

Rabat: Chairperson of the African Union Commission Mahmoud Ali Youssouf praised on Wednesday in Rabat the central role of the Kingdom of Morocco, under the enlightened Leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, in supporting and defending African causes.

*“The Kingdom of Morocco is a key player and, as I have stated before, it is a cornerstone for all continental issues,”* he said during a press briefing following his talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation, and Moroccan Expatriates Nasser Bourita.

*“We are all aware of the Kingdom of Morocco’s role in supporting African causes, particularly in terms of security and peacebuilding in countries facing crises,”* he noted, emphasizing that Morocco, under the Leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, remains a benchmark for African diplomacy and a key interlocutor for African nations, given the Kingdom’s active role in resolving crises on the continental and international stages.

He added that the African Union, particularly the AU Commission, relies heavily on the expertise and know-how of the Kingdom of Morocco, under the enlightened Leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

Ali Youssouf further explained that his discussions with Bourita focused on *“issues of concern to our continent: development, peace, stability, external shocks, as well as key challenges such as energy, industrialization, and agricultural development.”*

Intra-African trade and infrastructure development were also on the agenda, he continued, noting that it is difficult to envision trade growth on a continental scale without infrastructure.

*“We were also able to share our views on the prospects for the African Union Commission and highlight the means to reach our continent’s objectives. At this stage, Africa must therefore take a stance on global issues,”* he concluded.