

Speech – Sub-forum on Cybermedia and Mutual Learning between Civilizations (within the 2025 China-Africa Internet Development and Cooperation Forum)

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

Good morning.

It is a great honor for me to take the floor during this Session III of the 2025 China-Africa Internet Development and Cooperation Forum. First of all, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the organizers for this invitation, and to say how delighted I am to contribute to this major gathering of dialogue and cooperation.

The theme that brings us together today – *“Implementing the Four Global Initiatives and Jointly Building a Favorable Environment for International Communication”* – is of undeniable relevance, as is that of the sub-forum: *“Deepening Cybermedia Exchanges for Mutual Understanding between Chinese and African Civilizations.”* It conveys a clear vision: to make international communication not a field of confrontation, but a space of dialogue, respect, and co-construction.

Under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, China has proposed to the world four major initiatives – for development, for security, for global civilization, and for a community with a shared future for mankind.

These initiatives serve as a true compass:

- they place development at the service of the people,
- they make security a universal right,
- they value diversity and equality among civilizations,

- they invite us to build a shared future based on solidarity and cooperation.

For us in Africa, they deeply resonate, as they echo our own aspirations for a fairer world, one that is more equitable and more respectful of our identities.

To give life to these initiatives, we need inclusive and effective communication channels. Today, cybermedia are one of their essential pillars.

They bring peoples closer together by breaking down geographical and linguistic barriers. They give a voice to local communities, to youth, to women, to those often invisible in traditional media.

They finally allow us to build authentic narratives, reflecting our African and Chinese realities, far from clichés and stereotypes.

This is how we can build a truly balanced international communication environment.

Allow me to share a concrete experience. Since 2018, through *tinganews.com*, the media outlet I have the honor of directing, we have endeavored to be an informational bridge between China, Burkina Faso, Africa, and the world.

We have not only relayed information; we have made visible and understandable the cooperation actions carried out by China on our soil.

Our reports have covered:

- the agricultural training programs of the Chinese mission, which transmit modern know-how to Burkinabè farmers;
- the commitment of Chinese medical missions, present in our hospitals and health campaigns;
- technical and professional assistance that strengthens local capacities;
- cultural and educational exchanges that bring our peoples closer together.

These reports have had a tangible impact: they have transformed mistrust into trust, ignorance into knowledge, and have contributed to strengthening mutual understanding between Chinese and Africans.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Cybermedia are not only a technological revolution. They embody a human revolution.

As President Xi Jinping emphasized in his congratulatory message on the occasion of the Ministerial Meeting on Dialogue between Civilizations on July 10, 2025, I quote: *“History has shown us that exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations are essential to their prosperity and to the progress of humanity.”*

And as the Senegalese scholar Cheikh Anta Diop once said: *“Mutual understanding between peoples can only arise from reciprocal knowledge of their cultures and their realities.”*

These two chosen quotes express a universal truth: there can be no lasting progress without dialogue and mutual respect. What we must understand is that the valorization of our identities and dialogue with others are inseparable. And we must imperatively place cybermedia at the heart of China-Africa cooperation, for they are today the privileged vectors of bringing peoples closer together, a space for intercultural dialogue, and a powerful lever for development.

From Ouagadougou to Beijing, from Xiamen to Bamako, cybermedia are already weaving the threads of a shared future. It is up to us to transform them into true architects of a new era of cooperation, one that brings peace, development, and mutual understanding.

Let me conclude by reaffirming my conviction: together, by uniting our efforts in the field of cybermedia, we can bring the global initiatives to life and build a communication space that is fairer, more inclusive, and more hopeful for African and Chinese peoples.

Thank you for your kind attention.