



PRESIDENT BARROW ATTENDS 77UNGA IN NEW YORK

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Work Along Bipartisan lines to Fulfil the People's Aspirations ...

President Barrow SONA 2022

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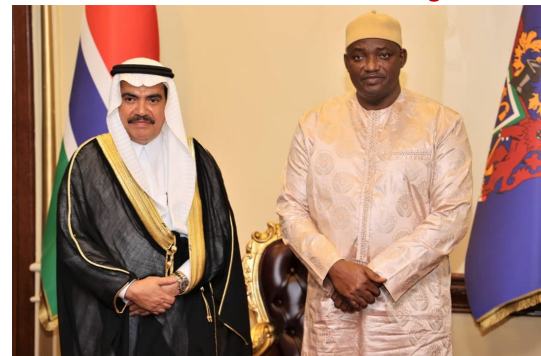
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AKI Cases: President Barrow Authorises the Suspension of License of Suspected Importer and Pharmacy



President Barrow on 7th October 2022, addressed the Nation on the medical emergency of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) cases that caused the deaths of 69 children in the Gambia.

The AKI death cases according to investigations, was due to alleged contaminated drug syrup made by a pharmaceutical company in India that was consumed by the victims.

In his address to the Nation, President Barrow expressed his condolences to the families of the victims and promised to Launch an investigation. “I assure you all that the Government will leave no stone unturned to get to the bottom of this incident”, the President said.

The President also gave a detail account of timelines and the measures taken by the Ministry of Health to ensure that the outbreak is under control such as recalling all the drug syrups in Pharmacies across the country.

Less than 24 hours after his address to the Nation, the President authorized the Medicine Control Agency, through the Ministry of Health, to suspend the license of the suspected pharmacy and importer of the drug syrups.

The suspected pharmacy owner and importer of the syrup, as well as Senior Officials of the Medicine Control Agency, were also called for questioning by The Gambia Police Force to assist in their investigation.

President Barrow further directed the Foreign Minister to reach out to the Indian Ambassador to The Gambia for consultation on his government’s most profound concern over the issue.

In an effort to reassure the families affected by the AKI death cases, and the public of his government’s commitment to get to the bottom of the issue and provide possible remedies to avoid its recurrence, President Barrow assigned a high-powered delegation to meet the families and express his government’s condolences, and share their grief in those difficult times.

The Government through the Ministry of Health and the Attorney General’s Chambers are working to review and update the Medicines and Related Product Act, the Pharmacy Council Act and all other related legislative frameworks and regulations, as well as the drug and medical licensing regime to inform other causes of action.

President Barrow Calls for Immediate Global Response to Economic Crisis - UNGA77



President Barrow attended the 77th United Nations General Assembly in New York from the 18th-24th September, the first time since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The President was accompanied by the First Lady Madam Fatoumatta Barrow and senior government officials as he addressed the assembly for the 2nd time as President of The Republic of The Gambia.

In his speech, President Barrow fervently urged coordinated efforts to address global challenges, particularly in the African continent.

The President said the global economic crisis, some of which are as a result of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, has significantly impacted on the lives people worldwide.

“The current cost-of-living crisis across the world is a wake-up call for immediate global response to alleviate the suffering and poverty that hold our nations to ransom”, President Barrow noted.

The President also expressed his government’s support for the establishing of the Secretary-General’s Global Crisis Response Group tasked with looking into recommendations and solutions for immediate relief.

President Barrow also talked about The Gambia’s efforts and resilience in fighting Climate Change through ambitious national climate action plans.

HE also stated that by 2025, The Gambia would take up solar systems to reduce spending on fossil fuel to fulfil its commitment to the Paris climate Accords.

On peace and security, President Barrow called on the United Nations and the International community to support the African continent in enforcing its peace agenda.

Other aspects of development that the President dwelled on include, Education as the President expressed Gambia’s willingness to invest heavily in higher education and skills development for young people to encourage entrepreneurship as well as job creation for the youth.

“To recover as a global family, we must muster the requisite courage and political will, and take advantage of the opportunities that go with the global crises”.

