



THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION AND
GAMBIANS ABROAD

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

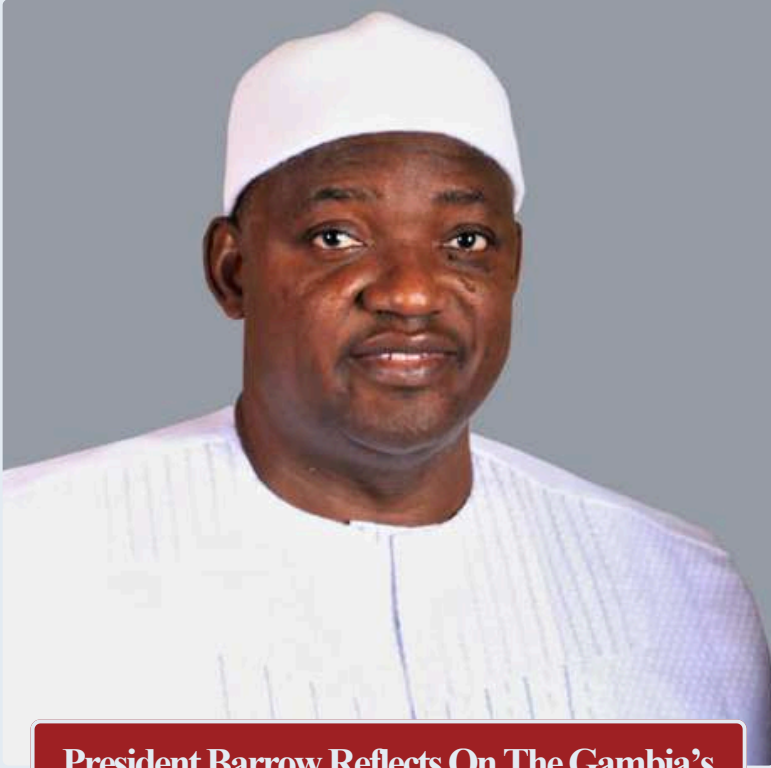


THE GAMBIAN ENVOY

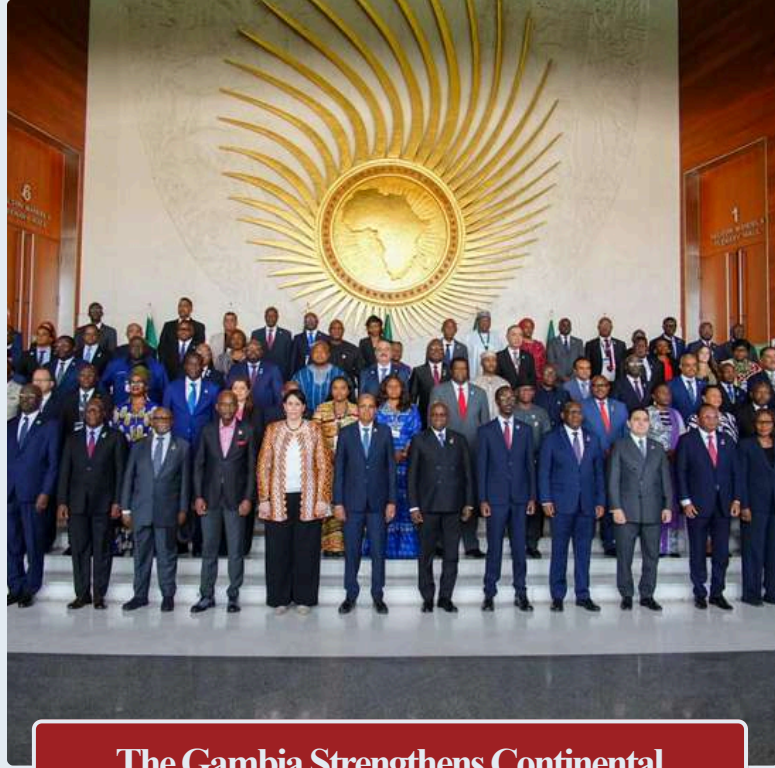
NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026 ISSUE

1ST EDITION



President Barrow Reflects On The Gambia's
Global Engagement



The Gambia Strengthens Continental
Presence at AU Summit



Ministry Hosts Inaugural Stakeholders' Diplomatic Event



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The Republic of The Gambia

Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Cooperation & Gambians Abroad

**Ministry Headquarters. No. 28 Marina Parade
Banjul, The Gambia**

Editorial Team:

Ambassador Lang Yabou

Ms. Fatou Kinneh Jobe

Ms. Ya Awa Touray

Mr. Talibeh Hydera

Design:

Ms. Ya Awa Touray

Mr. Al-Amin Kijera

ABOUT THE MINISTRY



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians abroad is one of the oldest ministries in the government of The Gambia, having been established at independence. Over time, this ministry has been very critical in enabling the creation and management of relations between The Gambia and other nations, and international organisations.

MISSION

To bring about international actions through proactive diplomacy that advance the national interests of The Gambia and her citizens including those in the Diaspora, as well as to make a contribution to building a world community in which there is enduring peace and security, expanding freedom and lasting prosperity.

VISION

To make The Gambia a major and reputable player in regional and international arena with the ultimate aim of safeguarding the National Interest and ensuring optimal contribution towards the community of nations anchored on proactive diplomacy.

MESSAGE FROM H.E. THE PRESIDENT



In 2025, my Government continued to strengthen The Gambia’s international standing and deepen its strategic partnerships across the global community. Through purposeful engagement and principled diplomacy, our country has remained active and visible on the international stage, contributing meaningfully to global dialogue and cooperation. Notably, The Gambia has continued to play a leading role within the international community, including its position as Chair of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

During the year under review, several key milestones were registered. These include the convening of the first European Union–Gambia Partnership Meeting under the Samoa Agreement, as well as The Gambia’s active participation in major international platforms such as the EU–AU Summit. These engagements have further strengthened our bilateral and multilateral relations while advancing our national development priorities.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all our bilateral and multilateral partners whose continued technical, financial, and policy support has complemented Government’s efforts. Their contributions have played a vital role in strengthening our national response to development challenges and in supporting our journey towards sustainable growth and stability.

As a nation, we remain committed to openness, dialogue, and cooperation. We extend a hand of friendship to all nations, near and far, guided by mutual respect and shared values. In doing so, we remain ever conscious that our voice on the international stage carries the dignity, aspirations, and resilience of the Gambian people.

We also recognise the indispensable role of our development partners in advancing our national priorities. Their solidarity continues to remind us that The Gambia is not alone in its pursuit of progress. Through these partnerships, we are better positioned to transform challenges into opportunities and to build a more inclusive and prosperous future for all.

As we move forward, my Government will continue to prioritise diplomacy as a key instrument for national development strengthening partnerships, expanding opportunities, and ensuring that no Gambian is left behind.

— **H.E. Adama Barrow (SONA Message 2026)**
President of the Republic of The Gambia

FOREWORD

Setting Our Diplomatic Agenda for 2026



As we begin a new year, we do so with clarity of purpose and renewed commitment to advancing our nation's interests on the global stage. The evolving international landscape presents both significant challenges and valuable opportunities. In this environment, principled, proactive, and strategic diplomacy remains essential.

Our foreign policy this year will continue to be guided by three core priorities: strengthening bilateral and multilateral partnerships, advancing economic diplomacy, and safeguarding the interests of our citizens at home and abroad.

First, we are deepening engagement with longstanding partners while expanding relations with emerging economies and strategic regions. Constructive dialogue, mutual respect, and shared prosperity remain the foundation of our international engagements. Through high-level visits, strategic dialogues, and participation in multilateral forums, we are ensuring that our country remains an active and respected voice in global affairs.

