



## Full Text of HM the King's Speech to Morocco-GCC Summit in Riyadh

HM King Mohammed VI has addressed a message to the Morocco-GCo Summit, held Wednesday in Riyadh.
Here is the full text of the Royal speech:
Praise be to God May peace and blessings be upon the Prophet, His Kith and Kin
Your Majesties,
Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Dear Brothers,

My heart is brimming over with affection and pride, as is always the case when I come to the Arab Gulf region.

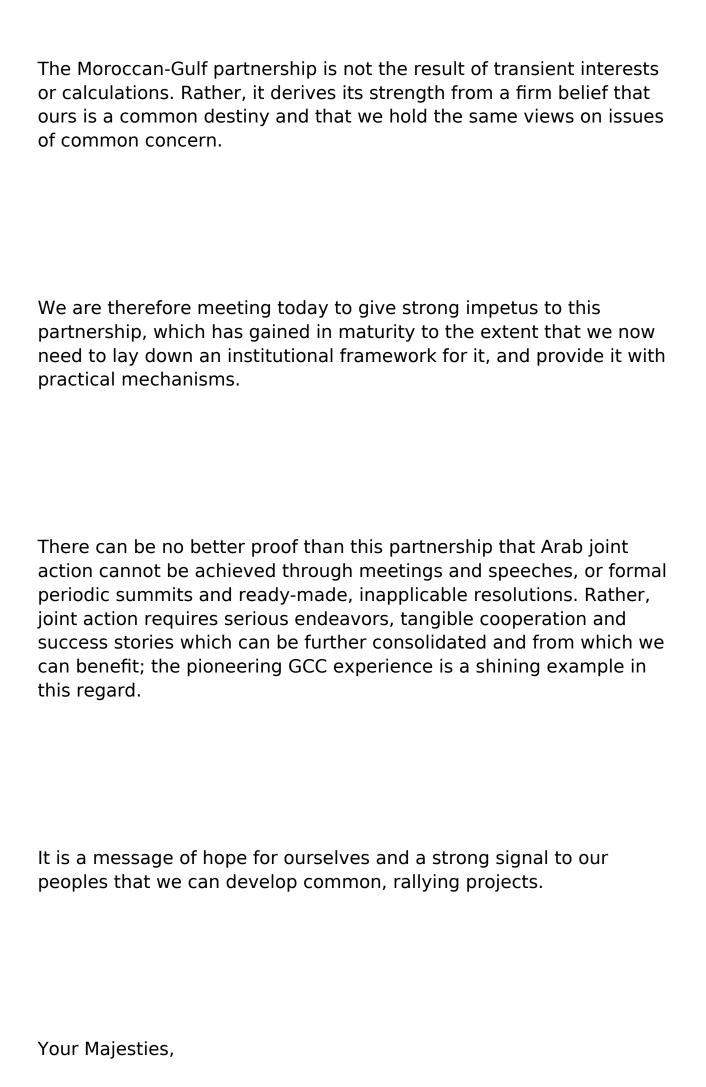
I should like, first, to extend my sincere thanks to my brother, the
Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al
Saud, for hosting this important Summit, and to thank all leaders of
GCC States for taking part in it.