President Barrow

UNGA77–The Gambia Strengthens its Bilateral Relations with Partners & Donors of its Socio-Economic Transformation



President Adama Barrow had a series of engagements on the sidelines of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. During his stay, he held a bilateral with the Sudanese leader, His Excellency Lieutenant General Abdel – Fattah Al -Burhan Abdelrahman Al- Burhan.

The two leaders discussed the significance of the cordial and longstanding historic ties between their two countries and the cooperation in the education and security sectors.

Also, Presidents Barrow and Al- Burhan discussed

the political developments and sustaining the democratic governance in Sudan.

President Barrow also honoured an invitation by the Nigerian President, H. E Muhammadu Buhari, to the Nigeria International Economic Partnership Forum held in New York.

The forum brought together business people from the Nigerian Diaspora and others in the United States to explore the possibilities of investing in Africa.

In another bilateral engagement, President Barrow received the Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Elders, Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam.

The theme of their discussion was peaceful co-existence between Muslims and Non-Muslims and the promotion of World Peace.

They also noted the opportunities The Gambia's hosting of the Ministers of Religious Affairs of the Muslim Ummah in December 2022 presents. President Barrow stated that the Interfaith Conference would avail an opportunity to share best practices and experiences on interfaith tolerance.

President Barrow wrapped up his official engagements with a Bilateral meeting with the Secretary General

of the United Nations, H.E Antonia Guterres, Monday, 27th September 2022, at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The President also had an audience with the Executive Secretary of the UN Capital Development Fund, Ms. Preeti Shinha. They discussed the possibilities The Gambia presents to enhance youth and women's access to funds, digital financing, skills development, and opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprises – SMEs.

President Barrow wrapped up his New York activities with a meeting with Young Gambian Professionals in New York. He urged them to explore the opportunities in The Gambia.

President Barrow Addresses the 2022 Legislative Assembly - SONA

President Barrow on September 15th 2022, delivered the 2022 State of the Nation Address (SONA) at the National Assembly in Banjul, in accordance with the constitution.

This constitutionally mandated provision requires the President to give a detailed account of the progress of activities and development in all sectors of governance.

In his statement, the President detailed the nation's economic status, which the hostile global context has greatly impacted due to the emergence of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. This has coursed the country's economic growth to decline from 4.5% in 2021 to 3.6% as of June 2022.

However, President Barrow reaffirmed that his government is committed to sound economic policy management.



The President also informed the legislative members that the government, through the support of United Nations Development Programme, have started the formulation of a Recovery-Focused National Development Plan (RF-NDP: 2023-2027) and a Long-Term Development Vision (LTDV: 2050).

The RF-NDP will succeed the National Development Plan (2018-2021), and the LTDV will succeed the Vision 2020 for the country's long-term development targets and transformation.

In other areas of development, the President also talked about the significant strides government has made in the health sector, such as the introduction of The Gambia National Health Insurance Scheme

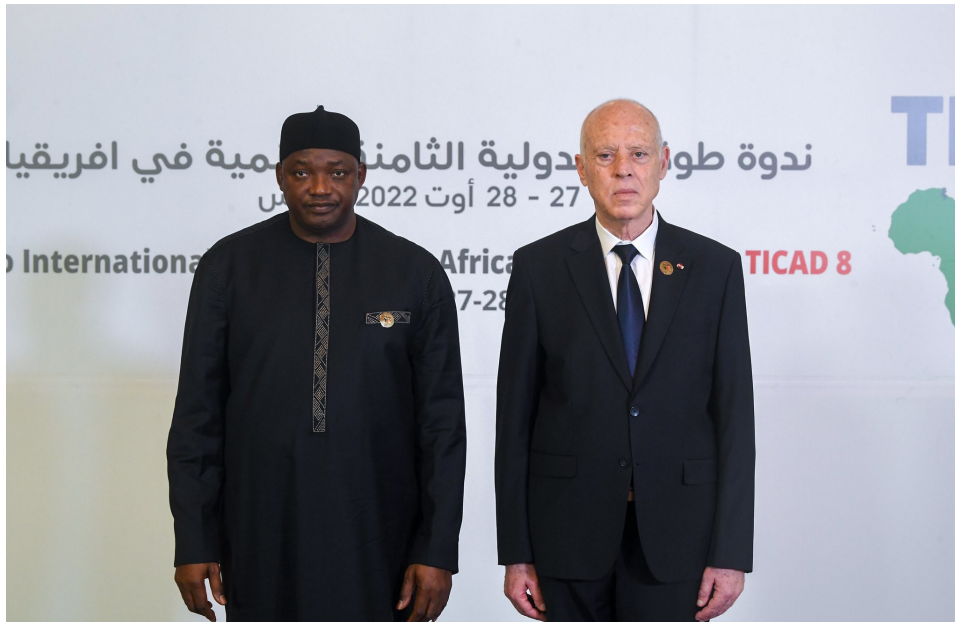
that aims to provide affordable healthcare to all Gambians.

