

STATE HOUSE

NEWSLETTER

CHAMPIONING PEACE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

“*How far we go and how high The Gambia flag flies depends on how united we are and how close we work to achieve our national goals*

President Barrow

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2021 Merck Foundation Virtual Conference of African First Ladies

First Lady Receives Medical Items from Muslim World League

First Lady attends African Investment Forum

First Lady's Foundation Partners with Al Balsam International on Health Promotion

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our team's relentless dedication and commitment to providing timely and accurate information to the Public remains unparalleled and makes it possible to publish the 8th Edition

State House Newsletter. As His Excellency, the President is concerned with accelerating the implementation of the National Development Plan, the Media and Communications Unit under the President modestly contributes to the call by tirelessly striving to enhance communications between the Presidency, the Gambian people and partners worldwide.

As we continue to register impressive following across all social media platforms, we would like to commend the stakeholders in the media and citizenry in general for the continuous support and encouragement throughout this journey. The desire to disseminate timely and accurate information and provide room for feedback to His Excellency on the development process is paramount to us.

We would also like to register our sincere gratitude to His Excellency the President and his Government for equipping the Media and Communication Unit with the tools required to effectively and efficiently execute this critical function. As we brace up to conduct a peaceful election in December 2021, we would like to remind the citizenry and all political stakeholders in the media in particular, to adhere to the principles of good journalism.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the entire team for this achievement and challenge them in the same vein to keep raising the bar higher as we advance.

On behalf of the MCU team, I salute the administrative team under the leadership of the Honourable Noah Touray, for appreciating the crucial role of strategic communications in modern governance and providing the necessary support. Working in tandem with the Protocol, Security and administrative staff to facilitate our work demonstrates the importance of teamwork for any successful endeavour. To our support staff, the driver and cleaners, I say thank you for accommodating the team's strive for professionalism.

Amie Bojang
of Press and Public Relations

Media and Communications Team

Director of Press and Public Relations	Amie Bojang
Senior Communications Officer	Ya Marie Bojang
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Audio Visual Officer	Jukung Jawneh
Assistant Audio Visual Officer	Momodou Njie
Assistant Photographer	Amie Manneh

Sulayman Jallow

OVERVIEW

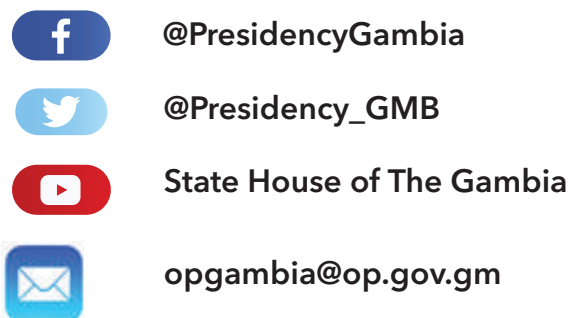
His Excellency President Adama Barrow continues to inspire the so transformation of The Gambia despite the challenges posed by the past year and a half. President Barrow has displayed exemplary commitment to the development of the Gambia by implementing his development blueprint, the **Development Plan**

State House Newsletter, the 8th Edition, offers the information on His Excellency's development oriented engagements in a wide range of areas. The Newsletter includes stories from the events and endeavours geared to Gambia's development goals and objectives set in the NDP.

interventions taken to accelerate socio economic advancement, strides geared to ensuring democracy, support rendered to the development of sports, and efforts directed towards fostering peace and tolerance between January and July 2021, are all comprehensively reported in this Edition.

The Newsletter also provides comprehensive information on His Excellency's engagements with the international community and our development partners. As he continues to take a prominent role in promoting peace and regional integration for development, the Newsletter gives you detailed updates on His Excellency's bilateral and multilateral endeavours.

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GOVERNANCE

President Barrow Opens 2021 Legal Year

During the opening ceremony of the 2021 Legal Year, on 31 January 2021, at the High Court in Banjul, President Adama Barrow said his Government continues to focus on *Gambianisation* and total independence of the judiciary.

H.E. Barrow also highlighted his administration's achievements in the legal sector. He highlighted the launching of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, National Human Rights Commission, and the Constitutional Review Commission, as outlined in the National Development Plan (2018-2021). These are all geared towards fostering and upholding good governance, ensuring the rule of law, and respect for human rights. The President asserted that there would never be another system of institutionalised abuse of power in Gambia again.



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH HIGH COURT JUDGES

President Barrow noted that the implementation of the NDP is in its final phase, as such, urged all stakeholders to start evaluating the progress made so far. This evaluation process will help inform the formulation of a successor plan.

In the interim, he stated that The Gambia should be proud of the significant achievements recorded in the areas of good governance, human rights, rule of law, and women empowerment.

It is worthy to note that since President Barrow took office, The Gambia has made substantial strides in safeguarding the rights of Gambians and all residents of the country. Institutional human rights violations are a thing of the past, and the Government is in the process of domesticating human rights instruments.

'Gambianising' the Judiciary: Justice Amina Saho Ceesay **Judge of the Court of Appeal**



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH JUSTICE AMINA SAHO-CEESAY, JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

His Excellency, President Adama Barrow, has been actively pursuing strengthening Human Capital of the Judiciary. This effort is towards realising the NPD Priority 1, which states, **good governance, respect for human rights, the rule of law, and empowering citizens through decentralization and local go**. The appointment of Justice Saho in line with the reinforcement of the Court of Appeal

Speaking at the swearing in ceremony held on the 17 June 2021, President Barrow said appointment is based on hard work, talent and demonstration of great expertise over the years.

The President lauded Ms. Saho Ceesay's achievements and said her appointment would solidify the jurisprudence. He noted remarkable improvements in the Judiciary under the leadership of His Lordship, the Chief Justice, Hassan B. Jallow

President Barrow also praised the remarkable strides taken by the Judiciary to ensure the continuity of proceedings despite the COVID 19 induced constraints. He acknowledged, with appreciation, the improvements recorded by the Judiciary as regards the disposal of cases. The innovative approaches adopted as a result of the circumstances imposed upon 19 pandemic, made these achievements even more

President Barrow also reiterated the Government's commitment to the Judiciary Reform process. He concluded by urging everyone to continue to support Judiciary in The Gambia to achieve our mutual goals of promoting, safeguarding, and upholding the rule of law and respect for fundamental human rights.

tation of the 2020 President's Meet the People Tour' Report

2020 constitutionally mandated Meet the People Tour outlining the needs of the people and initiatives promised by H.E. President Adama Barrow was presented to the President by the Department for Strategic Policy and Delivery (DSPD) of the O State House in Banjul.

The DSPD report outlined priority issues by the public and the President for the relevant ministries and agencies. It will assist the Government in understanding the effect of its policies on the lives of the people.

The 2020 Meet the People Tour Report is the second, following the 2019 edition. It documents the concerns raised by the public and the President's responses for reference and monitoring

The highlights from the 2020 tour include the launching of the youth revolving fund valued at D20 Million, the laying of the foundation stone for a government funded stadium in Bwiam, and the launching of the Women Fund in the West Coast Region.

The Tour also allowed the President to monitor progress on ongoing infrastructural development projects, including the Basse , which will be completed in August

economic transformation endeavours, the President inaugurated a Gunjur Kuta that will help bring health care delivery closer to the doorsteps of Gunjur surrounding areas. The tour also allowed the President to witness the presentation of 10 scholarships to Gambian students to pursue engineering degrees in different universities

As indicated in the report, the standouts from the tour included President Barrow Resilience of Organisations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture during his meeting with farmers in Brikama Ba.



H.E. ADAMA BARROW FLANKED BY DG PROFESSOR JAINABA KAH, (L) AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, SALIMATTA TOURAY

Human Rights Commission Praises the Current Human Rights Situation in The Gambia

Respecting and Protecting Human rights is a key component of the National Development Plan's 1st priority, ***'Restoring good governance, respect for human rights, the rule of law, and empowering citizens through decentralization and local governance'***.

President Barrow has relentlessly pursued the attainment of this goal through strategic and institutional reforms since he assumed office. One of the key strides undertaken by his administration was the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission in 2017.

The operationalisation of this institution is critical to the realisation of a free and democratic Gambia where the rights of citizens are fully protected by the law. The Commission's main function includes the investigation, promotion and protection of human rights in the country.



H.E. PRESIDENT ADAMA BARROW AND CHAIRMAN EMMANUEL JOOF EXCHANGE GREETINGS THE COVID STYLE.

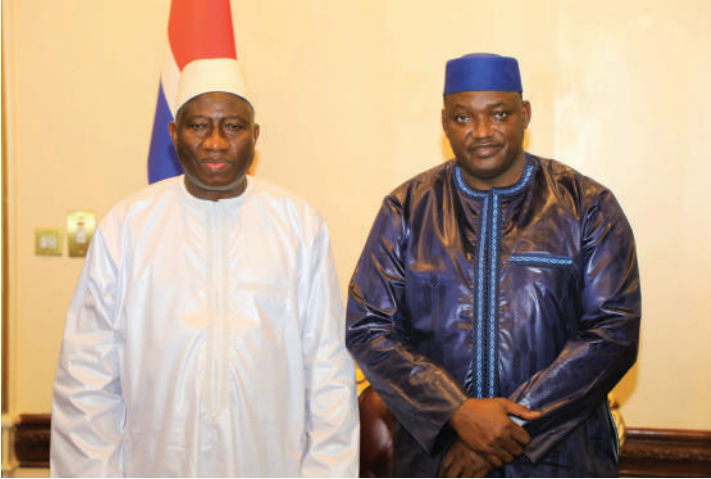
As part of its quest to foster the current laudable Human Rights situation in The Gambia, the Commission led by its Chairman Mr Emanuel Joof held a briefing and a courtesy call on President Barrow on July 28th, 2021, at the State House in Banjul.

Chairman Joof described the current human rights situation in The Gambia as something ***"we should be proud of as a nation,"*** given the sad recent history of human rights violations.

Mr Joof added that the work of protecting the rights of people in the country is a "work in progress," noting that there is still more to be done.

DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

Goodluck Jonathan Leads Negotiations on Concerns of Constitution



FORMER NIGERIAN PRESIDENT GOODLUCK JOHNATHAN

Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Goodluck Jonathan, has been one of the lead negotiators in the talks onraft Constitution 2020. President Jonathan held regular meetings and consultations with political parties and relevant stakeholders in The Gambia to discuss how the country can areas of concern

s part of these engag President Jonathan, on March 2021, paid a courtesy call on His Excellency, President Adama Barrow. He expressed optimism that the consultations with political parties which was a sequel to the Abuja meeting, would yield positive results while thanking President Barrow for his support during the negotiation process. He said that the aim is to obtain a new Constitution for The Gambia.