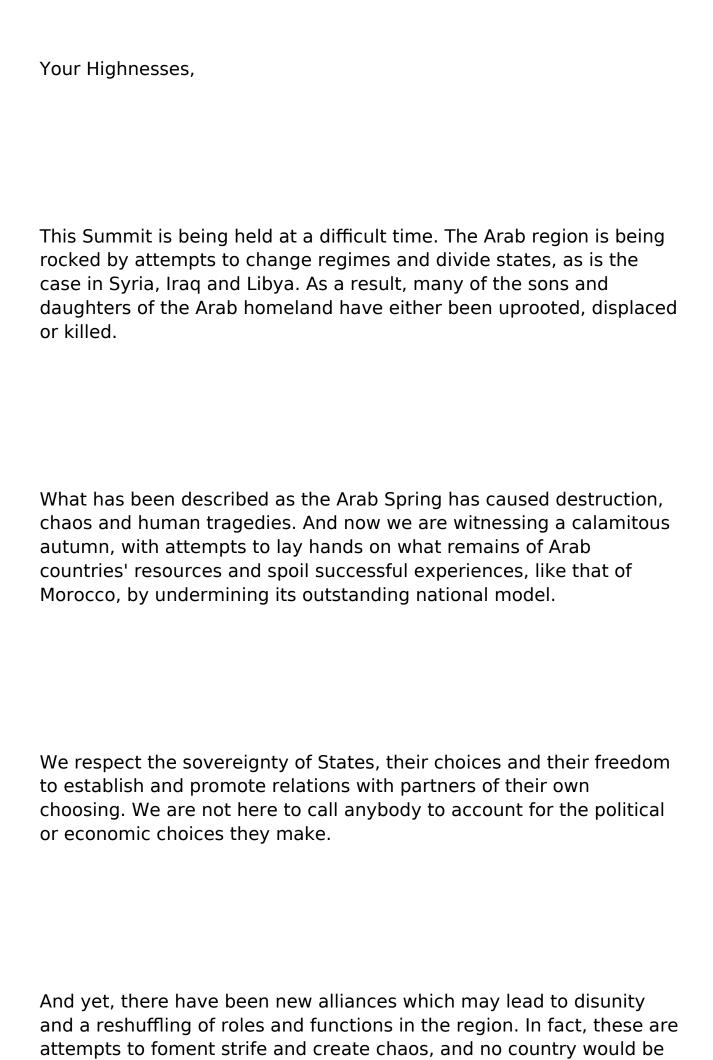
I would also like to say how much I value the moral and material support you have been providing to Morocco to implement development projects and defend its just causes.

Our meeting today reflects the solid fraternal bonds and mutual esteem between us, as well as the close cooperation and solidarity between our countries.

By the grace of the Almighty, and despite the geographical distance, we are bound by solid relations that, in addition to language, religion and civilization, include a commitment to the same values and principles and the same constructive policies.

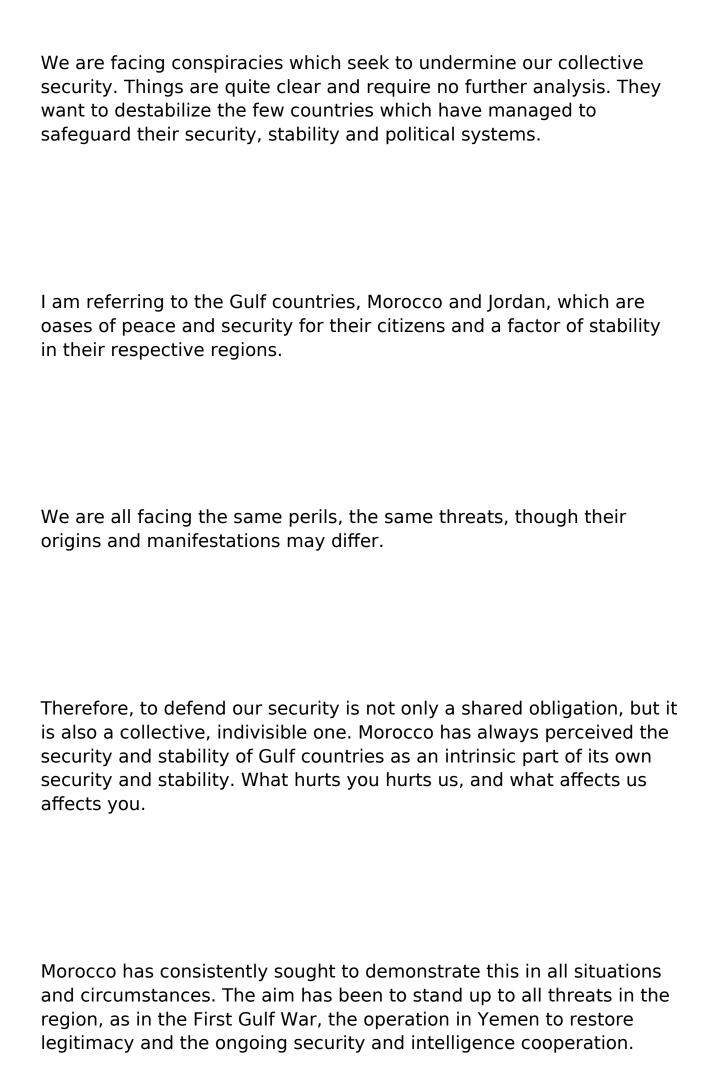
We are also facing the same challenges and threats, particularly with regard to security.
Why hold this Summit, which is the first of its kind? And why today?
Your Majesties,
Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Dear Brothers,
Thanks to our shared determination, we have managed to lay the foundations for a solid strategic partnership, which is the result of fruitful bilateral cooperation.