The Government also introduced community ambulance service by distributing 80 new ambulances in areas without health facilities. The initiative will help with taking patients to the nearest hospital in the event of a medical emergency.

“With resounding success, we have reclaimed our rights and freedoms, restored democracy in the country, and rescued our dignity and honour as a nation”.

President Barrow

President Barrow Calls for the Transformation of Africa's Challenges to Opportunities



President Adama Barrow also held an audience with Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa, as part of his engagements at the TICAD8 conference. The purpose of the meeting was for the UNDP to initiate a strategic bilateral discussion with President Barrow to improve partnerships and cooperation in support of The Gambia's inclusive and resilient development.

President Barrow emphasised the urgent need to support Africa's youthful and diverse population to explore green businesses and other development opportunities. He said Africa is a burgeoning continent, but it must redouble efforts to explore its development objectives. "Africa presents unique opportunities for closer cooperation with the world, but we must build enough capacity to finance and drive our development sustainably." He noted.

The President was speaking on 27th August 2022 at the

TICAD8 Conference in Tunisia.

President Barrow further expressed that while the continent needs to manage its biodiversity and ecosystem services effectively, it is equally vital to share best practices with the globe to overcome its development challenges.

President Barrow also commended the Government and people of Japan "for assuming greater prominence in the collective endeavour to build resilient economies, communities, and environmental systems".

