulting from the ongoing reconfiguration of the international system.



- **On Peace and Security**

One key pillar of the partnership between our two Unions is the maintenance of peace and security in the two continents and at the global level. The stability of the current international system depends on each and every state's commitment to respect the cardinal principles that underpin it. As stated in the draft Joint Declaration of this summit, the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states cannot be negotiated or compromised; and States must refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force. Unequivocal adherence to these principles, enshrined in the UN Charter, are conditions *sine qua non* for peaceful inter-state relations.

- **On Multilateralism**

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

The ever-growing interdependency between peoples' and nations of the world necessitate the strengthening and reforming of the multilateral system to

capacitate it to address shared threats and make use of collective opportunities. The commitment of the two Unions on multilateralism is encouraging.



However, there is an urgent need to expedite the reform of the multilateral system to make it more representative, fair and just. This reform should address the continued marginalization of Africa in all aspects of global governance. The success of the reform will largely depend on extending the shared understanding on the indispensability of the system, to the necessity of creating a multilateral order that gives equal voice and influence to the hitherto marginalized parts of the world, especially Africa.

Eritrea is concerned that the imposition of unilateral sanctions on several African countries severely hampers their efforts to access international development and climate finance, achieve industrialization and mobilize private sector capital. This hinders the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the aspiration of Agenda 2063, the Africa We Want.

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm Eritrea's continued commitment to contribute its share to the promotion of peace and security in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea Regions. Eritrea also remains committed to contribute to the collective effort of making this partnership a win-win engagement, that adds value to the two Unions, through co-ownership.

I thank you!

On Nov 27, 2025