Second, economic diplomacy will be central to our external engagement. Attracting investment, expanding trade, supporting innovation, and promoting sustainable development are not merely economic objectives they are national priorities. Our missions abroad are increasingly serving as gateways for trade promotion, business facilitation, and partnership-building. This year, we will intensify efforts to open new markets for our exporters and position our country as a competitive destination for responsible investment.

Third, the protection and service of our citizens abroad remains a core responsibility of this Ministry.

We are committed to improving consular services, strengthening crisis response mechanisms, and enhancing engagement with our diaspora communities. Our citizens are our greatest ambassadors, and their welfare and success remain central to our diplomatic mission.

We also recognize that diplomacy today extends beyond traditional state-to-state relations. Climate change, global health, digital transformation, migration, and peace building require collaborative and innovative approaches. Our Ministry is committed to contributing constructively to global solutions while ensuring that national interests remain firmly protected.

This quarterly newsletter reflects our commitment to transparency, engagement, and accountability. It provides insight into our activities, partnerships, and impact. Diplomacy often unfolds quietly, but its outcomes shape trade flows, security cooperation, development opportunities, and international reputation. Through this publication, we aim to bring greater visibility to the work carried out daily by our diplomats and staff across the world.

As we move forward, we do so with confidence in our diplomatic corps, appreciation for our partners, and optimism about the opportunities ahead. Together, we will continue to strengthen our country's global presence, protect our national interests, and contribute to a more stable and prosperous international community.

I invite you to follow our journey throughout the year as we work to deliver meaningful and measurable diplomatic impact.

H.E. Sering Modou Njie
 MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND
 GAMBIANS ABROAD

LEADERSHIP

His Excellency Sering Modou Njie, born on April 14, 1970, in Medina Sering Mass, The Gambia, has a distinguished career in military, diplomacy, and politics. He was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in July 2025, leading the nation's foreign policy and diaspora engagement. Previously, he served as Minister of Defence (2022-2025) and held various diplomatic roles, including Ambassador to Türkiye.

Njie has over two decades of military experience, retiring as Brigadier General, with roles such as Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Republican National Guard, Contingent Commander GAM COY 9, and Commander in UN missions. He holds a Bachelor's in Political Science and a Master's in International Relations. His career is marked by numerous national and international honors, reflecting his dedication to service and leadership in advancing The Gambia's global engagement.



Hon. Sering Modou Njie

HONOURABLE MINISTER

Ambassador Lang Yabou took office on September 5, 2022, after serving as The Gambia's Permanent Representative to the UN from October 1, 2018, to September 1, 2022. Before that, he was the Ambassador to Spain from 2013 to 2018, with additional roles in Italy, Greece, Malta, and various international organizations. His previous positions include Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Deputy High Commissioner in Nigeria. Yabou also served in London and held roles in the Ministry of Health and Personnel Management Office. He has over 25 years of diplomatic experience and holds a master's in human resource management and a bachelor's in commerce, along with courses in diplomacy and international relations.



Amb. Lang Yabou

PERMANENT SECRETARY I & HEAD OF DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

Ms. Fatou Kinneh Jobe is a senior Gambian diplomat with over 15 years of experience in foreign service and public administration. She currently serves as Permanent Secretary II at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad. She has held senior leadership roles across government, including Permanent Secretary at the Office of the President and at the Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure. She also served as Deputy Head of Mission at The Gambia High Commissions in Senegal and China, contributing to key bilateral and multilateral engagements.

Ms. Jobe holds a Master's in International Affairs and a Bachelor's in Computer Science from Ming Chuan University, Taiwan, and continues to support The Gambia's foreign policy and international engagement efforts.

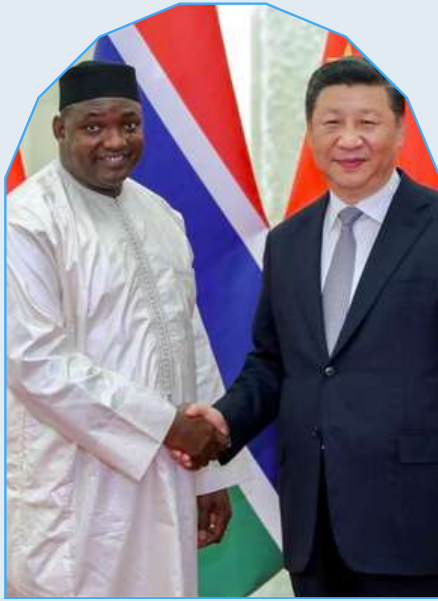


Ms. Fatou Kinneh Jobe

PERMANENT SECRETARY II

SPECIAL FEATURE

Gambia-China Decade Of Renewed Partnership



Ten years ago, The Gambia and China took a pivotal step by resuming diplomatic relations after a two-decade hiatus. That decision, grounded in mutual respect and the reaffirmation of the One-China principle, has since blossomed into a partnership that is reshaping The Gambia's infrastructure, economy, and international

standing. As the two nations mark this milestone, it is worth examining the key achievements of the past decade and considering the vast potential that lies ahead, especially against the backdrop of China's deepened engagement with Africa.

A foundation of political consensus

The political bedrock of this renewed relationship was laid in 2016 when The Gambia formally recognized the One-China policy. What began as a political pronouncement has since acquired the force of law: the National Assembly of The Gambia recently affirmed the policy, making it a legal commitment rather than a mere diplomatic gesture. This clarity of purpose will allow both sides to move forward with confidence, opening the door for sustained cooperation.

Since the resumption of ties ten years ago, high-level exchanges have steadily increased. Under the framework of the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), The Gambia has participated in successive summits, most notably the 2024 Beijing Summit where China elevated its ties with Africa to an “all-weather” level. That upgrade signals a strategic deepening: For a small West African nation like The Gambia, it translates into a reliable, long-term partner willing to invest in projects that address core development challenges.

Infrastructure that transforms lives

Perhaps the most visible fruits of the past decade are found in The Gambia's eastern reaches. The Upper River Region (URR) had long suffered from a crippling absence of bridges, forcing communities to rely on rickety canoes while navigating waters shared with hippos and crocodiles. That dangerous reality has now been consigned to history.

Four bridges, the major crossings at Basse and Fatoto, alongside smaller ones at Suduwol and Chamoi now span the region's waterways, complemented by 51 kilometres of ring roads and three asphalt arteries connecting Basse, Fatoto, and Koina. With an investment of at least USD80 million, this infrastructure network has done more than shorten travel times. It has integrated the URR into the national highway system for the first time, linking Gambian farmers and traders directly to Senegalese markets and the wider sub-region. Cross-border commerce, once hampered by seasonal impassability, now flows smoothly. In a rural area previously neglected, these roads and bridges have become catalysts for trade, investment, and social mobility.

Equally transformative is the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Centre, a USD50 million ultra-modern facility overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. With a gross floor area of 14,000 square metres, it boasts a 1,000-seat conference hall, multiple meeting rooms, banquet

halls, and press facilities. Completed in time for The Gambia's hosting of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) summit the second-largest intergovernmental gathering in the world. The centre has positioned Banjul as a viable venue for international diplomacy and business conferences. Such a landmark project not only bolsters national pride but also creates a new economic niche in meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) tourism.