UN Special Representative Ibn Cha

Adama Barrow received the former Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, Mohamed Ibn Chambas.

Mr. Chambas was in the country solidarity and strong support of the United Nations to The Gambia and its people during these challenging times. He informed President Barrow agencies are ready to support his administration overcoming these challenges.



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH MR. MOHAMED IBN CHAMBAS

New Nigerian High Commissioner to The Gambia

As a stalwart of regional integration, His Excellency Adama Barrow continues to significant strides to foster bilateral and multilateral ties with the rest of the world. The new Nigerian High Commissioner to The Gambia, His Excellency Mohammed M cemented The Gambia's strong relationship with Nigeria with the presentation Credence to President Barrow

The President congratulated Mr Muhammed Manu and urged him to strengthen the already amicable relationship between the two countries. He equally commended Nigeria for the long standing support to The Gambia in various fields, including the Judiciary, the Security Sector, Education, Health, and other socio economic cooperation areas.

President Barrow reiterated that The Gambia and Nigeria share a lot in common in terms of diplomatic orientation at the regional and international levels and will continue to support each other for the benefit of their two governments and people



NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER MOHAMMED MANU PRESENTS LETTER OF CREDENCE

President Barrow receives UNOWAS Special Representative

In the quest to foster The Gambia's relationship with our international development partners, President Adama Barrow continues to reaffirm the Government's commitment to global endeavours for development. In this regard, President Barrow held an audience on 8th June 2021 with the new Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary General for West Africa a the Sahel, His Excellency Mr. Mahamat Saleh ANNADIF, for an introductory meeting at the State House in Baniul. Their discussions centred on a wide range of issues including harnessing the

potentials for increased inter regional trade and the need to foster peace and security in the



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH MR MAHAMAT SALEH ANNADIF, UNOWAS SPECIAL REP.

His Excellency President Adama Barrow and Mr Saleh Annadif reaffirmed the need for collective efforts geared towards addressing the region's current socio economic and political issues for the benefit of the people of The Gambia and West Africa at I

President Barrow Bensouda

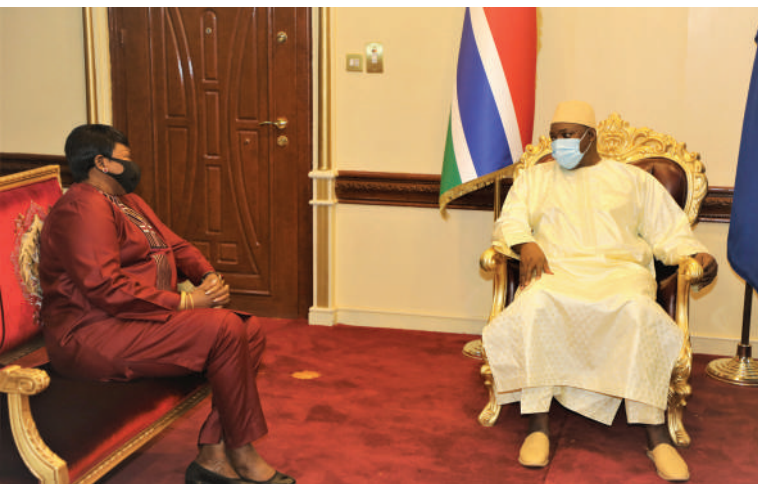
Former ICC Chief Prosecutor Fatou Bom

His Excellency President Adama Barrow
outgoing Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) Fatou Bom Bensouda at
the State House in Banjul.

had an audience with the

Ms. Bensouda stated that her audience with the President was an opportunity for her to
gratitude to the Government and President Adama Barrow, particularly support rendered during her tenure. She particularly highlighted the support receive when the United States under the Trump administration sanctioned her. Ms. Bensouda
the President on the transition process as her nine (9) year mandate as ICC Chief Prosecutor

On his behalf and that of the Government
Gambia, President Barrow congratulated



*MS. FATOU BOM BENSOU DA MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT BARROW*

Ms. Bensouda for her outstanding leadership at the ICC honourably projecting a positive image of The Gambia to the international community.

Speaking on The status at the ICC after her departure, the outgoing prosecutor reaffirmed that The Gambia would continue to play its role, perform its duties, obligations, and responsibilities as a state party to the Rome Statute.

[yb2] In February 2017, The Gambia officially notified the United Nations of the content of the decision the former government withdraw The Gambia from the International Criminal Court (ICC), a move that sparked positive reaction across the international community. The Gambia was one of the first countries to join the Rome Statute, and continues to value the Court's role in providing a remedy to victims of human rights



MS. FATOU BOM BENSOUDA

Congratulatory Messages From Foreign Leaders

On the Occasion of The Gambia's 56th Independence Anniversary



PRESIDENT BARROW INSPECTING THE GUARD OF HONOUR LED BY LT COL. ABDOULIE JATTA

The Gambia was the last West African colony of Great Britain to gain independence, becoming the 37th African nation. It also became the 116th member of the United Nations and the 21st member of the Commonwealth.

In marking the country's 56th Independence Anniversary, President Adama Barrow received a series of congratulatory messages at the State House in Banjul. The salutations came from their Excellencies, President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of the Republic of Turkey.

The two leaders congratulated His Excellency President Barrow and extended well wishes for the country's well-being and the people of the Republic of The Gambia. They further renewed their commitment to improving the current cordial bilateral ties by working together in different areas of mutual interest.

Messages on the Advent of the Holy Month of Ramadan

His Excellency President Adama Barrow received congratulatory messages on the advent of the Holy Month of Ramadan from world leaders including:

- *His Majesty King Salman Bin Abdel Aziz AL* *The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosque, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*
- *His Highness Muhammed Bin Salman Bin Adel Aziz AL*
- *President of Cabinet and Minister of Defence, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*
- *His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said* *Sultanate of Oman*
- *His Majesty Jaber AL* *Emir of The State of Kuwait*
- *His Highness Meshal Al Ahmad Al Jabar* *Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait*
- *His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan* *President of the United Arab Emirates*
- *His Highness Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum* *Vice President of the United Arab Emirates, President of the Council of Ministers, and the Ruler of Dubai*
- *His Highness Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan* *Crown Prince and Supreme Vice Commander of the Armed Forces of the United Arab Emirates.*
- *His Excellency Mahmoud Abbas* *President of the State of Palestine, President of the Executive Commission of the P.L.O*

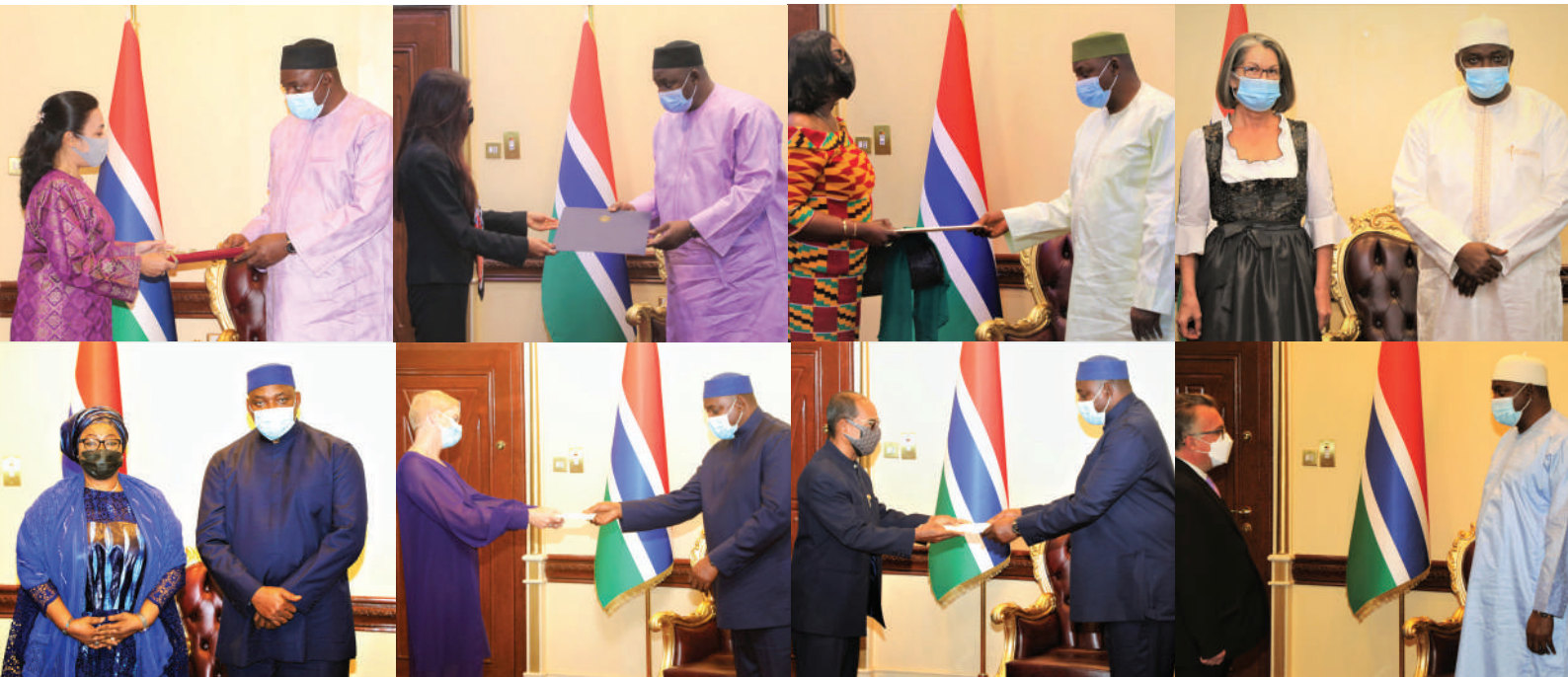
On the occasion of Eid al-Fitr, President Adama Barrow also received a message of peace and prosperity from His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey. President Erdogan conveyed a message of solidarity, tolerance, and brotherhood and prayed for President Barrow's health and well-being, as well as the welfare of all Gambians.

