



NSC SPECIAL

EDITION



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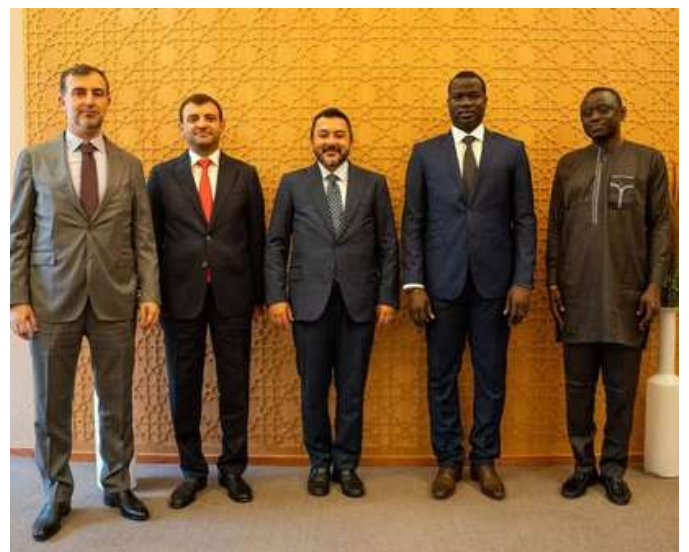
INDEPENDENCE STADIUM, BAKAU



GAMBIA'S YOUTH MINISTER ENGAGES MOROCCAN COUNTERPART, ICYF PRESIDENT ON FUTURE YOUTH COOPERATION"

On the invitation of the Moroccan Minister of Youth, Sports and Communication, Hon. Mohamed Mehdi Bensaid, the Hon. Minister of Ministry of Youth & Sports Bakary Y. Badjie is currently in Marrakech to attend the opening ceremony of the Marrakech OIC Youth Capital International Programme.

While in Marrakech, the Hon. Minister held bilateral meetings with his host Minister and the President of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, H.E. Taha Ayhan. These engagements aim to strengthen the already existing relationships between the parties and explore ways to foster future cooperation for the mutual benefit of our youth constituents.





10 OFFICIALS JET OFF TO BEIJING FOR GLOBAL TRAINING

10 delegates from the Ministry of Youth & Sports and the National Centre for Arts and Culture - Gambia departed Banjul International Airport for Beijing, China. The team forms part of the 55 participants recently bid farewell by the Ministry at a colourful send-off ceremony last Friday.

Among the travelling officials are Ministry staff, Regional Youth and Sports Coordinators, a Program Manager from the The Gambia National Sports Council - NSC , all selected to take part in specialized seminars focused on sports, culture, and tourism.

This delegation, made up of vibrant and dynamic public officials, will join others in exploring new ideas, deepening cross-cultural collaboration, and gaining valuable global exposure.



NSC ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAHMOUD L. JAWLA MATRICULATES INTO GIMPA PROGRAM AT MDI

Banjul, July 2, 2025 – The Acting Executive Director of the National Sports Council (NSC), Mr. Mahmoud L. Jawla, was officially matriculated yesterday morning as a student of the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) through its academic partnership with the Management Development Institute (MDI) in The Gambia.

The event, held at the MDI campus in Kanifing, marked a symbolic and academic milestone for Mr. Jawla, who joined fellow students in taking the formal oath of matriculation. This ceremony signified their commitment to uphold the core values of both MDI and GIMPA—integrity, academic honesty, and respect.

“This matriculation marks the beginning of an important journey for us as we commit ourselves not just to academic excellence, but to upholding the principles that define the institutions we now belong to,” said Mr. Jawla after the ceremony.

As the head of the NSC, Mr. Jawla continues to play a key role in shaping the future of sports governance in The Gambia, and this new academic chapter adds another layer to his professional development and leadership credentials.

The ceremony was attended by faculty members, government officials, and students from various public institutions across the country.



NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL HOLDS TRANSFORMATIONAL RETREAT IN KARTONG TO STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE

Kartong, West Coast Region – July 6, 2025 - The National Sports Council (NSC) has concluded a successful three-day retreat at Halahin Eco Lodge in Kartong, West Coast Region, from July 4th to 6th, 2025. Held under the theme "Strengthening Institutional Governance for Better Service Delivery," the retreat brought together staff, council members, regional representatives, and the Director of Youth and Sports.