Deepening economic ties

Trade relations between The Gambia and China date back to 1975, but the post-2016 era has given them new institutional momentum. A duty-free agreement signed in 2017 lowered barriers for Gambian exports, while a joint commission on trade established in 2018 provided a structured platform for addressing market access and investment issues. In 2019, The Gambia participated in the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) under the FOCAC framework, showcasing its products to one of the world's largest consumer markets. These mechanisms have yielded tangible results. Trade volumes have risen steadily, and the Dakar Action Plan emerging from FOCAC 2021 continues to emphasise the expansion of economic cooperation between China, the world's largest developing country and Africa, the continent with the highest concentration of developing nations. For The Gambia, this translates into opportunities beyond simple trade: Chinese investment in agriculture, light manufacturing, and energy could help diversify an economy still heavily reliant on groundnuts and tourism.

People-to-people bridges

Diplomatic rapprochement has also opened doors for human exchange. Since 2016, more than 2,000 Gambians have visited China, ranging from government officials and businesspeople to students and cultural envoys. These visits foster mutual understanding and create networks that facilitate future collaboration. These exchanges have been given a major boost after the Chinese Embassy in Banjul began processing visas for Gambians, ending a nightmarish experience of traveling to neighboring Senegal to apply for a Chinese visa while educational scholarships and vocational training programmes are equipping Gambian youth with skills aligned with national development priorities.

The next decade

As the partnership enters its second decade, the foundation laid thus far provides a strong launchpad. The “all-weather” status announced at FOCAC 2024 implies a commitment to support The Gambia's long-term development goals, including its National Development Plan (NDP).

Infrastructure, while already impressive, still has room to grow: expanding the road network to other underserved regions, possibility of bridging the Banjul-Barra waterway, building the country's first railway network and investing in renewable energy could be logical next steps. Trade diversification remains a promising frontier. The Gambia's potential in horticulture, cashew processing, and fisheries could benefit from Chinese technology and market linkages.

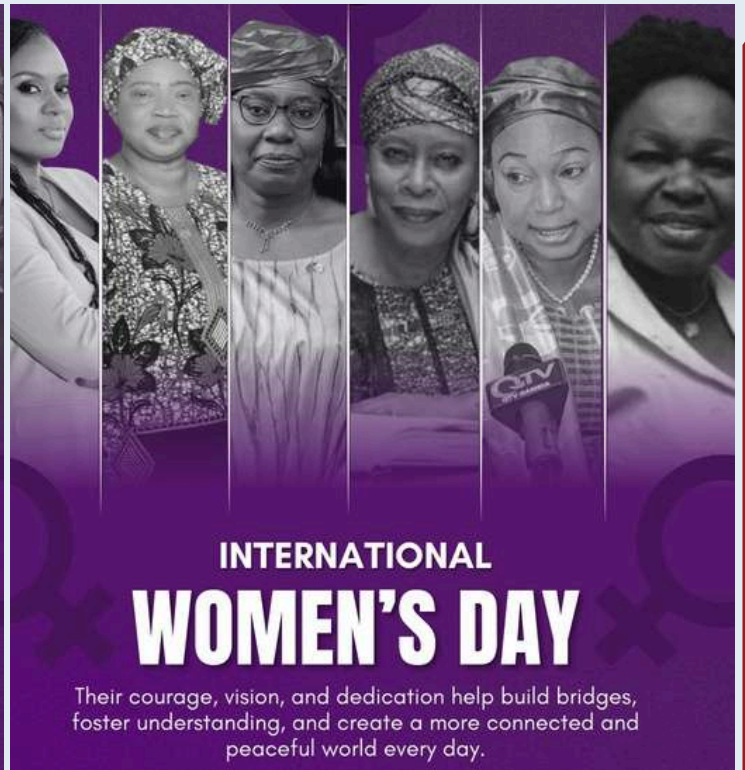
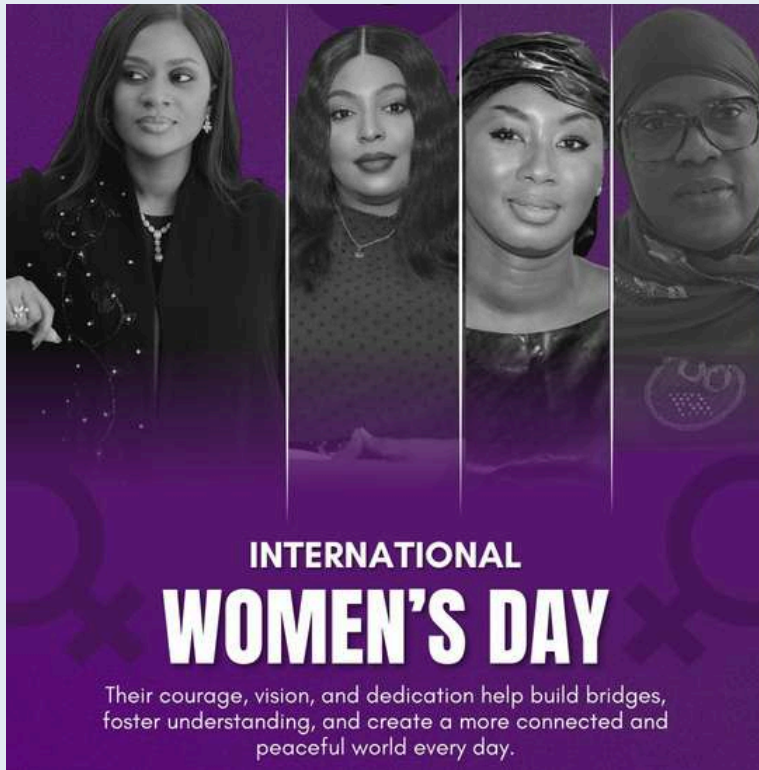
Meanwhile, the conference centre points toward a future where The Gambia hosts more regional and international gatherings, generating revenue and enhancing its diplomatic profile.

There is also scope for deepening cooperation in health, digital infrastructure, and climate resilience areas where China has demonstrated expertise and Africa has urgent needs. As the largest developing country partners with a nation on the front lines of climate change, adaptation projects such as coastal protection and sustainable agriculture could become pillars of the bilateral agenda. The parliamentary backing of the One-China policy ensures that the bilateral relationship rests on a stable political foundation. This predictability is invaluable for investors and development partners alike.

Ten years ago, the resumption of diplomatic ties was a decision driven by shared interests and pragmatic diplomacy. Today, that decision is validated by bridges that unite communities, a conference centre that elevates The Gambia's global standing, and growing trade that creates livelihoods. Looking forward, the opportunity lies in sustaining this momentum, ensuring that the partnership continues to deliver tangible benefits for ordinary Gambians while contributing to the broader vision of Africa-China cooperation. If the first decade is any indication, the next ten years hold even greater promise.

FEATURE & SPECIAL FEATURE

Honouring Women on International Women's Day 2026



As the world celebrates International Women's Day, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad proudly recognises the extraordinary contributions of women in shaping The Gambia's foreign policy, advancing diplomacy, and promoting international partnerships that drive national development.

Women across our Ministry, embassies, missions, and multilateral institutions play a pivotal role in representing the country with excellence and integrity. From our esteemed female directors leading key departments to our ambassadors championing The Gambia's interests abroad, and our Permanent Secretary whose leadership exemplifies dedication and vision, these women continue to demonstrate professionalism, resilience, and unwavering commitment to service.

Their work spans a wide spectrum: negotiating and strengthening bilateral and multilateral relations, providing leadership in policy formulation, implementing development initiatives, and fostering inclusive diplomacy that amplifies the voices of The Gambia on the global stage.

Each engagement reflects their dedication to advancing not only the country's foreign policy goals but also the broader ideals of cooperation, peace, and sustainable development.