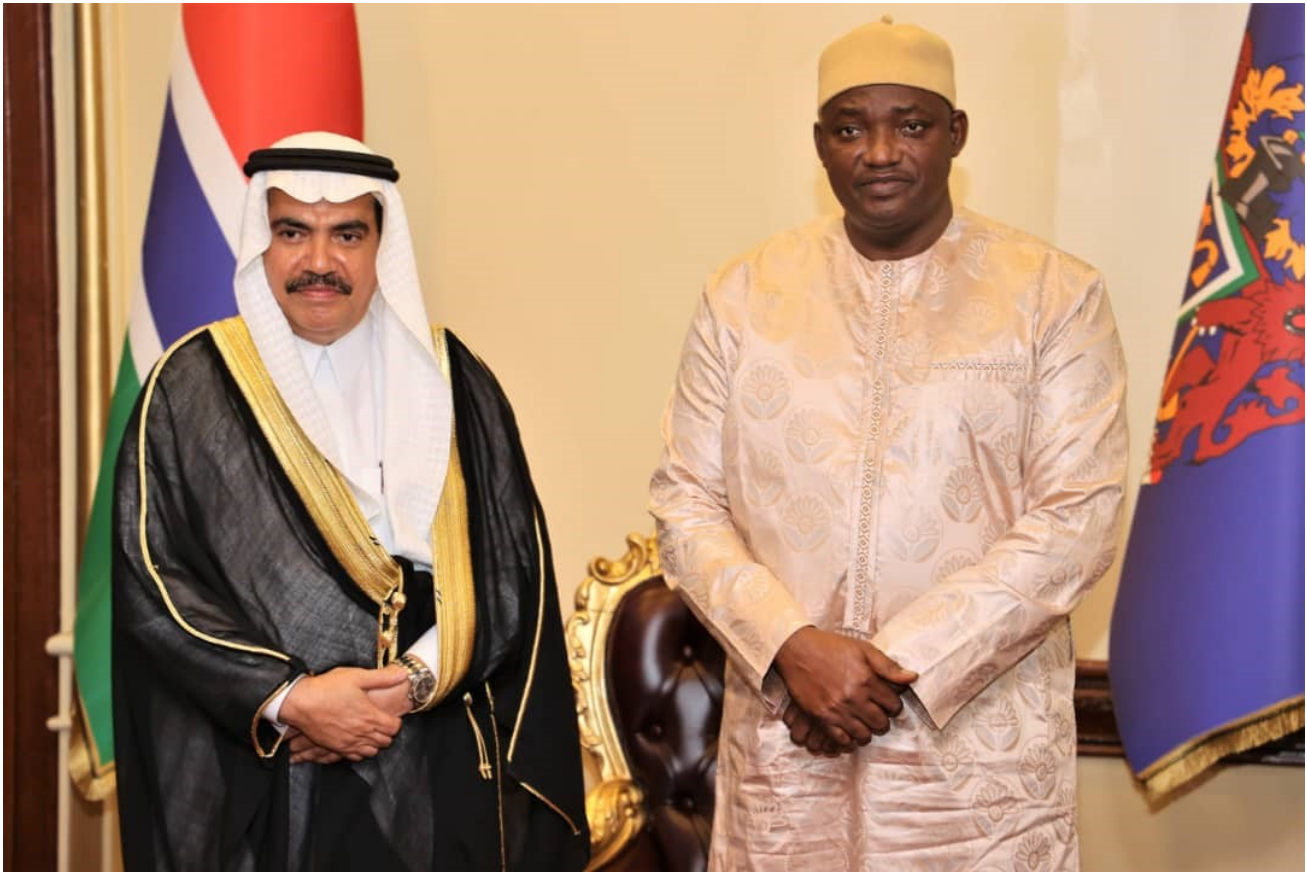


President Barrow with Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa

STATE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

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Gambia to Host Conference of Ulamas in December 2022



The President expressed enthusiasm about The Gambia hosting the conference, saying, “I am proud that the Muslim World League has chosen The Gambia to host the conference to discuss the issues affecting the 1.8 billion Muslims worldwide.”

The President was speaking at the statehouse on September 6th 2022, during an audience with the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the Muslim World League, Dr. Abdulqader Ahmad Al-Mashhor, who came to discuss the hosting of the conference of Ulamas in Africa to be held on December 4th, 2022.

Dr. Al-Mashhor said the World Muslim League chose The Gambia to host this significant gathering due to the President’s willingness and the prosperous nature of The Gambia.

According to him, the conference will bring together all African Ulamas to discuss the affairs of Muslims worldwide and to speak in solidarity to unify the Ummah.

He said the second session of the conference would be dedicated to interfaith dialogue of all religious leaders to promote peace and harmony.

GAF First-Ever Council Sworn-in



His Excellency President Adama Barrow has reiterated his government's support for strengthening the capacity and professionalism of the members of the Gambia Armed Forces during the swearing-in ceremony of members of the First Gambia Armed Forces Council, held on Friday 16th September 2022, at the Statehouse in Banjul.

President Barrow said the selection of the council is a major step forward in the Security Sector Reform framework. He urged all council members to "measure up to the trust and confidence reposed in them".

Speaking on the functions of the Members of the Council,

President Barrow said their advice and expertise would contribute to the development of our democratic values and principles, as well as "significantly influence the checks and balances within the Armed Forces".

Speaking on behalf of the council members, V.P Badara Alieu Joof pledged the council's support to the President as the Commander-In-Chief of The Gambia Armed Forces in his efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery of the Armed forces.

The formation of the GAF Council is a constitutional requirement vested in the President under Section 189, Sub-section (1g) of the 1997 Constitution.

The Members include:

Vice President Badara Alieu Joof - Chairman

Minister of Defense, Sering Modou Njie - Member

Permanent Secretary Ministry of Defense, Rohie Bittaye Darboe - Member

Chief of Defense Staff of the GAF, Lieutenant General Yankuba A. Drammeh - Member

Deputy CDS, Major General, Mamat O. Cham - Member

Commander of Republican National Guard, Brigadier General Turro Jawneh - Member

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Abdoulie Conteh - Civilian Member of the Council