The objective of the retreat was to enhance internal operations, foster team building, and review key policy documents guiding the work of the Council.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr. Mahmoud L. Jawla, Acting Executive Director of the National Sports Council, thanked the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports for his continued support to the institution. He emphasized the importance of the retreat as an opportunity to reflect on operations, reinforce collaboration, and improve governance frameworks.

Delivering the keynote address, Mr. Lamin S. Jawara, Chairman of the National Sports Council, stated:

"Good governance is the bedrock of effective service delivery. Through this retreat, we are building systems and a culture of accountability and responsiveness within the Council."

The opening session was officiated by Mr. Abass Bah, Director of Youth and Sports, representing the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports, Bakary Y. Badjie.

The retreat included technical sessions and group discussions structured around seven thematic pillars:

1. Employee Service Rules
2. Financial Policy and Procedures
3. Training and Staff Development Policy
4. Risk Management Policy and Procedures
5. Strategic Plan Review
6. Training Manual

These sessions provided opportunities for staff and council members to collaboratively review, update, and validate key operational documents and frameworks.

The National Sports Council expressed sincere appreciation to the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports, Bakary Y. Badjie, for his leadership and support.

The retreat reaffirmed the Council's commitment to professionalism, institutional reform, and the overall advancement of sports in The Gambia.

PICTORIAL – GAMBIA'S GOLDEN BOYS IN ALGERIA





GAMBIAN OFFICIALS IN BEIJING FOR GLOBAL SEMINARS ON CULTURE, SPORTS & TOURISM

Ten representatives from the Ministry of Youth & Sports, The Gambia National Sports Council - NSC and National Centre for Arts and Culture - Gambia are currently in Beijing, China, attending two high-level seminars on Integrated Development of Culture, Sports & Tourism and Ethnic & Traditional Sports Protection & Development.

The seminars are sponsored by Ministry of Commerce of the people's Republic of China and jointly organized by the Academy for international business officials and China Sports International Co. Ltd.

The seminar brought together delegates from across Africa and Asia—including The Gambia, Nigeria, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Iran, Armenia, and South Africa.

The seminars aim to build capacity, encourage knowledge sharing, and empower officials with innovative strategies for cultural and sports development back home.





30 GAMBIAN YOUTH LEADERS KICK OFF SEMINAR IN BEIJING

The second batch of the 55-member delegation are in Beijing for a two-week Seminar on Youth Entrepreneurship and Leadership for Gambia, hosted by AIBO under China's Ministry of Commerce.

This all-Gambian group of youth leaders and entrepreneurs was nominated by the Ministry of Youth & Sports, with support from the Chinese Embassy in The Gambia.

The opening ceremony featured remarks from Mr. Mbye Saine project coordinator of The Gambia Songhai Initiative-GSI and Mr. Wu Wei the organiser in the China ministry of commerce who both emphasized the importance of youth empowerment, innovation, and China-Gambia cooperation.

The seminar will explore China's development model, digital innovation, and leadership strategies to help our young change-makers drive national progress.





NSC'S SARA CAMARA AT THE YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINAR IN CHINA

Beijing, China – July 9, 2025

Sara Camara, Communication and Public Relations Manager of The Gambia's National Sports Council (NSC), is among 30 young Gambian leaders currently in Beijing, China, participating in the "Seminar on Youth Entrepreneurship and Leadership for Gambia." The 14-day program, organized by the Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO) under the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), kicked off today with an official opening ceremony.

Camara joins a diverse group of delegates selected by the Ministry of Youth and Sports to represent Gambia in this China-aided initiative, which aims to build entrepreneurial capacity, leadership skills, and foster greater cooperation between China and developing countries.

The opening ceremony featured remarks from Mr. Wu Wei, Director of the Executive Department for China-aid Training Programs at AIBO, and Mr. Mbye Saine, Project Coordinator of the Gambia Songhai Initiative/Youth Agribusiness Training Center.

In his address, Mr. Saine thanked MOFCOM and AIBO for their continued partnership with The Gambia and encouraged participants to embrace the knowledge shared, form meaningful partnerships, and return home as empowered agents of development.