The Barrow Administration's Thriving Foreign Policy: More Foreign Diplomats Present Credentials

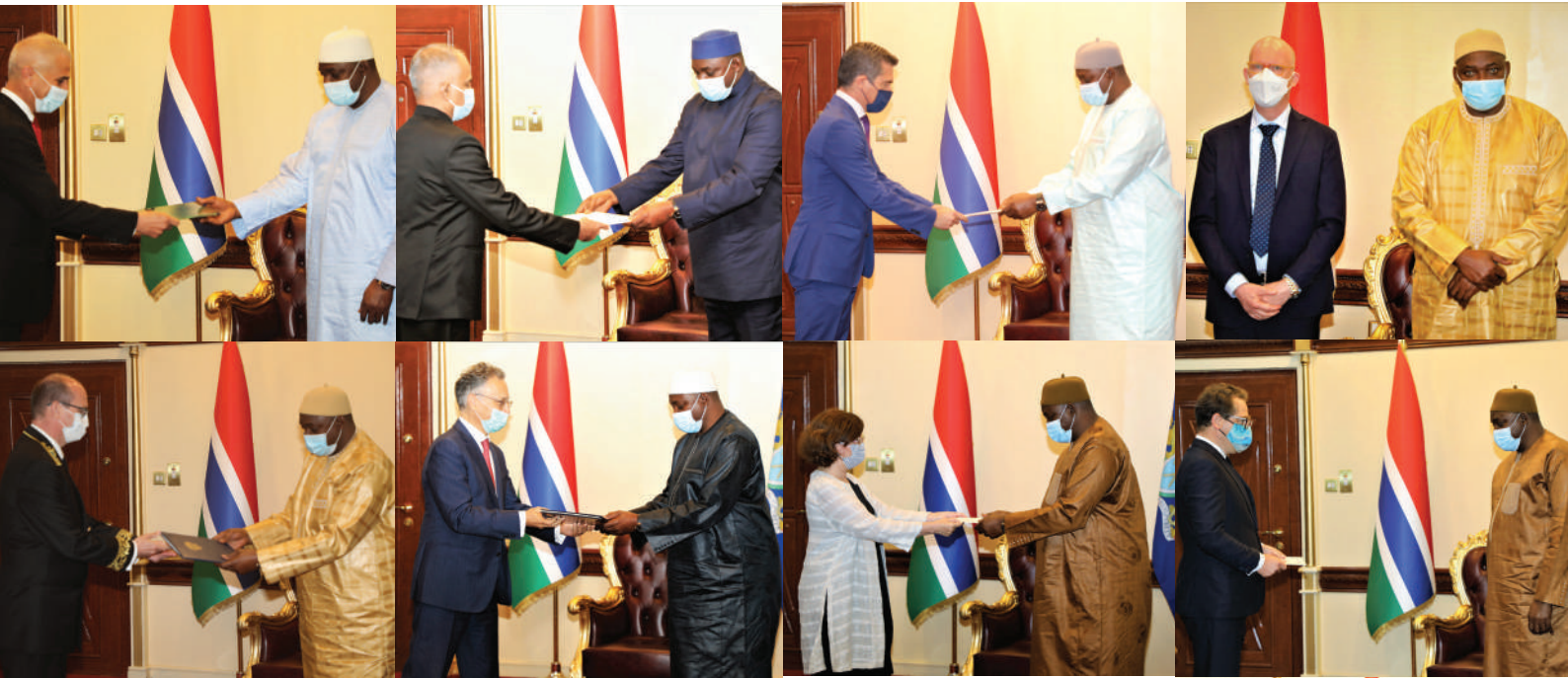
Bilateral diplomacy is the building block of international relations. Since assuming office, the administration's foreign policy has anchored on strengthening The in the comity of nations. There has been an increasing number of foreign governments establishing relations with The Gambia. The President wasted no time engaging partners to lost glory on the global stage.

From February 2021, the Presidency witnessed a flurry of diplomatic engagements with foreign nationals accredited to The Gambia. Diplomats from Malaysia, The Arab Republic of The Republic of Austria, Republic of Guinea, The Netherlands, Republic of Venezuela The Republic of Islamic republic of Republic of India, the European Union n Federation Italy, Ivory Coast (The Republic of Cote d'Ivoire ngdom of Spain, The Kingdom of Belgium and The Portuguese They all expressed commitment to forging bilateral relations with The Gambia.

The Barrow administration continues to focus on building international partnerships, peace, stability, and growth. As a result, the international community has increased its pol financial support for T Gambia's democratic transition. The transition focuses on building democratic institutions, human rights, respect for the rule of law, and sustainable and shared economic development. The bilateral relations with some of these countries span decades. Even though some nations, such as The Republic of Serbia, have only recently accredited an ambassador to The Gambia, the others have long standing bilateral cooperation with



From Top Left – Ambassadors of Malaysia, Egypt, Ghana, Austria, Guinea, The Netherlands, Venezuela and Serbia



From Top Left: Pakistan, India, Portugal, EU Ambassador, Russia, Italy, The Kingdom of Spain, Belgium and Ivory Coast.



President's Trip to the Kingdom

The Gambia on track to host the OIC Summit President Barrow tells OIC SG

The Gambia braces up to host the largest gathering of Muslim leaders worldwide. Excellency Adama Barrow held a meeting with stakeholders as part of his official engagements in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the 23rd to 29th June 2021.

In an audience with the Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al Othaimen, President Barrow assured him that The Gambia is on track to host the forthcoming OIC Summit in The Gambia in 2022.



OIC SG YOUSEF BIN AHMED AL-OTHAIMEEN

imilar engagement, H.E President Adama Barrow also had an audience with the Chief Executive Officer of the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), Sultan A. Al

The President expressed gratitude to him for his institution's support to The Gambia for more than four decades, especially for urgently responding to the country's request for Debt Service Extension to address the impact of COVID 19. He equally commended him for the assistance rendered to improve the country's infrastructure in preparation for the OIC Summit.

reassuring remarks, Sultan A. Al Marshad said the Saudi Fund for Development is committed to providing full support to The Gambia and will ensure the accelerated release of funds. He highlighted that the institution has a dedicated team that urgently attends the needs of The Gambia's projects in line with supporting the country's preparatory process for the hosting of the largest gathering of Muslim leaders around the world.



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH DR. BANDAR HAJJAR

received in audience the President of the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB), Dr. Bandar Hajjar.

Following discussions with the Gambian leader, Dr. Hajjar expressed his gratitude to President Barrow for granting him the opportunity to discuss collaboration prospects that will strengthen the 41 years of partnership between The Gambia and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Bandar further stated that the IsDB's priority interventions in The Gambia focus capital development and improving the investment environment to attract more international

Honourable Mamburay Njie, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, who was in the meeting, said the courtesy call is crucial. It will allow The Gambian authorities to take stock and assess what The Gambia has been doing. He revealed that the IsDB is currently funding six (6) projects in The Gambia, which significantly impact the country's socio economic developme

New Gambian Embassy and Ambassador's Residence in Riyadh



NEW GAMBIAN EMBASSY AND AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN SAUDI ARABIA



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH STAFF AT THE NEW EMBASSY

In another official function during his engagements in Saudi Arabia, His Excellency President Adama Barrow commissioned the new Gambia Embassy and Ambassador's residence at the Diplomatic Quarters in Riyadh. The facilities are the first diplomatic premises built abroad by The Gambia Government

Ahmed Kattan, Minister of State for African Affairs, and several other foreign diplomats signifying the decades long strong ties between The Gambia and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia graced the ceremony.

In his address, President Barrow expressed gratitude to The Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, and His Royal Highness, Prince Mohammed Bin Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, for the invitation at such a critical time during the COVID

H.E. Barrow expressed his happiness in the government of The Gambia's commitment to fund the construction of the beautiful building, which would provide a pleasant and secure office and residence for the Embassy and the Ambassador, respectively. ***Even though it took seven complete the project, it is a more sustainable arrangement and a model that could save the country annual rent payments of up to one hundred thousand U.S. Dollars (\$100,000).*** He observed.

While urging the structure to be maintained, the President encouraged the Ministry of Finance to follow suit and build other diplomatic offices and houses in countries where The Gambia has landed property, such as Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria.

Gambia C atifying the CTBTO



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH DR. LASSINA ZERBO

His Excellency President Adama Barrow announced that he is committed to having The Gambia Comprehensive Nuclear Ban Treaty (CTBT). President Barrow made this statement during a meeting with Executive Secretary of CTBT Organisation, Dr. Lassina Zerbo, at the State House in Banjul,

Dr. Zerbo said that President Adama Barrow demonstrated his commitment to international peace and security by showing his willingness for The Gambia to actively participate in international fora with the ratification of such a treaty.

President Barrow's desire for long term stability and security in the world, according to Dr. Zerbo, is in line with the CTBTO's goals. The Gambia's ratification of the treaty will help demonstrate the country's commitment to nuclear non proliferation for global peace and stability. In April 2003, The Gambia signed the CTBTO Treaty but had not ratified it. One hundred and seventy (170) countries worldwide, including all countries in West Africa, ratified

Secretary General Receives 100 Metric Tons of Rice Donation Pakistan

Manifesting its solidarity with the people of The Gambia, The Islamic Republic of Pakistan extended humanitarian assistance to the country. This particular intervention was in the shape of 100 metric tonnes of rice donated to help The Gambia address the food insecurity induced by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Secretary General and Head of the Civil Service, Noah Touray, received the food items on behalf of the Government.

Honourable Touray praised The Gambia Pakistan relations, saying that the gesture strengthened the cordial relationship between the two countries.



SG NOAH TOURAY RECEIVES RICE DONATED BY THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT

REGIONAL INTEGRATION

President Barrow Decorated with the Order Commander of Sierra Leone



PRESIDENT BARROW DECORATED WITH THE ORDER OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF SIERRA LEONE BY PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO

The Gambia and Sierra Leone have a long standing bilateral relationship, which dates back to the colonial era. It is an honour for His Excellency, President Adama Barrow, the Chief Guest of Honour on the landmark 60th Independence anniversary

On 27th April 2021, President Adama Barrow joined His Excellency Julius Maada Bio and other West African Heads of State to commemorate this historic day

President Bio presented to President Adama Barrow the Order of Grand Commander of the Order of Sierra Leone (GCRS) with the privileges that go with it alongside his colleagues from Liberia, La Guinea, and Ghana.