Today, we pay special tribute to the women within the Ministry and across our missions, recognising their achievements, expertise, and leadership. Their contributions inspire a culture of excellence, empower future generations, and reinforce the principle that women's voices are integral to shaping national and international discourse.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirms its commitment to creating an inclusive environment where women can thrive, lead, and continue to make meaningful contributions to diplomacy, international cooperation, and national development. As we celebrate their achievements today, we also acknowledge the critical role they play every day in advancing The Gambia's interests, values, and standing in the global community.

#HappyInternationalWomensDay2026 🌸

MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Gambia Strengthens Continental Presence at AU Summit in Addis Ababa



H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, highlighted The Gambia’s robust diplomatic engagement at the recently concluded African Union Summit in Addis Ababa. The summit provided a platform for The Gambia to

assert its role at both bilateral and multilateral levels, engaging with partner countries and international institutions on key development priorities.

Led by the Vice President and accompanied by senior cabinet ministers, including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Justice, and Higher Education, the Gambian delegation participated in discussions on peace and security, economic development, and climate resilience — themes central to Africa’s collective future. Bilateral meetings focused on advancing The Gambia’s development agenda and fostering targeted cooperation with strategic partners.

Minister Njie underscored the country’s commitment to international legal standards, noting the near-completion of treaty ratification as evidence of The Gambia’s adherence to global norms and its credibility in multilateral fora. The Minister affirmed that the country’s active participation and constructive contributions have positioned The Gambia as a trusted and influential voice in shaping continental decisions.

Reflecting on the outcomes, Minister Njie commended the delegation for its cohesive and proactive approach, emphasizing that engagements in Addis Ababa will translate into actionable follow-ups to advance both national and continental priorities.

Gambia’s Dr. Satang Nabaneh Elected to ACERWC

A significant milestone was recorded for the Republic of The Gambia following the election of Dr. Satang Nabaneh as a Member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).

Dr. Nabaneh secured 43 votes during elections held at the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 11 February 2026.

Her election represents a notable achievement for The Gambia and reflects the strong confidence of Member States in her distinguished record as a legal scholar, human rights expert, and advocate for the promotion and protection of children’s rights across Africa.

With extensive experience in child rights, gender equality, legal reform, and engagement within the African human rights system, Dr. Nabaneh brings to the Committee a wealth of academic expertise and practical experience at national, regional, and international levels.



Her longstanding contributions to strengthening child protection frameworks and advancing normative standards within the African Union system have earned wide recognition.

The Government of The Gambia expresses profound appreciation to African Union Member States for their support and trust. This election reaffirms the country's continued commitment to the promotion and protection of children's rights and to advancing the objectives of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

The Government warmly congratulates Dr. Nabaneh on this well-deserved achievement and assures her of its full support as she undertakes this important continental mandate.

A Historic Milestone for The Gambia

Addis Ababa, 11 February 2026: Dr. Satang Nabaneh's election to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) marks a proud and historic milestone for The Gambia .

She becomes the first Gambian ever elected to serve on this distinguished continental body and the youngest expert among its current members a remarkable achievement that reflects both national pride and generational leadership in advancing children's rights across Africa.

Dr. Nabaneh's journey is both symbolic and inspiring. From serving as the first Speaker of The Gambia's Children's Parliament to becoming a respected legal scholar and human rights advocate, her path embodies a lifelong dedication to the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of the African child.

Congratulating her on this landmark achievement, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, Hon. Sering Modou Njie, described the election as a moment of national pride:



“Dr. Nabaneh’s election is a proud moment for our nation. Her journey from child parliamentarian to ACERWC Expert is truly inspirational. Her deep expertise in constitutional law and child protection will undoubtedly strengthen the Committee’s mandate. This achievement is also the result of the tireless efforts of our Permanent Mission of The Gambia to the African Union, numerous diplomatic engagements, and the strong support of our regional partners reaffirming The Gambia’s leadership in advancing human rights on the international stage.”

This landmark achievement not only elevates The Gambia’s voice within Africa’s human rights architecture, but also signals a new chapter of leadership in advancing the rights and welfare of children across the continent.

Minister Njie Holds Series of Strategic Bilateral Meetings at AU Summit

On the margins of the 48th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Addis Ababa, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of The Gambia , held a series of high-level bilateral engagements. The Minister was accompanied by Permanent Secretary II, Ms. Fatou Kinneh Jobe, and technical officials.

These meetings focused on strengthening bilateral relations, expanding sectoral cooperation, and advancing shared continental priorities.



Engagement with Kenya

Discussions with H.E. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Minister of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs of the Kenya , centered on reinforcing bilateral ties and deepening collaboration in peacekeeping and security cooperation.

Minister Mudavadi introduced Professor Phoebe Okowa, Kenya's candidate for a full nine-year term (2027–2036) as Judge of the International Court of Justice.

Minister Njie assured Kenya of The Gambia's full support for her candidacy, commending her historic achievement as the first Kenyan and African woman to sit on the Court.

Both sides also explored possible joint participation in peacekeeping operations, including the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti led by Kenya under UN authorization. Minister Njie commended Kenya's leadership role in international peace efforts.



Engagement with Rwanda

In discussions with H.E. Olivier Nduhungirehe, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Rwanda , both sides explored avenues for enhanced South-South cooperation.

Priority areas identified included defense collaboration, diplomatic training and capacity- building, ICT, and the digital economy. The Ministers agreed on the importance of establishing a General Cooperation Agreement to provide a structured framework for future collaboration.



Engagement with Cabo Verde

Talks with H.E. José Luís Livramento de Brito, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration of Cabo Verde , focused on mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

Minister Njie highlighted opportunities in construction and infrastructure, particularly the importation of basalt as a key aggregate for The Gambia's growing construction sector. He also proposed easing visa processes to facilitate trade and business exchanges

Both Ministers discussed expanding cooperation into tourism and hospitality, blue economy initiatives, renewable energy, maritime studies, digital governance, and e-commerce. It was agreed that these proposals would be pursued through structured exchange visits and formalized frameworks.



Engagement with Portugal

Minister Njie also held talks with H.E. Ambassador Rita Laranjinha, Special Envoy for Africa of the Portugal. Discussions covered conflict prevention, maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea, regional developments in Guinea-Bissau and the Sahel, and cooperation within ECOWAS frameworks. Migration management and the regularization of undocumented Gambian nationals were also addressed.

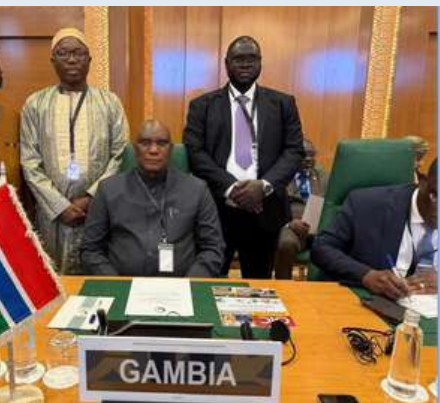
Both sides agreed that the meeting marked an important step in deepening Africa–Portugal engagement and enhancing bilateral cooperation.



Engagement with Egypt

A tête-à-tête meeting was held with H.E. Dr. Badr Abdelatty, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Egypt , focusing on strengthening bilateral diplomatic engagement and cooperation on matters of mutual interest.

The Gambia Addresses OIC Emergency Session on the Situation in Somalia



On 10 January 2026, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia , addressed the Extraordinary Emergency Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia .

The Minister reiterated The Gambia’s categorical rejection of actions that undermine the sovereignty of OIC Member States and called on the international community, including the United Nations and the African Union, to uphold Somalia’s unity and territorial integrity.

The Emergency Session was convened at the request of the Federal Republic of Somalia following recent developments concerning the purported recognition of “Somaliland” as an independent state.

