

# African Union Commission calls for 'paradigm shift' at Italy-Africa summit

**Moussa Faki welcomes Giorgia Meloni's plan to strengthen relations but says 'we are not beggars'**

The chair of the African Union Commission has said "we are not beggars" as the Italian prime minister, Giorgia Meloni, outlined a plan aimed at helping African countries to prosper in return for curbing illegal immigration.

Speaking at the much anticipated Italy-Africa summit in Rome, Moussa Faki welcomed Italy's overtures for a mutually beneficial strengthening of relations with the African continent, but said: "We cannot be satisfied with mere promises that can't be kept."

Faki said a "paradigm shift" was required to usher in "a new model of partnership" and pave the way "towards a more just and coherent world". He said: "Africa does not want to reach out. We are not beggars."

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