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The Leader of the Revolution Muammar Al-Qathafi, (right) and Italy's PM Silvio Berlusconi (second left) sign the "Libyan-Italian Treaty of Friendship, Partnership and Cooperation" in Benghazi on August 30 last month.

Al-Qathafi Hails Treaty with Italy, Says Apology, Compensation are Condemnation of Colonialism

Al-Qathafi hailed the signing of the Libyan-Italian Treaty of Friendship, Partnership and Cooperation and said it was a significant accomplishment by the two countries that would, after verification, pave the way for further cooperation and a strong

relationship between our two countries based on equality and mutual respect.

Speaking at the celebration of the 39th anniversary of the First September Revolution on Sunday night 31 August, Al-Qathafi said "we will rush into establishing beneficial relations

with Italy which has committed itself and we will benefit from such economic and technical relationship."

Al-Qathafi underlined the importance of Article 4 of the treaty which stipulates that "based on international legitimate principles, Italy shall

not use its territories or allow the use of these territories in any aggression against Libya; Libya shall not use its territories or allow the use of these territories in any aggression against Italy."

"Politically", Al-Qathafi told the few hundred people gathered the special festive

session of the General People's Congress in Benghazi, "we will have a friend in the NATO, in the EU, the Mediterranean and in 5 + 5." "This is a huge moral, political and material achievement for a long time to come," he added describing the

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Rice Visits Libya

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's visit to Libya marks a new beginning in the relations between Washington and Tripoli.

The visit also signals a major diplomatic success for Libya which has always defended its right for equal and respectful relations with other world powers.

The visit could have taken place years ago, but it comes in less than four months before the

end of President George W. Bush term in the White House.

Commenting on the state of Libyan-American relations during a speech on 31 August, the Leader of the Revolution said "the conflict with the US is closed thanks to the support to Libya that was made by Qatar and UAE. We want a relationship with the US that neither friendly nor adversary. The important thing is that such

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Condoleezza Rice

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