He further expressed solidarity with the Government and people of Somalia and emphasized the importance of collective action by OIC Member States to safeguard regional stability and reinforce respect for international legality.

Speaking in his capacity as Chair of the 15th OIC Islamic Summit, Minister Njie reaffirmed The Gambia’s firm and principled position in support of Somalia’s sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity. He underscored that any unilateral action seeking to alter the status or borders of Somalia constitutes a violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the OIC Charter, and the Constitutive Act of the African Union .

The intervention reflects The Gambia’s active leadership within the OIC and its continued commitment to defending the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and multilateral cooperation.

Foreign Minister Njie Addresses Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting



The Honourable Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, addressed fellow Foreign Ministers at the Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting (CFAMM) in London, expressing gratitude to the Chair and the Commonwealth

cooperation, and collective action among nations. In recognition of International Women's Day, he paid tribute to women leaders and women worldwide whose contributions strengthen societies and institutions.

Reflecting on The Gambia's engagement with the Commonwealth since rejoining eight years ago, Minister Njie emphasized the critical support received in areas such as democratic governance, the Commonwealth Cyber Declaration, sustainable development initiatives, public financial management through the Meridian Debt Management System, and judicial and electoral sector support.



He stressed the importance of ensuring that the Commonwealth delivers tangible results, calling for reforms that prioritize substance,

Secretariat for convening the meeting at a pivotal moment for international cooperation.

Minister Njie highlighted the evolving global landscape and the pressing need for dialogue,



strengthen democratic resilience, and promote preventive diplomacy in line with the Commonwealth Charter.

On economic cooperation, Minister Njie urged member states to expand trade opportunities, support small and medium enterprises, and foster investment partnerships. He also emphasized the urgent challenge of climate change for vulnerable states, advocating for continued prioritization of climate finance and resilience-building initiatives. Concluding his address, Minister Njie reaffirmed The Gambia's commitment to working constructively with all Commonwealth partners to ensure the organization remains relevant, responsive, and effective in meeting the evolving needs of its member states.

The Gambia Deepens Engagement on Global Development and Human Rights

During the first quarter of 2026, the Permanent Mission of The Gambia to the United Nations in New York remained actively engaged in advancing The Gambia’s multilateral diplomacy through participation in key global discussions on gender equality, sustainable development, water governance, and international law.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW70)

The Mission participated in the 70th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW70) held in New York from 9–19 March 2026. Honourable Fatou Kinteh, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Welfare, delivered statements on behalf of the African Group and The Gambia, reaffirming the country’s commitment to women’s empowerment and gender equality.

The Mission also coordinated side events on ending violence against women and promoting women’s leadership, while facilitating bilateral engagements and partnerships.



United Nations Water Conference Preparatory Meeting

The Mission participated in the High-Level Preparatory Meeting for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference held in Dakar, Senegal. The Gambian delegation highlighted challenges relating to climate change, water security, and sustainable water management, while calling for stronger international cooperation and investment in water infrastructure.

Crimes Against Humanity Convention Process

The Gambia was elected by consensus as Vice Chair of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity. Ms. Marang Sanyang, Counsellor and Legal Advisor, will serve as Vice Chair under the guidance of H.E. Ambassador Lamin B. Dibba. These engagements reflect The Gambia’s continued commitment to multilateral cooperation, international law, sustainable development, and global diplomacy.



The Gambia Assumes Key Leadership Roles in the OACPS



The Republic of The Gambia has assumed strategic leadership positions within the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), following a hybrid handing-over ceremony on 2 February 2026 at the OACPS Headquarters in Brussels.

H.E. Ambassador Pa Musa Jobarteh, Ambassador of The Gambia to Belgium and the European Union, took over the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ambassadors (COA) from H.E. Ambassador Moses Kouni Mose of the Solomon Islands. The Gambia will hold this Chairmanship for six months, until 31 July 2026. The COA, a principal organ of the OACPS, represents Member States, oversees implementation of Council decisions, and provides strategic guidance to the Secretariat. Ambassador Jobarteh's leadership will focus on fostering consensus among Member States and strengthening the effectiveness of the Organisation.

At the ministerial level, Honourable Seedy K. M. Keita, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, assumed the Presidency of the OACPS Council of Ministers, succeeding Honourable Peter Shanel Agovaka of the Solomon Islands. In this role, Minister Keita will guide policy implementation and development cooperation initiatives with the European Union, reinforcing governance, institutional stability, and multilateral confidence within the OACPS.

During The Gambia's tenure, key priorities include supporting governance reforms, advancing preparations for the 11th OACPS Summit in Equatorial Guinea (27–29 March 2026), overseeing implementation of the Samoa Agreement with the EU, and ensuring effective oversight of approved programmes and budgets.

Founded in 1975, the OACPS is composed of 79 Member States 48 from sub-Saharan Africa, 16 from the Caribbean, and 15 from the Pacific and is dedicated to sustainable development and the economic, social, and political well-being of its peoples. The Organisation's governance structure includes the Summit of Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers, the Committee of Ambassadors, the Secretariat, and the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, which provides political oversight.

The Gambia's leadership roles in the OACPS reflect its growing influence in multilateral diplomacy and its commitment to advancing sustainable development, regional integration, and international cooperation.

The Gambia Leads LDC Coordination and Expands Influence at Global Platforms

During the first quarter of 2026, the Permanent Mission of The Gambia in Geneva remained actively engaged across key multilateral platforms, notably the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Human Rights Council, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Through its leadership roles, the Mission advanced The Gambia's national interests while contributing to the collective priorities of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the African Group.

World Trade Organization (WTO)

The Gambia's most notable engagement was at the 14th WTO Ministerial Conference in Yaoundé from the 26–29 March 2026. As Coordinator of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), H.E Ambassador Prof. Muhammadou M.O Kah led the 35 members of the Group in advancing an LDC Package comprising LDC graduation, Phase 3 of the Enhanced Integrated Framework, the Services Waiver, and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Article 66.2). The Vice President of The Gambia H.E Muhammed B.S Jallow was the special guest at the launching ceremony of Phase 3 of the EIF. He also delivered remarks at the opening ceremony of the Ministerial Conference.



Human Rights Council (HRC)

As a member of the Human Rights Council, the Mission actively participated in the 61st Session of the Human Rights Council from 23 February to 31 March 2026, delivering 30 statements across key debates and dialogues, and voted in all the 38 resolutions adopted at the session. The Mission delivered a statement in the special debates called by the Gulf states in reaction to the attacks by Iran against civilian infrastructure in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, and United Arab Emirates. The Mission also delivered a statement in the special debate on the massacre of the school girls in Iran as a result of the US military strike.

Building on the success of The Gambia's transitional justice project, the Mission co-led with Colombia, the delivery of a joint statement on the importance of victim-centred accountability for human rights violations. The joint statement received broad cross-regional support, with over 25 states co-sponsoring the initiative.

As the pen holder of the core group of states that sponsored the HRC Resolution on human rights and the culture of peace, the Mission led efforts to organise a high-level panel discussion on the resolution on 4 March 2026. H.E Amb. Prof. Muhammadou M.O Kah delivered a statement on The Gambia's experience and perspectives on peacebuilding in line with our national strategy on transitional justice and advancing its culture of peace agenda.



The Gambia Strengthens Multilateral Role at 11th OACPS Summit



On 29th March 2026, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, represented President Adama Barrow at the 11th Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) Summit in Equatorial Guinea.

Leading The Gambia's delegation, Minister Njie highlighted the country's current Presidency of the OACPS Council of Ministers, showcasing The Gambia's leadership and commitment to advancing the organisation's collective priorities.