On the citation, President Maada Bio recognised and commended President Adama Barrow for promoting peace, rule of law, and democracy in The Gambia, while undertaking Security Sector Reform. He commended President Barrow for his cooperation in addressing global issues and concerns at regional and international

he President of Ghana and Chairperson of ECOWAS, His Ex Nana Addo Dankwa Addo, described the awards as exceptional act of consideration

Sierra Leone for its historic to educating West Africans and urged its citizens to reconcile as one people. ***What unites us is more than what divides us, work together in the spirit of reconciliation, promote peace*** President Akufo Addo emphasized. on the members of ECOWAS to doing business within the region to make regional integration a reality and ensure prosperity for Africa.



From Right to Left: H.E Adama Barrow, President of the Republic of the Gambia, H.E Alpha Conde,

From Right to Left: H.E Adama Barrow, President of the Republic of the Gambia, H.E Alpha Conde, President of Guinea, H.E Julius Maada Bio, President of Sierra Leone, H.E Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, H.E George Weah, President of the Republic of Liberia

Zubairu Dada Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Nigeria



2021, President Adama Barrow received the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, Zubairu Dada. He visited the State House as a Special Envoy of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari.

Ambassador Dada delivered a message of support from President Buhari to H.E. President Barrow. He assured the Gambian leader of the full support of Nigeria. The Special Envoy said it is vital for the two leaders to keep in touch, adding that President Buhari is interested in The

Senegal Donates COVID 19 Vaccines to The Gambi

President Macky Sall sent a delegation to President Adama Barrow on March 4 to deliver 10,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines. The donation is a goodwill gesture to support The Gambia in the fight against the pandemic. Anchored on the brotherly ties between the two leaders, a special COVID-19 delegation to The Gambia earlier visited as part of efforts and on between the two



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH SENEGALESE DELEGATION

administration's notable ally in the sub region is perhaps the sister Republic of Senegal, the Head of the delegation, Dr. Annette Seck Ndiaye, stressed that the vaccines would further the bilateral relationship between the two countries. She reiterated how crucial it is for the two countries to work together to eradicate the

African Union First Videoconference of the 34th Ordinary Session



PRESIDENT BARROW JOINS THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE 34TH ORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE OF THE AFRICAN UNION

In February, President Adama Barrow joined other African leaders in a virtual teleconference to mark the 34th Ordinary Assembly of Heads of State of the African Union.

Speaking during the conference President Barrow congratulated those who assumed new roles in the Union and by extension thanked all those who have successfully served various terms of office.

He expressed The Gambia Government's satisfaction with the governance modalities of the Commission as well as those of other organs of the Union. He expressed confidence that the new leadership would transform the Commission and steer it forward to realise its Agenda 2063 aspirations.

President Barrow also highlighted the vibrant contribution to global initiatives on sustainable security and development is crucial to achieving the global objectives on peace and

The President lauded the efforts within the Union at ensuring that Africa speaks with a voice on global issues, saying it is crucial to world security and human development. He commended his colleagues for implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), adding that the African Commission should ensure that the AfCFTA Secretariat supports member states to ease the integration of trade within the continent.

Barrow also informed Heads of State and Government of the ongoing reform agenda towards entrenching democratic governance, respect for human rights, and the rule of law through legal and political reform. President Barrow said The Gambia remains committed to supporting the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights based in The Gambia.

Touching on the COVID 19 pandemic, President Barrow expressed confidence in working collectively for Africa to generate the resources needed to address the challenges caused by the pandemic. Therefore, The Gambia supports the comprehensive strategy designed to mitigate the spread of COVID

he President said the onus rests on the leaders to **leave behind an Africa free from underdevelopment, poverty, and unemployment** and to achieve sustainable peace and development.



AFRICA LEADERS JOINING THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE 34TH ORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE OF THE AFRICAN UNION

ECOWAS Extraordinary

As part of his Government's commitment to ensuring regional peace and stability, President Barrow joined his fellow ECOWAS Heads of State and Government in an Extraordinary Summit to discuss the **Coup and political tension** in Mali, 2021, in Accra, Ghana.

The Extraordinary meeting allowed President Barrow and his counterparts to devise immediate measures to restore peace and order in Mali. The ECOWAS leaders concertedly took the following decisions to remedy the situation in Mali;

- *Demand the unconditional release of the former President of the Transition, the Prime Minister, and other prominent members under house arrest.*
- *Collectively reaffirmed the importance and necessity of respecting the democratic process for ascending to power, in conformity with the 2001 ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance.*
- *Collectively condemn all actions that led to the ongoing instability and its attendant consequences.*
- *Collectively reaffirmed the need to respect the transition period of 18 months in Accra and hold Presidential elections on 27th February*

Gambia Guinea Relations Heightens

Agreements Sign Several Agreements during President Barrow's Visit

To strengthen the cordial relationship between The Gambia and the Republic of Guinea, President Adama Barrow embarked on a three day state visit to the Republic of Guinea from 15-17 June 2021. The trip availed the two governments to build on the existing cooperation through the signing of numerous agreements.

The agreements signed by Ministers and government representatives from both countries included; the formation of a joint commission, diplomatic and political consultations between the two Foreign Affairs Ministries, tourism cooperation between two Tourism Ministries, trade, fisheries, and higher education, as well as scientific research and technology.



PRESIDENT BARROW DECORATED WITH THE HIGHEST NATION ORDER OF GUINEA

As part of the visit, President Barrow toured the Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG) projects at the Kaleta and Souapiti Dams to monitor the progress of the ongoing works. As the current Chairperson of the OMVG Conference of Heads of State, the Gambian leader described the project as a shared commitment to effectively manage shared resources and a viable means to address the region's power issues.

He highlighted that the initiative would positively impact people's lives and livelihoods by creating tremendous opportunities. President Barrow also urged the project's member states—Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Senegal, and The Gambia—to redouble their commitment before praising Guinea's excellent leadership in achieving its objectives.

The standouts of the visit also included the crowning of President Barrow with the highest National Order of Guinea by His Excellency Professor Alpha Condé. The citation recognises President Barrow for his contributions to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Speaking on the long standing bond between the two countries, President Barrow stated;

“This visit is the result of decades of trusted partnership, which continues to strengthen our cooperation on various fronts.”

President Barrow held a consultative meeting with the Gambian community in Guinea. He reassured the community of his Government's dedication to improving the lives of Gambians across the world, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also called on the community to support the implementation of his National Development Plan.



PRESIDENT ALPHA CONDE WELCOMES PRESIDENT BARROW TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA



PRESIDENT BARROW VISITING OMVG PROJECTS AT KALETA & SOUAPITI DAMS IN GUINEA



President Barrow Attends 59th Ordinary Session of ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government

Realising that countries may struggle to progress socio economically in isolation, West African States conceived the idea of working together as a bloc for their collective development aspirations. The formation of a regional Bloc is therefore ideal for the strengthening of economic cooperation for development.

In a bid to accelerate regional integration, President Adama Barrow joined his fellow West African Presidents and Heads of Government at the 59th Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Authority in Accra, Ghana. The leaders deliberated on trade, regional peace and security issues in the region.

In welcoming ECOWAS members to the Summit, President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo of The Republic of Ghana and current Chair of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government, called on leaders of the regional bloc to continue to strive towards fostering peace and stability in the region. He cited the ongoing situation in the Sahel and the recent Coup d'etat in Mali as issues of concern to the bloc. President Akufo-Addo urged the region to address these issues concertedly. He also pointed out the socio-economic impact of the coronavirus as a situation that needs collective tackling.

The Summit's critical outcomes for the deepening and strengthening of regional integration amongst member States included the signing of a Military and Technical Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Republics of Guinea and Senegal. The MOU will be aimed at strengthening of regional trade, bringing stability within the region, and smoothing the road to economic integration. Furthermore, there cannot be economic advancement without a stable currency, and unified rules and procedures within the institutions and countries.

As a champion of regional integration, President Barrow discussed the border closure between Guinea and its neighbour with President Alpha Condé during his visit to Guinea earlier in June. The signing of the MoU was, therefore, a welcoming development for His Excellency.

The leaders discussed proceedings and reviewed reports on Mediation and Security, ECOWAS Single Currency Programme, and Institutional Reform.



ECOWAS LEADERS AT THE 59TH ORDINARY SESSION IN ACCRA

ECOWAS LEADERS AT THE 59TH ORDINARY SESSION IN ACCRA



RELIGION AND SOCIETY

President Barrow amongst Muslim

During an annual Eid *al-Fitr* ceremony, the President and Muslim elders address the people, impacting our society and pray for sustained peace and prosperity. President Barrow thanked the Muslim elders for their support and invited them to celebrate Eid *al-Fitr* on the same day.

He urged Muslim leaders to continue to promote unity and trust among the Muslim community, challenging them to use their position as religious leaders to advocate for the country's sustained peace and tolerance.

Addressing some of the concerns raised by the different speakers during the meeting, including the importation of old vehicles, President Barrow announced the establishment of a Special Committee to address the issue. He also advised vehicle tyre importers to use proper storage facilities and avoid blocking roads.

The President used the opportunity to highlight some of his Government's programmes aimed at improving the economic conditions of Gambians. He called on the people to join him in his development efforts to transform the country.

The Imam Ratib of Banjul, Alhagie Alieu Mass Kah, applauded President Barrow for his excellent leadership and his commitment to The Gambia's place in the international community. Imam Kah said President Barrow deserves the support of every Gambian in the realisation of his development vision. The Imam Ratib called on Gambians to forgive, love, and care for one another.



PRESIDENT BARROW MEETING WITH BANJUL MUSLIM ELDERS ON THE FEAST OF EID-UL-FITR 2021

Other speakers included the Gambia Supreme Islamic Council President, Alhaji Essa Foday Darboe, and the Chairman of the Committee of Banjul Muslim Elders, Honourable Dodou Momar Taal. They all shared similar messages calling for solidarity and peace among the people.