Mr. Wu extended a warm welcome to the delegation, reaffirming China's commitment to supporting Gambia's growth through cooperation in agriculture, infrastructure, health, and youth empowerment—key focus areas under the Belt and Road Initiative and South-South Cooperation.

Day one of the seminar opened with a lecture by Ambassador Chen Mingming from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, titled "Overview of China's National Conditions." The session offered a deep dive into China's history, governance system, economic success, and global influence—providing participants with a comparative lens to reflect on Gambia's own development journey.

In the afternoon, attention shifted to digital innovation with a session on "Development and Operation of Cross-Border E-Commerce Platforms and Its Practice in The Gambia." The lecture emphasized the potential of digital trade and how young Gambians can leverage e-commerce for economic growth and regional competitiveness.





ROAD ACCIDENT INVOLVING GAMBIA'S U 16 TEAM IN GUINEA CONAKRY

The Gambia Basketball Association wishes to inform the general public, especially stakeholders that our national U 16 male and female teams that departed The Gambia by bus in the afternoon of Wednesday 16th July, 2025, to participate in the Afro FIBA Zone 2 Basketball competition in Guinea got involved in an accident in the town of Kindia Linsan, while approaching Conakry.

Information received so far indicates that some of the 30 players and officials sustained injuries and are currently receiving treatment at the Kindia Regional Hospital. However, all those injured are in stable condition and continued to be observed by medical personnel under the supervision of the FIBA Zone 2 executive and officials of the government of Guinea.

The GBA is cooperating with the Gambia government through the MOYS and Foreign Affairs to coordinate with the authorities in Guinea to ensure the team gets the best possible medical attention. The public will be updated accordingly.



PRIVATE JET TO EVACUATE U16 BASKETBALL TEAM

The Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports, Bakary Y. Badjie, has confirmed that President Adama Barrow has instructed the immediate deployment of a private jet to evacuate The Gambia's U16 basketball team, following their involvement in a road accident in Guinea.

Speaking from the airport, where he is overseeing preparations alongside his ministry officials and other stakeholders, Minister Badjie stated that the private jet has already departed and will make two inbound trips to ensure the safe return of both players and officials.

A medical team from the Ministry of Health and the Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital (EFSTH) is currently on standby at the airport to conduct medical assessments upon the team's arrival. Those who require further treatment will be taken for specialized care, while others will be received by officials of the Gambia Basketball Association and escorted home.

The Ministry assures the public that all necessary steps are being taken to provide care and support for the team. Further updates will follow as the evacuation unfolds.



HONOURABLE MINISTER BAKARY Y. BADJIE HANDS OVER NATIONAL FLAG, ALLOCATES D7 MILLION TO TEAM GAMBIA FOR MAIDEN ANOCA SCHOOL GAMES IN ALGERIA

In a show of patriotism and strong government support for youth and sports development, the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports, Bakary Y. Badjie, on Saturday officially handed over the Gambian national flag to the delegation set to represent the country at the inaugural ANOCA (Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa) School Games in Algeria.

Hon. Badjie was accompanied by the Acting Executive Director of the National Sports Council (NSC), Mr. Mahmoud L. Jawla, during the symbolic ceremony, further underscoring institutional backing for the country's participation.

The brief yet spirited event was held at the FIFA Gold Project in Yundum, where Minister Badjie reaffirmed The Gambia's commitment to nurturing young talents and supporting them on international platforms. In his remarks, the Minister revealed that the government, through his Ministry, allocated D7 million out of a proposed D9 million budget to fully fund the country's participation in the games.

"This is a historic moment for us, as it marks The Gambia's first appearance at the ANOCA School Games. We are proud of the team and have no doubt they will represent us with pride and discipline," Minister Badjie declared, as he presented the national flag to the delegation.

The Gambian contingent consists of athletes competing in six sporting disciplines: athletics, beach volleyball, swimming, judo, and 3x3 basketball.

The ANOCA School Games is a newly introduced continental sports initiative aimed at promoting sports development and unity among school-going youth across Africa. This year's edition, to be hosted in Algeria, brings together some of the continent's most promising young athletes.



GAMBIAN YOUTH LEADERS CONCLUDE CHINA-AID SEMINAR WITH RENEWED PURPOSE AND STRONGER TIES

The Seminar on Youth Entrepreneurship and Leadership for The Gambia, hosted in Beijing under the China-Aid initiative by AIBO (Academy for International Business Officials) of MOFCOM, concluded on July 21, 2025, with a closing ceremony, certificate presentation, and farewell luncheon.

