

## SUMMARY



### ***Building on the strong historical, cultural and economic bond between India and the African continent***

As the global economy rebalances itself after the Covid Pandemic, serious business practitioners are seeking to expand opportunities for trade and collaboration between India and the African continent. In the last few years, India's relations with Africa saw a revival. India-Africa trade reached \$62 billion in 2018 compared to \$39 billion during 2009-10.

Following the successful Indo-Africa Virtual Summit in November 2020, the IMC Chamber of Commerce and Africa Business News Group (ABN Group) organized the second Indo-Africa Virtual Summit 2021 on the theme Bilateral Economic and Business Opportunities between India and Sub-Saharan Africa from 23rd and 24th of March 2021. The Summit was supported by Astar Group.

The Summit witnessed participation of more than 1500 delegates and was telecasted live on CNBC Africa across 48 African countries. The delegates included MSMEs and large corporate houses from various sectors besides Government officials, diplomats and country representatives.



The Inaugural session commenced with a Welcome Address by Rajiv Podar, President, IMC who said India's interest and investment in Africa have become very visible and are on the rise. So, it is the time to reflect on how experience in India may be relevant and helpful to progress in Africa. During his Address he announced the establishment of an **Indo-Africa Desk at IMC** with the support of

Exim Bank of India and CNBC Africa. The Desk will help promote Trade, Investment and Economic activities between India and Africa.

The India Keynote Address was delivered by Anil Agarwal, Founder and Chairman, Vedanta Resources Limited.

I have been to Africa from last 15 years and have invested \$4 billion and looking to further invest another 1.5 billion in next few years said Mr. Agarwal.



The Africa Keynote Address was delivered by Busi Mabuza, Chair of the Board of Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa who highlighted the bilateral opportunities.

There is no doubt in my mind that India continues to enjoy tremendous goodwill in African Continent said Ms. Mabuza in her Address.

Sam Bhembe, Director, ABN Group proposed the Vote of Thanks.



The 2-day Summit explored sectors such as Power & Renewable Energy; Knowledge, Skill & Education; Automobiles (2 wheelers & EV); Agriculture and Food Processing; Resources: Mining, Oil & Gas; and Health Infrastructure with Panel Discussion by experts from India and Africa who expressed their view on the opportunities that can be explored.

## Panel 1: Opportunities: Capitalizing on the Indo-Africa Bond



The trade and investment connection between India and Africa holds immense promise in the struggle to lift millions out of poverty. Trade between the two is burgeoning, with new opportunities opening after the global Pandemic-related slowdown. India is now Africa's third largest trading partner, accounting for 6.4 percent of African total trade for a total value of \$62.6 billion in 2017-18.

The Panel elaborated on the opportunities that can be explored to develop the bilateral ties and highlighted the initiative led by Government and private sectors that have strengthen India and Africa's historical bond.

## Panel 2: Opportunities in Power: Fossil Fuels vs Renewable Energy



The International Energy Outlook 2020 identified major trends in Asia and Africa. As energy use grows in Asia, some cases indicate more than 50 per cent of electricity could be generated from renewables by 2050. The costs of natural gas and renewable energy could shift the fuel mix for generating electricity in the region either further toward fossil fuels or toward renewables

To grow the scale of investments, both markets need a variety of financial products for mitigating risks and creating a robust climate financing ecosystem highlighted the Panel.

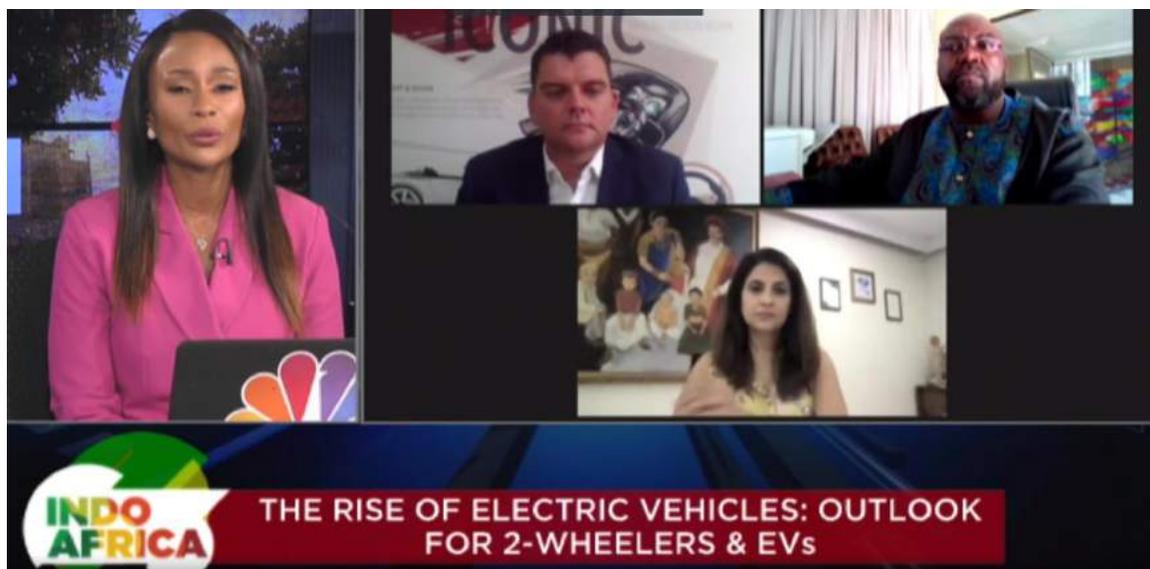
## Panel 3: The Knowledge Economy: Changing Demands on Skill & Education