The Eid gathering follows a long tradition initiated over 100 years ago by Muslims Elders of Banjul to have audience with the colonial authorities to raise their concern on issues affecting their community. The tradition has continued and included Muslim leaders outside Banjul.

xtends Wishes to Muslims on the Occasion of Eid

President Barrow extended well wishes and a congratulatory message to the Muslim community on the special occasion of Eid . The President praised the efforts of the Muslim community during the holy month of Ramadan

Generally, Ramadan is regarded as a blessed period associated with repentance, piety, abstinence from wrongdoing. It is a month in which acts of charity, good neighbourliness, discipline in both spiritual and worldly life are encouraged and

President Barrow also challenged the Muslim community to remain steadfast in the aftermath of Ramadan by emphasizing that

Having sought forgiveness, mercy, and blessings during the holy month, we should be guided by the same spirit and continue to promote togetherness, peace, and stability



H.E. PRESIDENT ADAMA BARROW, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

President Barrow Performs Umrah

While on official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President Adama Barrow and First Lady Fatoumatta Bah Barrow performed Umrah in the Holy City of Makkah. The President also observed the Jumma prayers at the Holy Kaaba, Masjid



**PRESIDENT BARROW
AND FIRST LADY
PERFORM UMRAH IN
MECCA**



SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Million IMF C Relief Support

As the economics of most developing countries experienced Covid induced stock administration took steps to mitigate its impact on the Gambian people. The Government provided food and monetary support worth hundreds of millions of dalasis to families and vulnerable households across the country.

During the pandemic, The Gambia also received considerable foreign support for its recovery programme. The most recent was the International Monetary Fund (IMF), granting the Government access to

The support is part of the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) initiative with The Gambia, which aims to aid the budgetary and post pandemic recovery needs. This new funding will complement the Government's financial requirements that the Coronavirus pandemic has negatively impacted. The approval of the funds comes as a result of the macroeconomic stability owing to Government's

The authorities deserve praise for the strong programme performance and their ability to maintain macroeconomic stability, despite the significant challenges posed by the pandemic the IMF said.

IMF commended Government ing the pandemic. As a result, the IMF is projecting a 4.9 per cent economic growth as the C 19 vaccination programme unfolds and some sectors of the economy continue their steady and resilient development

SOCIETY AND POLITICS

Independence Gambia @56

Every year on 18th February, The Gambia commemorates a significant date in her history. The to celebrate independence from colonial rule, which paved the way for self governance.

, Gambians had another opportunity to focus on the trials and tribulations that our brave men and women encountered in breaking colonial rule. It is a day when we assess ourselves both internally and externally to see how far we have come as a country in terms of economic development.

Due to the pandemic, a modest gathering of schoolchildren and security forces Addressing them celebrations at McCarthy Square in Banjul, President Barrow reaffirmed his commitment to defend the security and sovereign integrity of the country. The President urged Gambians to remain united to protect and serve the national

“How far we go and how high The Gambian flag flies depends on how united we are and how closely we work to achieve our national goals,” President Barrow.



18TH FEBRUARY 2021 - 56TH INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AT MCCARTHY SQUARE IN BANJUL

President Barrow Commend Bainunka Association for the Revival of its Cultural Identity

His Excellency President Adama Barrow praised the Bainunka Family Association for taking the initiative to revive the cultural identity of a rapidly dwindling ethnic community. He made marks during the Association's courtesy call to the State House earlier this year.

The Gambia is known for its vibrant cultural heritage. Every ethnic group has a distinct cultural through generations. In light of this, President Barrow urged all people to embrace their citizenship while remaining proud of their identities. He noted that intermarriages ha dominated minority , but that should not stop them from upholding their cultural identity.



BAINUNKA ASSOCIATION

President Barrow noted that the Association's programme of activities, ation, and education a addressing the theme peace and security, would contribute Government's policy to promote peace and stability in it is appropriate for all to take responsibility and peace, tolerance and diversity at their

Honourable Hamat Bah, Minister of Tourism and Culture, said the Barrow Administration is proud of its commitment to cultural diversity ministry has a Cultural Policy, which includes the revival of all cultural identities. He further stated that half a million dollars cultural festivals in 2019 as part of regional and continental initiatives to revitalize minority

FEBWA Association Presents Medical Items to H.E Barrow

His Excellency President Adama Barrow received a delegation from The Federation of ECOWAS Business Women's Association (FEBWA). The State House to present medical items to The President.

According to its leader, Aja Ndey Conteh Jallow, the donated products are meant to complement the Government's ongoing efforts to improve the country's health sector. Mrs Conteh applauded the President for creating an atmosphere that encourages women to take advantage of opportunities and improve their economic status in the co

The President thanked the Federation and announced his Government's plans to construct and renovate fifty (50) health facilities across the country implement community ambulance services, as he had previously stated during his last

FEBWA is a Federation that aims to address challenges women small and medium sized businesses by providing business support services, improving women's entrepreneurship skills, increasing access to markets and finance, and raising awareness about women's empowerment and gender equality.



FEBWA FEDERATION PRESENT MEDICAL ITEMS TO THE PRESIDENT BARROW

New Executive Gambia Supreme Islamic Council

Newly Elected SIC Executive Paid a Courtesy Call on President Barrow

The Gambia Supreme Islamic Council (GSIC) established in 1992 by the country's Ulama (scholars), is the umbrella organization that governs all Islamic organizations and associations in the Gambia. The intervention areas include education, propagation of Islamic building a harmonious Islamic society.

The Gambia government accepted this vision and The Council became an **advisory body** the Government on religious issues. In recent months, the elected its new executive member after the end of the tenure of the previous executive



H.E. PRESIDENT BARROW FLANKED BY GSIC PRESIDENT ALHAGIE ESSA DARBOE AND MINISTER MUSA DRAMMEH. (R) GROUP PICTURE WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS.

The newly elected executive sought an audience with His Excellency President Adama Barrow at the State House in Banjul to share plans with the President on religious reforms that will help preserve peace and tolerance in The Gambia.

President Barrow urged the Council members to continue to preach peace and tolerance in the country, noting that their teachings and speeches have a bearing on society. Alhaji Essa Darboe, the new GSIC President seized the opportunity to call on religious leaders to preach peace and good neighbourliness.

President Barrow Extols the Role of Traditional Leaders

In a bid to encourage participatory governance and solidify the important role played by traditional leaders in The Gambia, President Adama Barrow hosted "Alkalolus" at the State House on July 15, 2021.

H.E. Barrow urged the traditional leaders to continue working closely with the Government to advance their communities. He promised that "Alkalolus" would be placed on salary in the national budgets starting with the 2022 financial year.

President Barrow also denounced the profiling of people based on their origin saying all Gambians have equal right to live in any part of the country. He advised the Chiefs and "Alkalolus" to continue to foster unity among the people and avoid the politics of tribalism.



PRESIDENT BARROW MEETING WITH CHIEFS AND 'ALKALOUS' FROM WEST COAST DIVISION

Meeting with Gambian Community in Sierra Leone

On the sidelines of his visit to Sierra Leone, President Barrow met with members of the Gambian community in Sierra Leone, who warmly welcomed him to their adopted

The delegation consisted of representatives from Freetown, Kono, Bo and Kenema regions working and doing business in Sierra Leone. The various speakers including Bahoreh Kaloga, thanked President Barrow for his outstanding leadership and love for his country for taking time to listen to their concerns and commit to addressing

President Barrow expressed his appreciation for the warm reception in Sierra Leone for the warm welcome. He commended them for being law abiding residents representing the Gambian community with pride and discipline. He assured them of his Government's

President Barrow was amongst several Heads of State in Sierra Leone to attend its 60th Independence anniversary celebration.

His Excellency President Adama Barrow also paid a brief courtesy visit to the QCell Headquarters in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The Chairman of QGroup, Muhammed Jah, welcomed the President and thanked him for his efforts and initiatives which have helped restore and maintain The Gambia's place in the telecommunications space in Sub-Saharan Africa, thus providing the opportunity to service providers like Qcell to expand their services of QCell to Sierra Leone.



PRESIDENT BARROW MEETING WITH THE GAMBIAN COMMUNITY IN SIERRA LEONE AND VISIT TO QCELL FREETOWN HEAD OFFICE

Presidential Engagements on the Sidelines of the ECOWAS Summit in

As part of his social engagements in Ghana, President Barrow also met in a closed bilateral meeting with his counterpart from Guinea Bissau, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló. He also held meetings with Gambians working and living in Ghana, Gambian Military Officers undergoing various training courses in Ghana.



PRESIDENT BARROW AND GUINEA BISSAU'S PRESIDENT UMARO SISSOCO EMBALÓ



PRESIDENT BARROW MEETS WITH GAMBIA MILITARY OFFICERS ON STUDY TOUR IN GHANA

President Barrow reaffirms commitment to Women's Empowerment

President Adama Barrow has been at the forefront of Women's empowerment since taking office in 2017. Under his leadership, he established the Gender, Children and Social Child Protection Policy and the Women Enterprise Fund.

During a meeting with the Gender Platform Civil Society organization, Barrow reassured his Government's commitment to advance the lives of Gambian women. His Excellency encouraged women to step forward and participate in the electoral and governance process. Gender Platform is an advocacy group promoting participation and leadership.

The President of Gender Platform, Ms. Njie said their audience with President Barrow was to seek to institutionalise a guaranteed quota of women representation in the National Assembly and other governance structures. Ms. Sarr further stated underrepresentation of women in governance since independence. Njie stressed the need to reserve two seats in each region to be contested by women to change the status quo.



GENDER PLATFORM – MEMEBERS OF A CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATION

CONDOLENCES ON THE DEMISE OF PROMINENT FIGURES

President Barrow mourns IGP Alhaji Mamour Jobe



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH LATE IGP MAMOUR JOBE

President Barrow paid homage to the late Inspector General of Police Mamour Jobe during a condolence visit to his family following his death. He expressed a profound sense of loss to the family, saying the passing of IGP Jobe is a **great loss to the**

Late IGP Jobe served in the Gambia Police Force for decades where he spent time as an among several other functions. When he took over as IGP in 2018, he worked to reorient the police toward **standard police operating procedures**

He also promoted community policing by helping expand the reach and response capability. He launched several other program building new police stations and helped integrate societies to foster peace and harmony while also **upholding the rule of law**.

The Demise of the Grand Khalifa of Basori, Alhagie Yusupha Darboe



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH MOURNERS AT IMAM DARBOE'S COMPOUND

President Barrow also visited the family of the Late Alhagie Yusupha Darboe, the Grand Khalifa of Basori, who died in March. During the visit, H.E. Barrow eulogized the late Imam calling him a great servant of God who served his country and humanity to the fullest.

Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh

In 2021, His Excellency, President Adama Barrow expressed his condolences to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, upon learning of the death of Her Highness, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

President Barrow expressed his condolences to Her Majesty, The Queen, the Royal Family, the Government of the United Kingdom, and the Commonwealth of Nations.

His Excellency President Adama Barrow, as Chief Patron of the President's International Award (PIA) in The Gambia, also signed a Book of Condolence prepared by PIA to pay homage and reverence to the Award's Founder, His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.



