

سفارة المملكة المغربية ببراغ

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Velvyslanectví Marockého království v Praze Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Prague



Panel 2

"Africa rising: Donorship or economic partnership?"

Remarks by

HE Mrs Souriya Otmani

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Czech Republic

25th May 2017



Morocco's policy towards Africa

- African continent has been continuously in the heart of Morocco's strategic choices
- Today the choice of African integration for Morocco comes in logical harmony with the current reconfiguration of the global economy
- Morocco believes that Africa could take advantage of its endogenous factors of sustainable development if:
 - Reconsiders relationships between colonial powers and the current Africa
 - Finds concrete solutions and responses to ensure sustainable development within the African countries themselves



Morocco's long-term vision

- Long term vision of His Majesty the King Mohammed VI to make the **south-south cooperation** a major pillar of Morocco's foreign policy
- This cooperation is built on the central role of human development in establishment of fair, balanced and equitable relations



win-win partnerships

The sincere commitment of Morocco to the continent is truly illustrated by all numerous official visits made by the head of state to more than 40 African countries during the last 15 years, and signing of some 1.000 bilateral agreements

Essential components:

- Support to democratic process
- 2) Support to human development
- 3) Respect of cultural differences and specificities



Morocco's economic strategy towards Africa

Aims to position the country as a regional hub serving
 co-development in various key areas for a common future

3 stages of hitherto development:

- 1) Involvement of Moroccan state-owned companies in various development projects
- 2) Involvement of **Moroccan private sector** in cooperation mainly in services, or mining
- 3) Economic strategy aiming at achieving a deeper regional integration



Examples of win-win partnerships

 Regional pipeline linking Nigeria and several other West African countries with Morocco





 OCP started project with other African countries to produce fertilizers adapted for specific corps such as cocoa or maize to meet the specific needs of African soil and climate

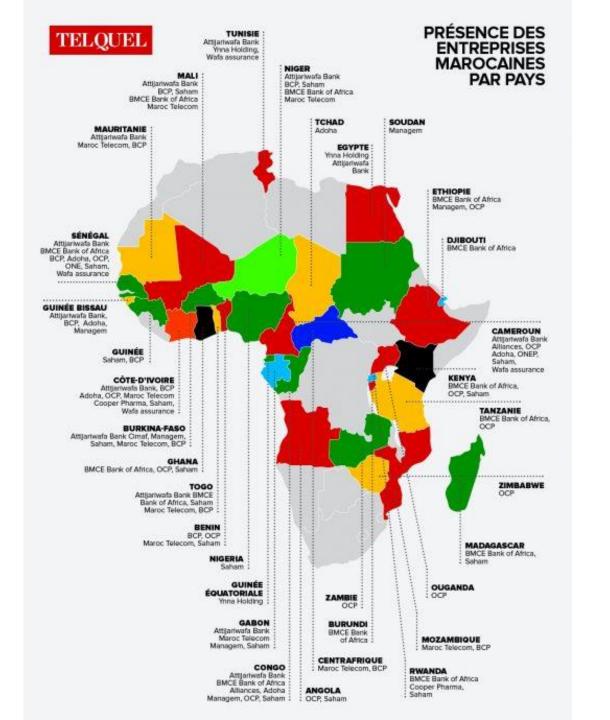
 Morocco cooperates via Sothema on production of generic drugs for West Africa

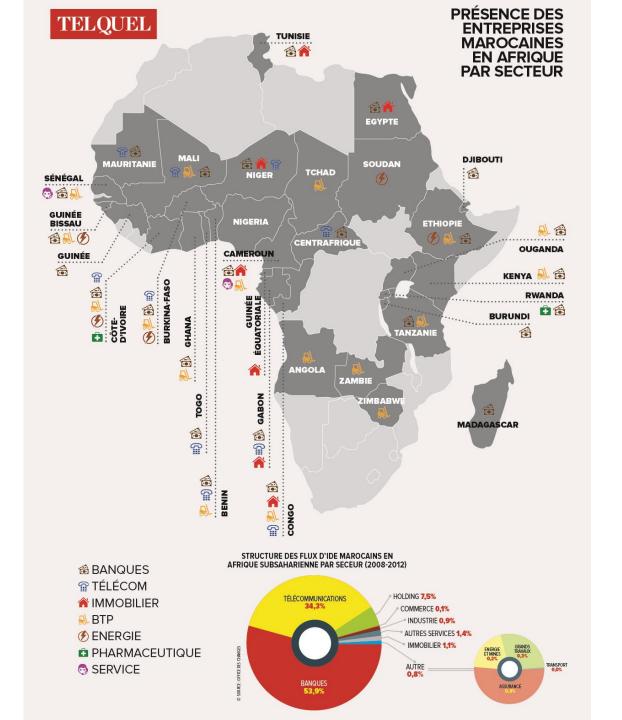




Trade & Investment

- Morocco is currently the second largest African investor in the continent and the first investor in West Africa
- Over the decade ending in 2016,
 - Morocco's investment in Sub-Saharan Africa represented 85 % of its overall foreign direct investment
 - Morocco's trade with the rest of the continent grew by an annual average of 13 %
 - In 2016, our trade with Africa reached 3, 1 billion USD, approximately 6,4 % of Morocco's overall trade during the same period
- Moroccan Banks operate in 26 African countries, Maroc-Telecom in 11 countries ...







Outstanding achievements

• Morocco as a leader in fighting climate change on the continent hosted in November last year during COP 22 an "African Action Summit" aiming to establish a common approach to the issue and to action some measures for sustainable development



• In April 20015, Morocco signed MOU with the Millennium Challenge Corporation to "facilitate sharing the lessons of Morocco's development experience with other parts of Sub Saharan Africa, and to serve as an important catalyst for South-South and mutually beneficial cooperation"



- In Morocco we strongly believe that achieving a deeper regional integration based on the concept of win-win partnerships in all its dimensions should help to unleash the potential of the African continent and to offer hope for a better life to its peoples
- It should indeed help Africa to take charge of its own development and to rely on its own potential by developing south-south public-private partnerships and facilitating technology transfer in a mutually beneficial framework



Thank you for your kind attention

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