Today's employers demand work-ready graduates, who have knowledge and expertise that align directly with job responsibilities. In Africa, while the youth population is rising exponentially, many graduates are failing to find good jobs. Almost 60 per cent of Africa's population is under the age of 25, with a median age of 19.8 in 2020, according to the UN's demographic projections. The African Development Bank recommends that African countries invest in vocational training across education institutions and industry.

The Panel highlighted on the importance of skill and education and discussed the collaboration and initiatives undertaken by Educational Institutions.

#### **Panel 4: The Rise of Electric Vehicles: Outlook for 2-wheelers & EVs**



Passenger cars and motorcycles (as well as parts for both) account for most of Indian vehicle exports to the African continent. Motorcycles have become indispensable components of urban and rural transport across some of Africa's fast-growing and still poorly connected economies. Two Wheeler exports registered a growth of 7.3 per cent in FY2019-20 vs FY2018-19. The major export markets of the 'Made-in-India' two wheelers are African & Latin American countries. The biggest African markets being Nigeria, Angola and Uganda.

The Panel highlighted on the tremendous opportunities in the electric vehicles.

While welcoming the dignitaries on the second day of the Summit, Dinesh Joshi, Chairman, International Business Committee, IMC said India- Africa engagement goes beyond trade Apart from trade, India has undertaken a number of investment projects in Africa. India has emerged as an important global economic and a significant partner for Africa. India has often reiterated the historical importance of its ties with Africa.



To further reflect on the huge potential and to increase bilateral trade and to expand investment, IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with CNBC Africa have initiated the Indo Africa Summit for the promotion of mutual trade and investment opportunities, said Mr. Joshi.

### Panel 5: Initiatives in Agriculture and Food Processing



While setting the tone for the Panel Kishore Musale, Chairman ASTARC Group in his Opening remarks said Agriculture is central to growth. If India and Africa collaborate, we can feed the world.

India and Africa's complementary sectorial priorities and similar roles in the evolving global food markets present numerous opportunities for collaboration in the agricultural sector. The Panel discussed the potential for India-Africa cooperation towards food security and capacity building.



## Panel 6: Opportunities in Resources: Mining, Oil & Gas



The Session commenced with a Keynote Address from India by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas who said India Africa is an age old story and represent world's most dynamic growth centers. Our Hon'ble PM had outlined that Africa's demand is our demand. We are building upon our close trade-investment ties with Nigeria, in oil & gas, mining and steel stated Hon'ble Pradhan

While the Africa Keynote Address was delivered by Olamilekan Adegbite, Nigerian Minister of Mines and Steel Development who said Nigeria is focusing on mining and this is a good time to enter Nigeria.



Africa accounted for 4 per cent of global mining and metals deals in 2009 and 8 per cent in 2010. India currently sourced about 16 per cent of its \$125-billion worth of oil imports from African nations and the government was keen to step up its oil diplomacy and increase the share to between 20 per cent and 25 per cent in the short term, the official pointed out. Taking its cue from this, overseas investment arm of national oil and gas exploration and production major ONGC Limited, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), has been quick off the block to bid for at least six to seven blocks in Uganda.



## Panel 7: Capitalising on Health Infrastructure



The World Bank in its April report, assessed that the COVID-19 outbreak has sparked off the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) region's first recession in 25 years. The steep decline in commodity prices has spelt disaster for the economies of Nigeria, Zambia and Angola. India has already dispatched medical assistance to 25 African countries to assist with the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The need to strengthen and improve existing systems and structures within the healthcare system was highlighted by the Panel in the discussion.



The Summit was concluded by Closing remarks by Juzar Khorakiwala, Vice President, IMC who congratulated IMC and CNBC Africa for hosting the second edition of the Indo Africa Summit 2021 and thank the Guests for their contribution in developing stronger partnership.