The summit convened member states to discuss sustainable development, economic cooperation, and strengthened global partnerships. Minister Njie's participation underscores The Gambia's dedication to multilateral engagement and fostering collaboration across the OACPS framework.

The delegation included key officials such as Hon. Seedy Keita (Finance and Economic Affairs), Mr. Dawda Jallow (Attorney General and Minister of Justice), Mrs. Mariam Khan-Jallow (Director of European Affairs), H.E. Pa Musa Jobarteh (Ambassador in Brussels), Mr. Musa Camara (Deputy Head of Mission), and Ms. Awa Sey (Second Secretary).



BILATERAL RELATIONS & DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENTS

The Gambia and China Sign ¥100 Million Grant Agreement to Advance Development Cooperation



The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, expressed appreciation for China’s continued solidarity and practical, results-oriented partnership. He noted that cooperation between the two countries spans infrastructure, healthcare, agriculture, capacity building, and humanitarian assistance reflecting a comprehensive and evolving development partnership.

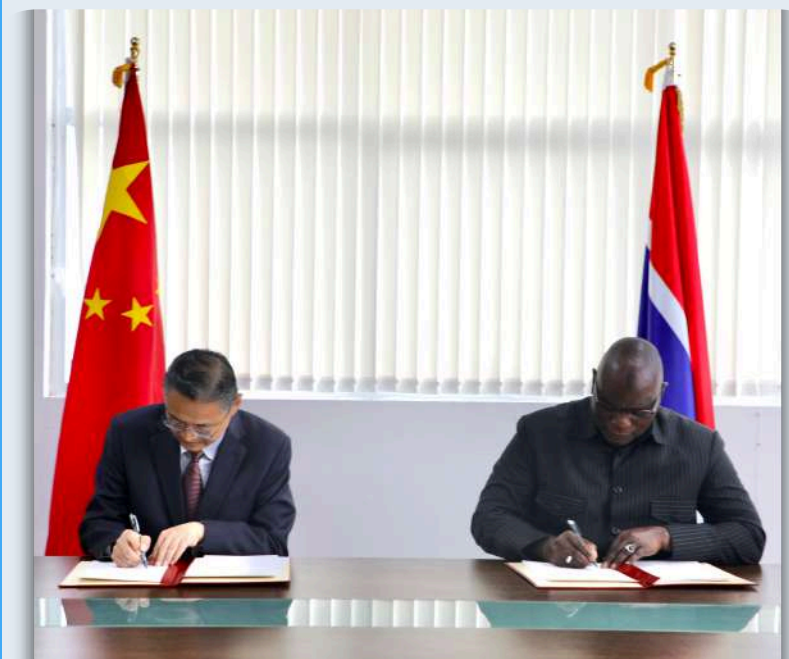
The Minister reaffirmed The Gambia’s commitment to the One-China Principle and underscored the importance of mutual respect, trust, and shared development objectives as the foundation of bilateral relations.

On 6 January 2026, the Government of the Republic of The Gambia and the Government of the People’s Republic of China signed a Grant Assistance Agreement amounting to 100 million Chinese yuan, further strengthening strategic bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

H.E. Liu Jin, Ambassador of China to The Gambia, reiterated China’s commitment to supporting The Gambia’s development priorities and emphasized the value of South–South cooperation in delivering tangible benefits to communities.

The agreement, signed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Banjul, will finance priority “small but smart” development projects aligned with The Gambia’s national development agenda. The grant is expected to support socio-economic initiatives that directly improve livelihoods and promote sustainable growth.

The Government of The Gambia has committed to ensuring transparent and effective implementation of the grant to maximize developmental impact.



This agreement marks another milestone in the growing partnership between The Gambia and China and reinforces both countries’ shared commitment to cooperation for development and prosperity.



BILATERAL RELATIONS & DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENTS

The Gambia and the United States Reaffirm Strong Bilateral Relations



H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia, welcomed H.E. Ambassador Eugene S. Young, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of the United States Embassy in Banjul, for high-level discussions aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation.

The dialogue highlighted the longstanding partnership between the two countries, emphasizing peace, security, development, and migration management.

Ambassador Young commended The Gambia’s contributions to international peacekeeping, including deployment of personnel to UN missions, and underscored ongoing collaboration to address irregular migration while promoting lawful migration pathways.

Minister Njie expressed gratitude for U.S. support across health, education, institutional capacity-building, and other development initiatives, noting the tangible impact of programmes such as school feeding and technical assistance. The meeting also explored avenues to enhance economic cooperation, including private sector engagement, investment, and digital connectivity.

Regional and international cooperation featured prominently, with the Minister reaffirming The Gambia’s commitment to sustained collaboration with the United States in peacekeeping, capacity-building, and operational readiness, reflecting the country’s active role in global security efforts.

Both parties concluded the discussions by reaffirming their commitment to ongoing dialogue, mutual respect, and the continued strengthening of the friendly and strategic partnership between The Gambia and the United States.



The Gambia and Japan Sign ¥200 Million Food Assistance Agreement



Early this year, the Governments of The Gambia and Japan signed Exchange Notes formalizing Japanese food assistance amounting to ¥200 million (approximately D95 million) under the Japanese Food Assistance Programme. The signing took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad.

Under the agreement, Japan will provide 1,776 metric tons of rice to support food and nutritional security nationwide.

The assistance will complement ongoing government initiatives to strengthen food availability and support vulnerable populations.

Hon. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, expressed appreciation for Japan's continued partnership and noted that the support comes at a critical time to bolster food security interventions. H.E. Akamatsu Takeshi, Japanese Ambassador to The Gambia, highlighted that the programme also aims to support long-term development, with proceeds from the domestic sale of rice funding priority agricultural initiatives such as modernising farming equipment, procuring improved seeds and fertilisers, and enhancing overall productivity.

Both governments reaffirmed their commitment to deepening bilateral relations anchored in shared values, including democracy, rule of law, and human rights, while supporting The Gambia's broader sustainable development agenda.

The Gambia and Saudi Arabia Strengthen Bilateral Cooperation on Margins of the 22nd Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers -OIC



On 10 January 2026, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia, held bilateral talks with H.E. Waleed A. Elkhareiji, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the margins of the 22nd Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Jeddah.

Both sides reviewed progress in bilateral engagement and explored avenues to further strengthen collaboration in political consultation, economic cooperation, development assistance, trade, investment, and capacity building.

Minister Njie expressed appreciation for Saudi Arabia's continued support to The Gambia, particularly in development and humanitarian initiatives aligned with national priorities. The Vice Minister reiterated the Kingdom's commitment to deepening bilateral ties and enhancing practical cooperation.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to sustain high-level engagement and further consolidate the strong partnership between the two countries.

Minister Njie Holds Bilateral Talks with Swiss Ambassador



H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia, met with H.E. Pietro Mona, Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation accredited to The Gambia, to discuss strengthening bilateral relations and diplomatic engagement between the two countries.

The meeting provided a platform to exchange views on areas of mutual interest and explore opportunities to deepen cooperation. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing diplomatic ties and advancing collaborative initiatives that support shared development and governance priorities.

Minister Njie Receives Senegal's Secretary of State for Senegalese Abroad



Discussions focused on the longstanding and historic relations between The Gambia and Senegal, with particular emphasis on cooperation in migration management, consular affairs, and the welfare of Senegalese and Gambian nationals residing in both countries.

Both sides reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening institutional collaboration and addressing migration-related matters through continued dialogue and cooperation.

As part of his programme in The Gambia, Mr. Diouf also travelled to Farafenni on 20 February 2026 to meet with members of the Senegalese community residing in the area, providing an opportunity for direct engagement on issues affecting Senegalese nationals abroad.