UTC 13TH CONVOCATION GRADUATING STUDENTS

HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

University of The Gambia 13th Convocation Ceremony

Knowledge accumulation and implementation have become significant drivers of economic growth and are steadily at the heart of a country's global competitive advantage. University education is more than just the next step in the learning process; it is an integral part of international human growth.

President Adama Barrow extolled the virtues of a university in society, saying it helps groom people to become good citizens who use their intellect to transform society. H.E. Barrow spoke during the 13th Convocation ceremony of the University of the Gambia on 27th March, at QCity in Bijilo.

The President said that his Government recognises the tremendous progress made in higher education over the past few years. The Gambia has a large number of Masters, Ph.D. degree holders who live and work both within and outside the country.

University life is expecting to equip students with experiences, improved analytical skills, innovative thinking, and the opportunity to explore and act on helpful knowledge. President Barrow encouraged the young graduates to reflect on the meaning of life, its challenges, opportunities for successful adult life, and good democratic citizenship.

He reassured the graduates and the Gambian population in general that education will always be a top priority under his administration.



YOUTH AND SPORTS

President Barrow Discusses Youth Development with German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development

The European Union (EU) is an important partner ally of His Excellency President Adama Barrow's Government over the past years. Cooperation with E.U. member states during this period has also remarkably improved. Diplomatic engagements and international collaboration with countries like Germany also grew during this time.

In a bid to strengthen this cooperation, His Excellency President Barrow on June 17 received in audience the German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr. Derhard Muller, at the State House in Banjul. During the closed session, both parties agreed to explore various opportunities under 'Germany's "Return New Opportunities" programme, which focuses on developing and equipping skills centres and supporting start ups amongst others to empower young people.

The meeting concluded with recommendations for the technicians from both countries to their engagements to develop a robust roadmap geared towards curbing migration challenges amongst young people.

President Barrow also briefed Dr. Muller and his delegation on his government's development programme and achievements in various areas, including energy, agriculture, infrastructure, and youth development.

On migration, President Barrow emphasised the importance of stepping up cooperation efforts geared towards building the capacity of young men and women to give them opportunities at home.



**GERMAN MINISTER
OF ECONOMIC
CORPORATION AND
DEVELOPMENT- DR.
DERHARD MULLER**

President Barrow Awards 14.1 Million Dalasis to National Sports

With their recent accomplishments bringing pride and honour to the national sports teams, His Excellency the President of the Republic of The Gambia, the President deemed it worthy to reward and celebrate these moments.

The President reassured the sports fraternity and the Gambian people of his continued support to sports development with the presentation of up to GMD14.1 million to three sports teams. The Senior Scorpions received GMD11.1 million, the Under 20 Scorpions got GMD2.5 million, and half a million Dalasis went to the U 19 National Volleyball team.

In recognition of their outstanding performances in various international competitions, including the national football team's remarkable maiden qualification to the CAF Africa Cup of Nations finals in Cameroon, the teams received the award.

The representatives of the various teams, technicians from the GFF and Volleyball team, and the athletes witnessed the ceremony.

Delivering the vote of thanks on behalf of the teams, Tijan Marr, captain of the U 20 squad, and Lamin Jammeh, 1st Vice President of the National Volleyball team, praised President Barrow and his Government for the award.

Honourable Bakary Badjie, Minister for Youth and Sports, said despite competing priorities, the Government continues to provide the resources to encourage sports development and support to sportsmen and women.



PRESIDENT BARROW PRESENTS CHECKS TO NATIONAL SPORTS TEAMS

ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

President Barrow Inaugurates 20MW Power Plant in Brikama

As part of activities commemorating The Gambia's 56th Independence Anniversary, President Adama Barrow inaugurated a new 20MW power plant in Brikama, West Coast Region.

more than \$28 million and financed by the Islamic Development Bank and The Gambia Government, aims to close power capacity gaps in the country



The implementation of the power plant is in line with President Barrow's dedication to speeding up the country's leading infrastructure projects to empower Gambian people through access to essential services.

Speaking during the inaugural ceremony, President Barrow said the availability of electricity is essential to the country's economic growth. He expressed that his Government's target to meet the demand for electricity by every household in the country, as outlined in the National Development Plan (NDP), is well on course.

President Barrow Pledges Government's Commitment to the OMVG

President Barrow has accelerated efforts to provide an adequate, reliable, and affordable energy supply to all Gambian households, as he pledged since coming to power in 2017. The provision of these services is in line with the Government's poverty reduction and economic development strategies. Given that access to adequate electricity supply is a development imperative for The Gambia and a priority area in the NDP, President Barrow is committed to ensuring 24-hour access to electricity in The Gambia. To achieve this, the President supported the implementation of the following projects in the energy sector:

- Gambia Electricity Restoration and Modernization Project (GERMP)
- Gambia Electricity Support Project (GESP)
- **OMVG Energy Project 168 Km Of 225 KV Transmission Line**
- Brikama Power Expansion Projects
- Rural Electrification Extension Project (REEP II)
- NAWEC/SENELEC Energy Exchange Project
- Electricity Expansion Rehabilitation Project In GBA
- Asbestos Replacement and Water Network Expansion Project

As part of the implementation of the OMVG initiative, President Adama Barrow received the executive of the OMVG project at the meeting earlier in May. During the meeting, Excellency reiterated the Government's full support and commitment to the various components of the Project.

As the current Chairperson of the Conference of Heads of State of the OMVG, President Barrow supported the organisation's various projects.

The OMVG High Commissioner Elhadj Lansana Fofana who led the delegation to the meeting noted that President Barrow reiterated his commitment to implement the project. He urged the delegates to update all the other Heads of State of the member countries on the key issues and the development aspirations of the organisation.

He also revealed that the construction of the Sambangalou hydroelectric Dam will commence by the end of the year. The Dam, which is located upstream on the River Gambia, will have a capacity to generate 400 Gigawatts per hour (GWh) of electricity.

The OMVG Energy Project will increase access to electricity in The Gambia and contribute to the Government's policy target of migrating to 50 percent renewable energy by 2030, as envisaged in the National Electricity Roadmap.

includes Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, and Senegal. This subregional organization is the implementing agency for the integrated development with a specific emphasis on the rational management of the shared resources of the Gambia, Géba, and Koliba Corubal rivers, all of whose basins generate electricity. It will member countries' water, energy, agriculture, and environmental



OMVG TEAM LEAD BY COMMISSIONER ELHADJ LANSANA FOFANA

AGRICULTURE

Gambia Launches \$80 Million ROOTS Project

President Barrow

Launches the \$80 Million

Advantage of Opportunities

Agriculture is a key pillar of the Gambian economy and one of the priority areas of development particularly in the new global climate of price escalation of staple food items. Agriculture is a significant source of income for most Gambians. It accounts for approximately one quarter of the country's GDP and employs about 75% of the workforce.

In an ongoing effort by his administration to increase agricultural productivity in the Gambia, His Excellency President Adama Barrow on February 2021, launched the **Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture (ROOTS)**



STAKEHOLDERS AT THE LAUNCHING OF \$80M ROOTS PROJECT

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is funding the project to boost agricultural production to ensure food security and better nutrition for the population and reduce vulnerability and youth unemployment. The project also aims to help smallholder farmers in The Gambia gain access to markets and become more resilient to climate change.

President Barrow urged youth and female farmers to take advantage of the opportunities to improve their economic status. He said the project **targets women and youths for effective and profitable participation in rice and vegetable value chains**

He called on young people to take up the initiative offers unique opportunities for them
participate in the economic life of the country

President Barrow reiterated his Government's commitment to supporting initiatives that encourage the adaptation of climate friendly practices. He commended his Cabinet and the National Assembly for endorsing the **worthy initiative**

A Boost for the Agriculture Sector President Barrow Launch Tractors

To build on the impressive gains in the agricultural sector over the past four years, Excellency President Adama Barrow, on June 2021, presided over the commissioning of 50 tractors and Accessories under the KR2 Japanese Rice Aid pr

KR2 is a rural development plan designed by the Japanese Government. It focuses on commercialising agriculture to increase the production of underprivileged farmers in developing countries

The President thanked Japan through Ambassador Arai Tatsuo, stating the Tractors and accessories arrived at the right time and will go a long way in contributing to of agriculture He said the assistance would contribute to realising Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan for Food and Nutrition Security, as envisaged in the National Development



PRESIDENT BARROW COMMISSIONS KR2 TRACTORS

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

President Barrow Encourages Entrepreneurs at GCCI Trade Fair International 2021

After successfully launching the Gambian Commerce and Industry (GCCI) Trade Fair International 2021, President Adama Barrow expressed his delight with the impressive exhibition of local products, especially by Gambian youth entrepreneurs.

This year's theme, "GCCI 2021 Partners to Progress," brought together local entrepreneurs as well as others from the region and beyond. These entrepreneurs will be showcasing their products throughout the three weeks. They set up over 450 stalls for this year's

In his launching statement, the President stated that the partnership is to enhance the livelihood needs of all Gambians. He urged all stakeholders to work closely with the Ministry of Trade and Industry in the interest of all players.

President Barrow applauded the GCCI for complementing the Government's efforts to support businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic, with the Business Against COVID-19 Fund raised D20 million, while reminding all participants and visitors to follow the Government guidelines for COVID-19 prevention.



PRESIDENT BARROW AT THE OPENING OF THE GCCI TRADE FAIR 2021

INTERIOR

President Barrow Condemns Crime

Peace and



As concerns continue over the recent uptake in crime rates in the Gambia, May 2021, President Barrow

Government's commitment to national security. The President pointed

our freedoms noting that his

Government

national security President Barrow stated;

'It is my primary duty as President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces to keep this country safe; therefore, let me assure you all that I will discharge my responsibilities, both day and night, without fear, favour, ill-will or affection.'

Barrow went on to challenge Gambians to strive and restore the peace we are known for concerted

I advise everyone to be vigilant and to report suspicious activities discovered either within neighborhoods or on the streets. Good citizens readily and willingly support law enforcement officials and even lend them a hand, where necessary, during their operations. The least we can do is not to obstruct them in any way

President Barrow concluded by reassuring Gambians that his Government and commit national resources to the state institutions responsible for maintaining national security to address security concerns

NATIONAL SECURITY

President Barrow Decorates Flag Officers of the Gambia Armed Forces

The public saw the Gambia Armed Forces (GAF) as an enabler of dictatorship during the previous regime. However, under President Adama Barrow's leadership, GAF has regained the public's confidence and is now the country's guardians of peace and stability.