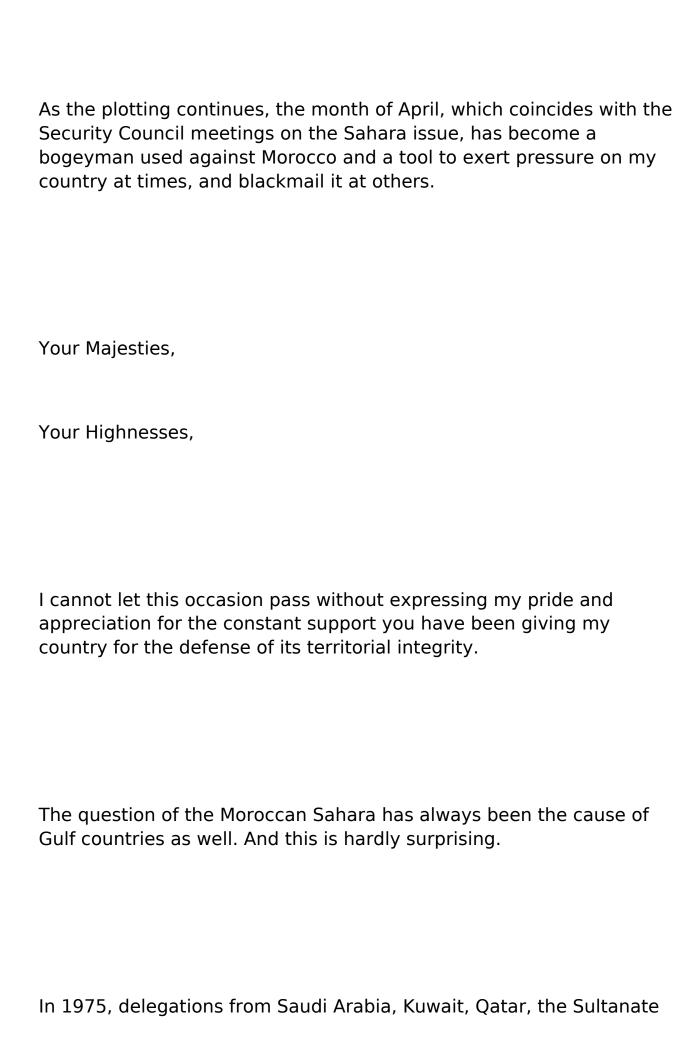




For this reason, the convening of this Summit is not targeting any party in particular, least of all our partners. It is a natural, logical initiative by countries which are defending their interests, as all countries do. My brothers in the Gulf bear the costs and consequences of the successive wars in the region.
Your Majesties,
Your Highnesses,
This is a serious situation which is compounded by egregious, misleading generalizations and insincerity, as shown by expressions of friendship and alliance on the one hand, and stabbing in the back, on the other.
So what do they want from us?