The engagement further underscored the strong partnership between The Gambia and Senegal and their mutual commitment to promoting the well-being of their citizens and advancing bilateral cooperation.

The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, received Mr. Amadou Cherif Diouf, Secretary of State for Senegalese Abroad of the Republic of Senegal, during a courtesy call at the Ministry's headquarters in Banjul.

The meeting was attended by Permanent Secretary Ambassador Lang Yabou and Director Swaibou Barry, while Mr. Diouf was accompanied by H.E. Mariame Sy, High Commissioner of the Republic of Senegal to The Gambia.

Minister Njie Holds Talks with OACPS Secretary General

The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, held a meeting with H.E. Mousa Saleh Batraki, Secretary General of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), at the Ministry's headquarters in Banjul.

The meeting formed part of the Secretary General's official engagements during his visit to The Gambia and provided an opportunity for both sides to exchange views on key institutional priorities within the OACPS framework.

Discussions focused on preparations for the 11th OACPS Summit of Heads of State and Government, scheduled to take place in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.



The Secretary General also briefed the Minister on ongoing reform efforts within the organisation and recent developments within the OACPS Committee of Ambassadors in Brussels, where The Gambia currently holds the chairmanship.

Minister Njie welcomed the Secretary General and commended ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening cooperation, coordination, and institutional effectiveness among OACPS Member States. He underscored the importance of transparency, accountability, and sustained engagement with Member States in advancing the organisation's collective priorities.

For his part, Secretary General Batraki expressed appreciation for the warm reception and reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to enhancing collaboration and solidarity among its Member States.

The Secretary General was accompanied by H.E. Ambassador Pa Musa Jobarteh, The Gambia's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and the European Union, as well as Mr. Musa Camara, Deputy Head of Mission, and other officials.

Political Consultations Strengthen Gambia–Spain Relations



The Republic of The Gambia and the Kingdom of Spain held Political Consultations on Friday, 27th February 2026, reaffirming the strong and cordial ties between the two nations.

The discussions were led by H.E. Mr. Diego Martinez Belio, State Secretary for Foreign and Global Affairs of Spain, and Ambassador Lang Yabou, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of The Gambia.

Convened under the framework of the 2023 Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries, the consultations reviewed the progress of bilateral cooperation and explored new avenues for partnership.

Key areas of focus included political affairs, trade and investment, tourism, education, peace and security, migration management, governance, and global engagement through the UN, AU, and ECOWAS.

Both delegations emphasized the importance of sustained dialogue, coordination, and collaboration to address shared challenges and advance mutual priorities.

The meeting concluded with a mutual commitment to deepening bilateral relations and maintaining regular high-level engagement under the established MOU framework, signaling continued growth in cooperation for the benefit of both peoples.



DIPLOMATIC ACCREDITATIONS

Gambia's High Commissioner to Rwanda Presents Letters of Credence to President Paul Kagame



Her Excellency Salimatta E. T. Touray, Non-Resident High Commissioner of The Gambia to Rwanda, presented her Letters of Credence to President Paul Kagame on 6th March 2026, formally accrediting her as The Gambia's High Commissioner.

Ambassador Touray conveyed greetings from President Adama Barrow and outlined priority areas for cooperation, including security, civil service capacity building, agriculture, trade and investment, migration management, diaspora engagement, and youth employment initiatives. She highlighted Rwanda's progress in digital governance and public service delivery as a model for collaboration.

The High Commissioner reaffirmed The Gambia's commitment to strengthening diplomatic relations, bilateral cooperation, and development partnerships with Rwanda.

Ambassador Bah Presents Copies of Letters of Credence to Brazilian



H.E. Momodou Lamin Bah, Ambassador of The Gambia to the United States, on 2nd March 2026, presented copies of his Letters of Credence to H.E. Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti in Washington, D.C., marking the commencement of his functions as non-resident Ambassador to Brazil.

Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations, with emphasis on expanding cooperation in trade, agriculture, and agro-processing. Both sides highlighted Brazil's expertise in tropical agriculture as a key area for collaboration. The Ambassadors also exchanged views on global developments, underscoring the importance of multilateral dialogue, economic resilience, and cooperation on climate change and sustainable development.

Swedish Ambassador-Designate Presents Copies of Letters of Credence to Minister Njie



The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, received today the Copies of Letters of Credence of H.E. Katrin Månsson, Ambassador-Designate of the Kingdom of Sweden to The Gambia.

Minister Njie welcomed Ambassador Månsson, congratulated her on her appointment, and reaffirmed the Government of The Gambia's commitment to strengthening the longstanding and cordial relations between the two countries. He highlighted areas of potential collaboration, including trade, investment, energy, education, and capacity-building initiatives.

In her remarks, Ambassador Månsson expressed gratitude for the warm reception and conveyed Sweden's commitment to further enhancing the strong bilateral partnership. She emphasized the importance of continued cooperation on regional and global issues, as well as constructive engagement in multilateral fora to advance peace, sustainable development, and shared international priorities.

BILATERAL & REGIONAL COOPERATION

Minister Njie Meets German and ECOWAS Delegation



The Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambians Abroad, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, received a high-level delegation on 24th March 2026, including Mr. Christoph Rauh, Director for Africa at Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), H.E. Klaus Botzet, German Ambassador to The Gambia, ECOWAS Vice-President H.E. Damtien Larbli Tchintchibidja, and ECOWAS Representative H.E. Lily French.

Discussions focused on strengthening The Gambia's strategic partnerships with Germany and ECOWAS, promoting sustainable development, peace, and democratic governance. Minister Njie highlighted the Fund for Regional Stabilisation and Development (FRSD) as a critical initiative supporting local economic empowerment, youth and women's participation, and community resilience.

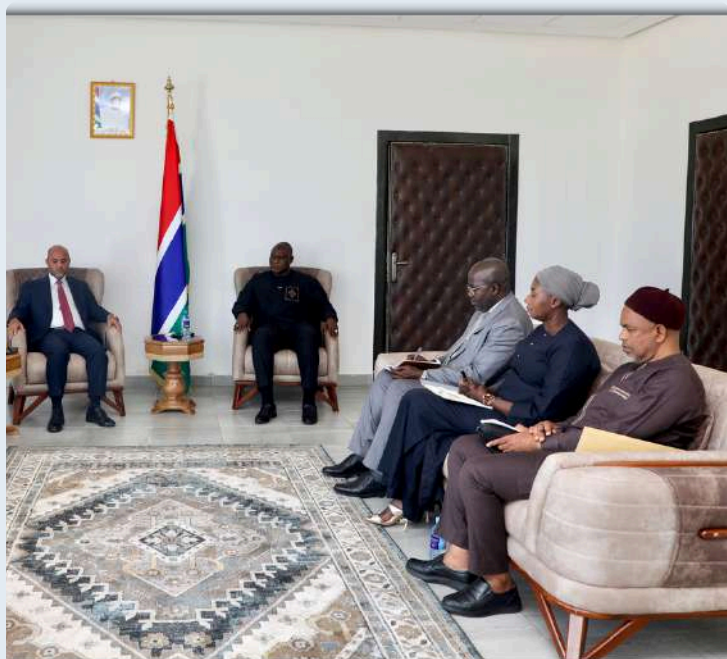
Mr. Rauh commended The Gambia's active engagement on the global stage and expressed interest in further strengthening the country's energy sector. ECOWAS representatives reaffirmed their commitment to regional collaboration and development.

Minister Njie concluded by expressing gratitude for the continued partnership, emphasizing The Gambia's commitment to inclusive, sustainable, and peaceful development through strong regional and international cooperation.