As a result of their renewed devotion to national service, His Excellency the President of the Republic of The Gambia and Commander in Chief of The Gambia Armed Forces Adama Barrow, earlier in March, officially decorated four officers to the ranks of Lieutenant General, General, and Brigadier General, respectively, following their promotions earlier in 2020.

President Barrow decorated the Defence Staff (CDS) Yakuba Drammeh to the rank of Lieutenant General and Deputy Chief of Defense Staff, Mamat Cham, to the rank of Major General. The Commander of the Republican National Guard Turo Jawneh, and the Commander of the Gambia National Army, Ousman Gomez, were both decorated to the ranks of Brigadier General.

The promotions are

President Barrow

make them more professional

Security Sector Reform (SSR)

of the Gambia Armed Forces

and other security agencies



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE GAMBIA ARMED FORCES

address to the officers during the ceremony, President Barrow called on them to themselves with his Government's SSR program as guided by the National Security Policy and 2024 National Security Strategy. He Barrow tasked the officers to rise to the challenge and deliver to the full expectation of the Gambian people.

As part of the occasion, President Barrow also handed keys to 28 vehicles to CDS Lt. General Drammeh. The vehicles were earmarked for a possible deployment by GAF to peacekeeping the United Nations' equipment specifications for Reaction Force.

Farewell Ceremony for 40 Senegalese Gendarmerie



President Adama Barrow praised the professionalism and dedication to duty of 40 Gendarmerie officers during a sendoff ceremony at the State House in Banjul, marking their year tour of duty as part of the ECOMIG mission in

President Barrow awarded **certificates of appreciation** to the officers for their service

in ensuring the **security and stability** while praising the Senegalese contingent for their outstanding hard work, loyalty, and professionalism. The certificates of appreciation, he said, were given to show his Government's sincere gratitude for their contributions and high level of professionalism particularly in their encounters with the public.

Sait Njai, Commander of the State Guard, lauded the contingent for its discipline, hard work, and competence while expressing optimism that both sides will consolidate the gains of their relationship into the future.

The Senegalese Gendarmerie contingent at the Presidency forms a critical part of the ECOMIG monitoring force sent into the country by ECOWAS following the attempt to annul the 2016 presidential elections by the former Government. They provide essential security within the State House around the Presidency and other VIPs in close partnership with the Gambian National Army.

KEEPING THE PROMISE

Capable of Printing 20,000 Exercise Books

Education is an institution that bridges the gap between the different members of society by providing them with substantial knowledge including skills, cultural norms and values, and basic facts. A country that strives for the right path towards development recognises the importance of education and invests in the infrastructure necessary to achieve this goal. The Gambia has come a long way since the post independence era when access to educational materials was considered a luxury.

In a historic and landmark event, on 15 March 2021, His Excellency President Adama Barrow inaugurated the Gambia Printing and Publishing Cooperation's (GPPC) Fifty Million Dalasis Exercise Book Printing Machine with a capacity to print 20,000 exercise books per hour. The accomplishment of this project is a significant development, as it borders on both education and Information Communication Technology (ICT).

ICT is one of the **critical enablers in the National Development Plan (NDP)**, ensuring equitable access to digital services within the context of good governance and accountability.

The procurement of the machine demonstrates the Government's commitment to producing low cost books and other learning materials in the country instead of importing them.

In his statement, President Barrow hailed the commissioning of the machine as an accomplishment for the GPPC, noting that it came at a time when the coronavirus pandemic has disrupted supply chains around the world.

The Minister of Information and Communication Infrastructure, Hon. Ebrima Sillah stated that the Government spends D4 million on exercise books each year, stating that this will be a thing of the past as GPPC is becoming the country's major **revenue generator**.





PRESIDENT BARROW COMMISSION GPPC PRINTING MACHINE THAT CAN PRINT 20,000 BOOKS PER HOUR

President Barrow

Construction Projects in CRR and NBR

President Adama Barrow embarked on a monitoring tour of the ongoing Road construction projects in CRR North and the North Bank Regions on 21st May 2021.

the National Development priorities identified in the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018

The maintenance and completion of the national road networks and expansion of secondary feeder roads for improved access in the rural areas is a

Building our Infrastructure and restoring energy services to power our economy

President Barrow inspect work progress on the ongoing road construction in Kerr Jibi, Sare Auldi, Baati Ndarr and Njaw in CRR North, the 8.9k Jimbala Road, and the 86km Sara Bambali Road all in Bank Region

During the inspection, President Barrow urged the contractors and other stakeholders expedite the projects, saying that it will transform socio President expressed that his Government is committed to that projects receive the requisite support to complete implementation within the given timeframes.

The President also inspected work progress on the 86km Nuimi Hakalang Road in the North Bank Region. welcomed President Barrow, hopeful and excited about the proiects will bring to their communities.



PRESIDENT BARROW DURING MONITORING TOUR OF THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN URR AND CRR

Gambia Launches COVID 19 Vaccination Campaign



PRESIDENT TAKING HIS FIRST INOCULATION OF THE ASTRAZENECA COVID-19 VACCINE AT THE STATE HOUSE IN BANJUL

COVID-19 Pandemic has had an undeniable impact on the socio economic lives of millions of people globally. The pandemic has resulted in a significant loss of human life, posing unparalleled public health problems, and The Gambia is no exception. With the emergence of the virus, countries are launching mass vaccination campaigns to eradicate the virus that has gripped the world for the past 16 months.

The availability of vaccinations have come at a better time as cases continue to soar. Marking a significant step forward in the Government's efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, His Excellency President Adama Barrow formally launched The COVID-19 vaccination campaign on July 1st 2021. The launching comes after The Gambia received the first consignment of 36,000 doses of the AstraZeneca Vaccine through the COVAX facility, collaborating with UNICEF Gambia, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the WHO.

In his keynote statement, President Barrow referred to the launching as ***"a positive step toward ending my government's urgent and passionate desire for full protection of every citizen against COVID"***

He called on people to step forward and get vaccinated, noting that the vaccine is safe while cautious of new strains of the virus emerging in other parts of the world.

President Barrow praised frontline workers who put their lives on the line to help the sick during the pandemic. He called for concerted efforts to ensure a quick recovery from the pandemic and the revival of the national economy.

His Excellency President Adama Barrow became the first senior government official to take the inoculation before other followed suit. This gesture the public that the is safe and fit as certified by the WHO.

President Barrow Calls on Gambians to Get Vaccinated

19 vaccination process, His Excellency President Adama Barrow called on all Gambians to the vaccination campaign noting able in the fight against the Coronavirus pandemic in The Gambia.

President Barrow reiterated the importance of the vaccination programme The Gambia and the rest of the world continue the fight against this deadly pandemic that has devastated people's socio and economic lives . He reassured the general public that the vaccines are safe and that all should work together to support the Government and the public health system to ensure a successful vaccination campaign.

President also urged the media to support the Government's initiative and intensify the programme to enlighten the public on the importance of getting vaccinated.

The Government already responded with various initiatives to combat the pandemic. These include, Relief packages to Media , Stimulus package to the Tourism sector, households and vulnerable groups. Thirteen (13) Health facilities have been refurbished to create the enabling environment to fight this deadly virus. These

Bansang General Hospital	Basse District Hospital
Brikama District Hospital	Bwiam General Hospital
Essau District Hospital	Faji Kunda Health Center
Farafenni General Hospital	Kanifing General Hospital
Kaur Major Health Center	
Soma District Hospital	Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital
Ndemban clinic	

Response programme constructed National Emergency Treatment Center (NETC) and National Public Health Laboratory and Training Center (NPHLTC). All these are provisions for activities financed by the World Bank Group (WBG)

19 Emergency Response Project Government also developed a National COVID 19 Preparedness and Response Plan (COVID the Ministry of Health implemented The Plan focuses on expanding and strengthening all aspects of readiness coordination, surveillance, case management, risk communication and community engagement, psychosocial support, etc.

The Expanded Programme on Immunization of the Ministry of Health officials revealed that three thousand, eight hundred and nineteen (33,819) were vaccinated, out of which 29,148 have taken both doses and 4,671 have so far taken the since the vaccination started.

GLOBAL FREEDOM RANKING

President Barrow has been a stalwart of Media Freedom in the Gambia since he came to power. His numerous strides to ensuring Media Freedom have been recognised locally but also by the international community. The latest Global Press Freedom Ranki the Gambia jumped to 9 in West Africa and 10 Saharan Africa out of the 55 African countries assessed by Reporters Sans Frontiers (RSF).

President Barrow's unwavering commitment to Press Freedom attributes to the laudable improvements in The Gambia's ranking Media continues to thrive with new players in both Print and Electronic Media in less than five years numbers currently stand at forty radio stations and six (6) television stations. There is also a remarkable uptake in the number of registered online media houses in the country. These numbers indicate that the Gambia is on the right path to ensuring full observance of Media Freedoms.

AFROBAROMETER ANALYSIS

Governmentable reviews from the pan partisan survey research project on the response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Afrobarometer focuses on citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics in Africa

The standouts from the latest review include the fact that eight in 10 Gambians (79%) say they or their households received government assistance during the pandemic.

60% of the population approved the Government's management of the pandemic. In comparison, 75% of Gambians noted that the Government effectively informed them of the pandemic and its related issues

Further findings highlighted that two thirds (63%) of the populace strongly agree that during a health emergency like the COVID 19 pandemic, it was justified for the Government to use the police or armed forces to enforce public health measures.

Evidence also showed that democracy and reject non alternatives such as military rule, one party rule, and one rule. About six in 10 (59%) describe the country as a full democracy a democracy with minor problems

SUMMARY OF THE PRESIDENT'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY



July, President Adama Barrow welcomed Serigne Isakha Bachir Mbacke brother and special envoy of Serigne Mountakha Mbacke, the Khalif General of the Mourid Brotherhood at the Statehouse in Banjul. Serigne Bachir was at the Presidency to convey messages of g and peace from Serigne Mountakha to President Barrow and the people of the Gambia.

Also, the U.S. Ambassador to The Gambia, H.E. Richard Carl Paschall III made a courtesy call on President Barrow and presented a cake in commemoration of the United States' July 4, Independence anniversary. Ambassador Paschall said the cake was a gesture in celebration of democracy and independence between the Gambia and the United States.