Your Majesties,
Your Highnesses,
Dear Brothers,
The hostile plots which seek to undermine our stability are continuing; they will not stop. Several countries in the eastern part of the Arab world have been torn apart and destroyed; today, it is the western part which is targeted, and the most recent of these conspiracies has been hatched against the territorial integrity of your second home, Morocco.
There is nothing new in this. Morocco's opponents are using every means, directly or otherwise, as part of their thinly-veiled maneuvers.
Thus, depending on the circumstances, they try to delegitimize Morocco's presence in its Sahara, promote the independence option and the separatist thesis, or undermine the autonomy initiative, which the international community has described as serious and credible.



of Oman and the United Arab Emirates took part in the Green March for the recovery of our southern provinces. The participants included my brother, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, who was 14 years old at the time.

Since then, the Gulf States have spared no effort to uphold our just cause and defend Morocco's sovereignty over its entire territory. This position was reaffirmed during the recent crisis with the UN Secretary-General. Only this time, the situation is serious. It is also unprecedented in the history of this artificial dispute over the Moroccan Sahara.

What we are witnessing, in fact, is a proxy war, in which the Secretary-General of the United Nations is being used to infringe on Morocco's legitimate, historical rights in its Sahara, through biased statements and unacceptable behavior regarding the Moroccan Sahara.

This should not come as a surprise, for there is something that might explain it all! Indeed, what can one expect from the Secretary-General when he himself admits that he is not fully informed on the Moroccan Sahara issue - nor is he on many others? He is unaware of this issue's intricate developments and its real background.

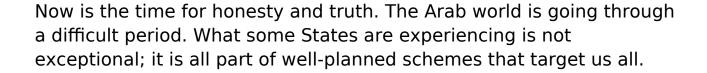
What can the Secretary-General do while he is a hostage in the hands of some of his aides and advisers, to whom he delegates the responsibility of managing a number of important issues and settles for merely implementing the proposals they submit to him.

It is a fact that some of these aides have national agendas. They are politically motivated and they serve other parties' interests without regard for their duty, as staff members of the United Nations Organization, to act impartially and objectively – an obligation that lies at the very heart of UN action.

The Secretary-General, whom I personally esteem, is only human after all. He cannot be fully cognizant of all issues on the United Nations' agenda, nor find solutions to all crises and conflicts around the world.

I wish to emphasize, in this respect, that Morocco does not have a problem with the United Nations Organization, of which it is an active member; nor does it have a problem with the Security Council, whose members it respects and with whom it is constantly in touch. Morocco has a problem with the Secretary-General, and more particularly with some of his aides, because of their hostile positions towards my country.

As regards this artificial dispute over our territorial integrity, Morocco has always liaised with its traditional friends, which include the United States of America, France and Spain, and with Arab sister nations, especially the Gulf States, as well as African countries, such as Senegal, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire and Gabon.
We have a problem because of frequently changing governments in some of these countries.
With every change, significant efforts have to be exerted to introduce new officials to all aspects of the Moroccan Sahara issue and to make them aware of its real implications. They have to be reminded that this dispute, which has been going on for more than forty years, has caused many casualties, that its material cost has been considerable and that the Sahara issue is the cause of all Moroccans, and not just the Monarchy's.
Your Majesties,
Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,



Terrorism does more than just tarnish the reputation of Islam and Muslims; it is also being used by some people as a pretext to divide our States and foment strife in them.

For this reason, the different schools of Islamic jurisprudence need to engage in a frank, in-depth dialogue to correct misrepresentations, convey the true image of Islam and uphold, once again, the tolerant values of our faith.

What is at stake is not the situation in a particular country as much as the need, for all of us, to be aware of the challenges confronting us and to show genuine determination to renew our strategic pact with our partners, on the basis of clear determinants that can govern our relations in the decades to come.

This is a turning point; a watershed moment between what we want and what the others want us to be.
Today, more than ever, we need clear, unified stances between all Arab States. Either we stand together, like a solid structure, whose parts reinforce one another, or we become something we do not want to be.
May Almighty God grant us success, for the benefit of our peoples and our Ummah.
Wassalamu alaikum warahmatullah wabarkatuh.
MAP 20 April 2016