MIGRATION & DIASPORA DIPLOMACY

FM Njie Reaffirms Gambia–Libya Cooperation on Migration and Diaspora Engagement



Minister Njie expressed appreciation for the continued collaboration between both countries in addressing migration challenges, particularly support provided to Gambian nationals in Libya through voluntary return and reintegration programmes implemented in coordination with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). He underscored the importance of ensuring safe, orderly, and dignified migration management.

Discussions also focused on expediting exit clearance procedures for Gambian migrants still awaiting return, strengthening institutional coordination mechanisms, and enhancing protection frameworks for nationals abroad.

The Minister commended the role of the Gambian Diaspora Association in Libya for complementing government efforts and supporting affected nationals.

Ambassador Naseeb reaffirmed Libya’s commitment to continued partnership with The Gambia and expressed his determination to further strengthen bilateral relations during his tenure.

The engagement reflects The Gambia’s sustained diplomatic efforts to address migration through cooperation, dialogue, and practical coordination with key partner countries.

In early January, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, Hon. Sering Modou Njie, received H.E. Munsef Mohammed Haweel Naseeb, Ambassador of the Libya to The Gambia, for discussions focused on migration cooperation and diaspora engagement.

The meeting reaffirmed the longstanding relationship between The Gambia and Libya, grounded in African solidarity and mutual respect.



DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Foreign Minister Njie Receives UNDP Resident Representative



The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, received Ms. Mandisa Mashologu, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative to The Gambia, on a courtesy call at the Ministry.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review progress toward the 2025 development targets and strengthen the ongoing partnership between the Government of The Gambia and UNDP.

Ms. Mashologu briefed the Minister on UNDP The Gambia's achievements, noting that the country office ranked 2nd out of 46 offices in Africa for delivery target accomplishments in 2025.

Minister Njie congratulated Ms. Mashologu and her team for their exemplary work and reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to further enhancing collaboration with UNDP to support national development priorities. Permanent Secretary I, Ambassador Lang Yabou, also attended the meeting and echoed the Minister's commendations, assuring UNDP of the Ministry's continued support and partnership in advancing The Gambia's development agenda.



DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Gambia Strengthens Collaboration with IOM



On 24th March 2026, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, Minister of Foreign Affairs, welcomed Ms. Sibgha Ajaz, Officer in Charge of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in The Gambia, for a strategic dialogue on migration management and related initiatives.

Minister Njie praised IOM as a reliable and professional partner, noting the organization’s continuous support in addressing migration challenges. Permanent Secretary Ambassador Lang Yabou highlighted the strong bilateral collaboration and successful projects over the years.

Ms. Ajaz recognized The Gambia as a “Champion Country” in global migration, commending its leadership through the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration and the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM).

She also lauded the Diaspora and Migration Directorate under Director Ms. Ndumbeh Saho for supporting Gambians abroad and advancing the issue of missing migrants.

The meeting reaffirmed The Gambia’s commitment to enhanced migration governance, best practice sharing, and protection of vulnerable populations in partnership with IOM and other stakeholders.



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT & DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT

Ministry Hosts Inaugural Stakeholders' Diplomatic Event



On 16 January 2026, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of the Republic of The Gambia convened its first-ever Stakeholders' Diplomatic Event in Banjul, marking a significant milestone in strengthening structured engagement with national and international partners.

Held under the theme “Unity in Purpose, Strength in Partnership: Building Bridges of Cooperation for a Better Tomorrow,” the event brought together members of the diplomatic corps, government officials, development partners, private sector representatives, and civil society actors.

In her welcome remarks, Permanent Secretary II Ms. Fatou Kinneh Jobe underscored the importance of inclusive and results-oriented diplomacy anchored in dialogue, accountability, and collaboration to advance national development priorities.

In his address, the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Sering Modou Njie, reviewed key diplomatic achievements in 2025 across bilateral, regional, and multilateral engagements. He highlighted progress in peace and security cooperation, human rights advocacy, migration governance, diaspora engagement, and development partnerships.

The Minister also outlined strategic priorities for 2026, including the establishment of a Foreign Service Academy, expanded bilateral consultations, strengthened policy and legal frameworks for the Foreign Service, and enhanced institutional infrastructure.

The event featured remarks from the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, H.E. Ambassador Luis Domingo Camará de Barros, and a keynote address by the Vice President of the Republic of The Gambia, H.E. Mohammed B.S. Jallow, both of whom emphasized the importance of sustained partnership and dialogue.

A special recognition segment honoured development partners for their continued collaboration. The President of the Republic of The Gambia , H.E. Adama Barrow, was also presented with an award in recognition of his leadership as Chief Diplomat and his commitment to strengthening The Gambia’s international engagement.

The inaugural Stakeholders’ Diplomatic Event reflects the Ministry’s commitment to institutionalizing dialogue, deepening cooperation, and reinforcing The Gambia’s diplomatic footprint in pursuit of national development and shared prosperity.



NATIONAL TRIBUTE

In Memoriam: Hon. Moussa Gibril Bala Gaye



Hon. Moussa Gibril Bala Gaye

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad pays solemn tribute to Hon. Moussa Gibril Bala Gaye, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Gambia, whose passing marks the loss of a distinguished statesman and dedicated public servant.

Hon. Gaye served as Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2005, during which he contributed meaningfully to advancing The Gambia's foreign policy priorities and strengthening the country's diplomatic engagements. His tenure was characterized by professionalism, strategic engagement, and commitment to enhancing The Gambia's presence on the international stage.

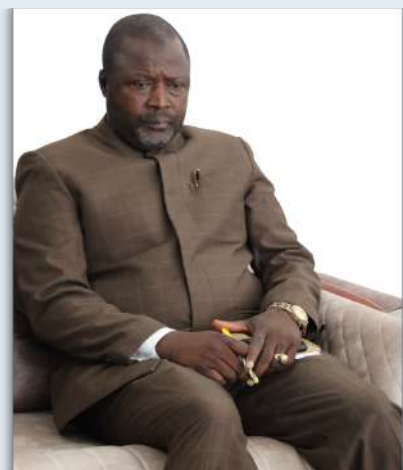
Beyond his service in foreign affairs, he also held the portfolio of Minister of Finance and built a respected career as an international civil servant, economist, banker, and diplomat. His work across national and international institutions reflected both technical expertise and steadfast dedication to public service.

Throughout his career, Hon. Gaye remained guided by integrity, patriotism, and a deep sense of responsibility to national development.

The Ministry extends its heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, former colleagues, and all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

May Almighty Allah grant him Jannatul Firdaus and grant his loved ones strength and comfort during this difficult time.

In Memory of Mr. Alieu Jatta



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambians Abroad mourns the loss of Mr. Alieu Jatta, Counsellor at the African Affairs Directorate, who passed away on Sunday, 1st March 2026, at Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital after a period of illness.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Jatta served with diligence, integrity, and professionalism throughout his career, including as First Secretary at the Gambian Embassy in Brussels and later as a Protocol Officer. His calm demeanor and devotion to duty earned the admiration of colleagues and partners alike.

The Ministry extends its heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues, praying for strength, patience, and comfort during this difficult time.



The Republic of The Gambia


Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Cooperation & Gambians Abroad

“Committed to effective multilateralism, strategic partnerships, and the protection of Gambian interests worldwide.”

**For diplomatic correspondence and consular inquiries, please contact:
Ministry Headquarters. No. 28 Marina Parade
Banjul, The Gambia**

 mofa.icgaBanjul@gmail.com

 www.mofa.gov.gm

 4223577/ 4229710/ 4224266

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