PRESIDENT BARROW WITH US AMBASSADOR TO THE GAMBIA RICHARD CARL PASCHALL III

President Barrow also had audience with a Sierra Leone Ministerial delegation led by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Honourable David Panda Noah. The delegation, among other engagements, signed a joint communique to establish a Cooperation Commission between the Gambia and Sierra Leone. The Commission will facilitate the operation of the various agreements and cooperation instruments between the two countries.



SIERRA LEONE MINISTERIAL DELEGATION

The delegation was accompanied to the Statehouse by the Gambia High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, Honourable Alieu K. Jammeh, the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Gambians Abroad, Dr Mamadou Tangara, and the Ministers of Trade and Interior, Hon. Seedy Keita and Hon. Yankuba Sonko, respectively.



PRESIDENT BARROW WIT

On July 22, President Barrow welcomed Major General Dr Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi, the General Inspector of the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), at the Statehouse. General Raisi thanked President Barrow for The Gambia's support for his candidature for President of Interpol in 2022.

On the home front, President Barrow continued on his quest to ensure the equitable distribution of access to basic amenities around the country. On July 10, he launched a 30KV electricity power line to benefit 46 communities in Sami, CRR and Sandu, in URR. President Barrow vowed to end the "injustice" of excluding rural communities from the benefits of basic amenities such as electricity and clean water supply.



LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE 30KV LAMINKOTO-DIABUGU BATAPA ELECTRICITY LINE

The project is the first phase of the Gambia Electricity Restoration and Modernisation Project (GERMP). The second phase will cover 92 communities in the West Coast Region, 185 in NBR, 64 in LRR, 139 in CRR, and 149 in URR by the end of 2023.



BARROW LAYS THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE 39KM ROAD FROM SANKANDI TO KARANTABA

President Barrow followed suit on July 12, with the launching of the much awaited Kiang Roads Project. The first phase of the D400 million project is a 39 kilometres standard road from Sankandi to Karantaba benefiting 27 communities including Joli, Jali, Manduar and Keneba. The second phase will cover another 48 kilometres from Tankular to Kemoto which will include a bridge over the Bintang Bolong connecting Kiang and Foni.

The month of July also witnessed a devastating windstorm that destroyed homes and led to loss of lives mostly in the North Bank Region. President Barrow diverted his trip to Sami to commiserate with victims and family members of the deceased. He made personal donations and used the government's intervention to ameliorate the situation.





PRESIDENT BARROW VISITS WINDSTORM VICTIMS

Following the devastating windstorm, the World Bank Country Director, Mr Nathan Belete, visited the Statehouse to assure President Barrow of the Bank’s readiness to support the storm



WORLD BANK COUNTRY DIRECTOR, MR NATHAN BELETE

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

Madam Fatoumatta Bah Barrow C

19 Awareness A

STAKE HOLDERS
MEETING WITH
PARTNERS
AT THE STATE
HOUSE



FIRST LADY WITH GAMBIA ARTISTS JIZZLE AND ST

With the outbreak of the COVID 19 Pandemic in the Gambia, the First Lady Madam Fatoumatta Barrow conveyed a National Stakeholders' Consultation to assess the level of preparedness. In collaboration with UNICEF and renowned Gambian musicians the Office of the First Lady also developed songs aimed at raising awareness on the virus.

First Lady COVID 19 Relief Aid to Beneficiary Institutions

The First Lady Fatoumatta Bah 19 prevention initiatives also included the donation of sanitary materials to vulnerable groups. The Association of people with disabilities, Social Welfare Children Shelter, Tanka Tanka Psychiatric Hospital and People living with HIV and AIDS were all beneficiaries of Her Excellency's benevolence.



OAFLAD Level Webinar Series 1st Virtual M

The First Lady Madam Fatoumatta Bah Barrow earlier this year participated in a High Webinar Series of the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD) in collaboration with the Global Fund under the theme: **The Health and Socio**

19 on Achieving Universal Health Coverage" The participants included experts from organizations such as Africa Center Disease Control (CDC), UNAIDS, Global Fund, and Women in Global Health.

The objectives of the meeting included highlighting key challenges faced in Africa that are directly or indirectly related to COVID

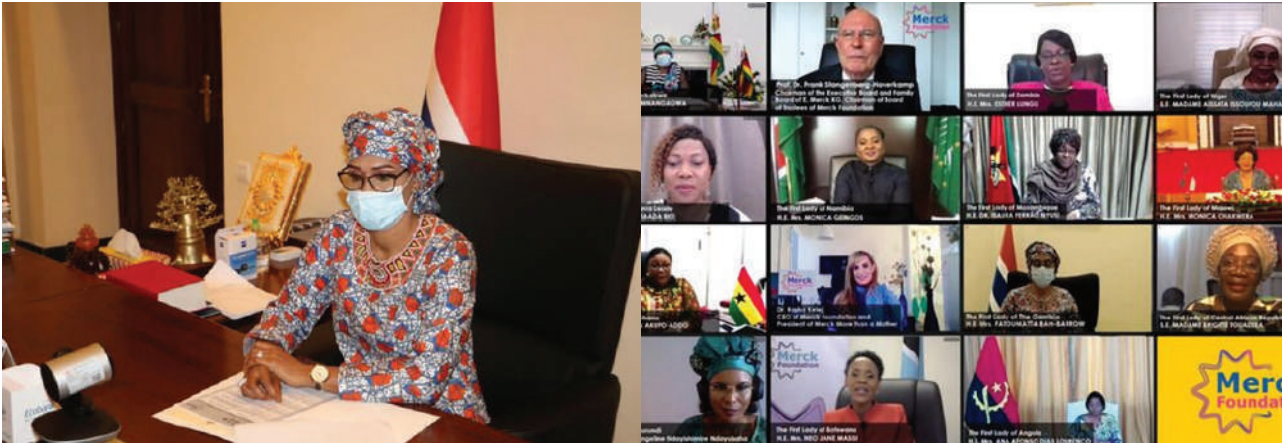


HER EXCELLENCY THE FIRST LADY FATOUMATTA BAH-BARROW AND HER EXCELLENCY MADAM AUXILIA MNANGAGWA OF ZIMBABWE AND OAFLAD VICE PRESIDENT

2021 Merck Foundation Virtual Conference of African First Ladies

The First Lady, Madam Fatoumatta Bah Barrow participated in the Merck Foundation Virtual Conference of First Ladies on the COVID 19 pandemic.

ing the invaluable role health care workers continue to play in our society, Her Excellency applauded their outstanding contribution to the fight against the pandemic.



MERCK FOUNDATION VIRTUAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST LADIES ON COVID-19

First Lady Receives Medical Items from Muslim World League

Madam Fatoumatta Bah Barrow received medical items from Muslim World League to be used in the response to COVID. The items included; 3000 COVID Test Kits, 1000 surgical masks, and 20 intensive care Beds.

The items were presented to the First Lady through the Gambian Ambassador to The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Omar Gibril Sallah.



First Lady Attends African Investment Forum

As part of her engagements geared towards promoting investment opportunities in the Gambia, The First Lady, Madam Fatoumatta Bah Barrow attended the African Investment Forum hosted by the Invest Africa Forum (IAFT) in Istanbul, Turkey from the 10 to 12 July 2021. The theme for this year's forum was **"Improving Economic and Trade ties between Turkey and Africa"**

After actively participating in the meeting, The First Lady met with officials from the Turkish Chamber of Commerce to discuss prospects of collaboration. The First Lady also visited the University of Commerce of Turkey and NEGMAR, a shipbuilding firm which counts a Gambian amongst its employees. In a bid to encourage Gambians to venture into the shipbuilding business, NEGMAR offered ten University scholarships to potential students from The Gambia after an appeal from First Lady Bah Barrow. The First Lady also had discussions with the Turkish Ministry of Family Affairs on potential support to her foundation.



FIRST LADY WITH HER DELEGATION AT THE 2021 AFRICA INVESTMENT FORUM IN TURKEY

First Lady's Foundation Partners with Al Balsam International on Health Promotion

On the sidelines of His Excellency President Adama Barrow's official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, The First Lady Fatou Bah Barrow's Foundation (FABB), formalised its relationship with Al Balsam International, a Saudi Arabian organisation through a meeting held on 15th July 2021. The medical organisation is working on supporting the First Lady's Foundation in its strides to complement the government's efforts in the health sector.



SIGNING OF PARTNERSHIP WITH AL BALSAM INTERNATIONAL

The two organisations are collaborating to provide medical facilities with equipment and health specialists as well as working on other projects to improve gynecological health in The Gambia. This is in addition to the relief assistance already provided in support of The Gambia's fight against the COVID 19 pandemic. First Lady Fatoumata Bah expressed her commitment to raising the standard of health care delivery in health institutions in The Gambia and recognised the partnership with the Al Balsam as integral to the realisation of this objective.



SIGNING OF PARTNERSHIP WITH AL BALSAM INTERNATIONAL

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

In its efforts to bridge the communication gap between the Presidency and the public, the office of the President's Media and Communications Unit (MCU) takes pride in providing timely and accurate information to the public. The Entity has grown from a subsidiary to a full

the President's Office through . The MCU was developed by exploring numerous modes of communication to share information, led by the indefatigable Director of Press and Public Relations Amie Bojang

Over the years, the Unit has produced many video presentations emphasising the President's main accomplishments in achieving the National Development Plan's aims and objectives. The ***President's Diary***, a monthly television programme that highlights the President's activities supporting the NDP, is one of our major initiatives. The ***NDP in Perspective***, a documentary which critically assesses the progress made in various development sectors, is also being ed by the office. The MCU reaches out to other media, making appearances on television and radio.

Additionally, the Media and Communications Unit makes the best use of social media for quick and efficient ways of disseminating information, mainly targeting the educated masses and the generation and the Diaspora. Since the official creation of the Unit's official , public engagement with the information shared on the pages has increased daily. For example, currently has **62,203 likes and 72,367 followers** **19.2k followers** **7.02k subscribers**, demonstrating public interest in what we do. Another official source of information is the www.op.gov.gm seen a surge is visitors f in the month of July. ance of the changing trends in accessing information by making it mobile

The Unit has made another innovation, creating an with a picture gallery and artefacts symbolising the friendship with other countries. Furthermore, it is a place that will be accessible to students learning about the history of the State House and its transformation over time. Creating the Exhibition Room is a positive Public Relations approach in bridging the gap between the Presidency and the public.

History of the State House

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