EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA IN THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

SPEECH BY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

DEAR FELLOW DIPLOMATS,

LOCAL STAFF,

ESTEEMED MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY,

DEAR FRIENDS OF OUR COUNTRY,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with great honour, profound patriotic pride and a deep sense of emotion that I address you on the occasion of the celebration of the 51st Anniversary of the National Independence of the Republic of Angola, proclaimed on 11 November 1975.

We have gathered today to celebrate much more than a historic date. We celebrate the freedom of a people, the affirmation of its national identity, and the achievement of its sovereign right to determine its own destiny.

The 11th of November represents a glorious page in our history, written with blood, courage, sacrifice, determination and hope by all those who dedicated their lives to the cause of national liberation.

At this moment of remembrance and recognition, we pay a heartfelt tribute to the heroes of the national liberation struggle and to all the men and women who contributed to the achievement of independence. In particular, we recall the historic figure of Dr. António Agostinho Neto, Founder of the Nation and First President of the Republic of Angola, whose proclamation of independence remains one of the most remarkable moments in the contemporary history of our country.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our independent history has experienced profound challenges, including a long-armed conflict, but it has also witnessed the resilience, reconciliation and renewal of the Angolan people. The achievement of peace in 2002 opened a new chapter in our national life, creating conditions for efforts towards reconstruction, development and the strengthening of State institutions.

Today, our vision is equally focused on the future: a future in which young people have opportunities, education and healthcare are valued, the economy is diversified, and all citizens are able to contribute to the progress of the Nation.

It is our conviction that the true tribute to those who fought for independence lies in preserving national unity, defending our sovereignty and working tirelessly for the well-being of the Angolan people.

Angola occupies a central place in the idea of solidarity among African nations because its own independence was the result of a collective effort by the continent, while Angola itself became a symbol of African resistance against apartheid and colonial domination in Southern Africa.

After 1975, the country transformed this experience into a political commitment, supporting and defending peace, stability and development wherever armed conflict exists, guided by the principle that no African people would ever be truly free while another remained oppressed.

This solidarity was also expressed through the defence of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference—values that Angola has sought to promote in its relations with neighbouring countries and in the peacekeeping and mediation missions in which it has participated.

Even while facing a prolonged civil war and external pressures during the Cold War, the country remained a bridge between Central and Southern Africa, contributing to the construction of an African identity based on cooperation, collective security and shared development.

Therefore, Angola is not merely a beneficiary of African solidarity, but one of its principal builders, demonstrating that the unity of the continent is strengthened when States assume common responsibilities in addressing political, economic and security challenges.

Excellencies,

Allow me to highlight, on this occasion, the importance of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Ghana.

Our two countries share a history of African solidarity, a common struggle for the affirmation of the peoples of our continent, and a commitment to building a more integrated, peaceful and prosperous Africa.

In this regard, we reiterate our readiness to continue deepening our bilateral relations by promoting political dialogue and cooperation in the economic, commercial, cultural, educational and diplomatic fields, for the benefit of our two peoples.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of the Republic of Angola and on my own behalf, our profound gratitude to the Government and the people of the Republic of Ghana for the friendship, warm welcome and hospitality extended to our community and our diplomatic representation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we celebrate another anniversary of our independence, let us remember that the Homeland is not merely the territory where we were born. It is our history, our identity, our culture, our collective memory and, above all, the commitment that unites us in building a common future.

To our fellow Angolans present here today, I would like to leave a special message: regardless of the distance that separates us from our homeland, Angola remains in the heart of each and every one of us. It is our responsibility to preserve our values, honour our identity and pass on to future generations the pride of being Angolan.

May the flame of 11 November continue to illuminate our path, inspiring us to serve Angola with dedication, dignity, patriotism and hope.

I conclude by expressing my wishes for peace, unity, fraternity and prosperity for the Angolan people, as well as continued progress for the brotherly people of Ghana.

Long live the Republic of Angola!

Long live National Independence!

Long live the friendship and cooperation between Angola and Ghana!

Glory to the memory of the heroes of our national liberation!

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Accra, 11 November 2026