The two-week program brought together 30 Gambian youth leaders, selected by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, for lectures, field visits, and cultural exchange to promote entrepreneurship, leadership, and bilateral cooperation.

Key highlights:

- Lectures on China's political system, cross-border e-commerce, and poverty alleviation.
- Visits to Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Hongqiao Pearl Market, and Harbin's Digital Trade Industrial Park.
- Engagement with Longjian Road and Bridge Co. Ltd., builders of the iconic Gambia River Bridge.

Speeches:

- Mberry Jobe (Deputy Executive Director, GNYC) called the seminar "unforgettable and transformative," emphasizing strengthened Gambia-China ties.
- Wu Wei (AIBO) praised participants' enthusiasm, calling them "the future of The Gambia."

The program ended with certificate awards and a courtesy visit to the Gambian Embassy in Beijing. Participants returned home on July 22–23, pledging to use the experience to drive youth empowerment, national development, and Gambia–China cooperation.

This initiative forms part of China's Belt and Road Initiative and South-South Cooperation, promoting global development through knowledge exchange and capacity building.



GAMBIAN STUDENTS IN MEDINA CELEBRATE EXPATRIATE WORLD CUP TRIUMPH WITH COURTESY CALL ON SPORTS MINISTER

The Gambia Student Union at the Islamic University of Medina, alongside executive members of its football team, on Monday paid a courtesy call on the Honourable Minister of Youth & Sports, Hon. Bakary Y. Badjie, following their remarkable victory at the Expatriate World Cup—an annual football tournament hosted by the university.

The meeting, held at the Ministry's conference hall and chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary (Technical), Mr. Musa Mbye, provided a platform for the students to share the story behind their triumph and the challenges they encountered.

Hon. Badjie also pledged to support the team through his office, assuring them that they would be provided with sporting materials, including Gambian jerseys, and a token of appreciation in recognition of their performance during the tournament.

The meeting ended on a high note with mutual pledges of continued collaboration and support, aimed at further uplifting Gambian youth making waves both at home and abroad.



BEREWULENG FEMALE TEAM PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO MINISTRY AFTER HISTORIC DOUBLE WIN

Banjul, 25th July 2025 – The Berewuleng Female Football Team today paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Youth and Sports following their outstanding achievement in clinching both the Gambia Football Federation Women's First Division League and the Women's FA Cup titles this season.

Led by club board member Sarjo Sowe and Head Coach Fakebba Saine, the victorious team was warmly received by the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports, Bakary Y. Badjie. Also in attendance were the Deputy Permanent Secretaries Mr. Mbye and Mr. Camara, Director of Youth and Sports, Mr. Abass Bah and the Acting Executive Director of the National Sports Council, Mr. Mahmoud L. Jawla.

In his remarks, Minister Badjie congratulated the team for their discipline, hard work, and consistency throughout the season. He commended the club's leadership and coaching staff for their role in elevating women's football in The Gambia and assured them of the Ministry's continued support as they prepare for their international campaign in Senegal.



FROM HEARTBREAK TO HISTORY: GAMBIA'S GOLDEN BOYS SHINE IN ALGERIA

Annaba, Algeria – July 30, 2025 — Out of the ashes of heartbreak, a miracle was born. The Gambia Basketball Association has delivered an unforgettable chapter in the nation's sporting history — one written in resilience, unity, and triumph.

Still reeling from the emotional aftermath of a tragic car accident that shook their junior team, Gambia's young basketballers found the strength to transform sorrow into strength. In a stunning display of determination, they stormed the courts of Annaba to clinch gold at the inaugural African School Games.

This wasn't just a win. It was a statement — a tribute to their fallen teammates, a declaration of hope, and a shining symbol of Gambian pride.

With each dribble, pass, and shot, these boys honored their brothers, lifting not only a trophy but also the spirit of an entire nation.

Their 3x3 basketball gold medal is now a beacon — a symbol of what Gambians can achieve when given the chance and the challenge.

Across sports — from basketball to athletics and swimming — Gambian athletes are proving that they belong among Africa's elite. This victory is a reflection of years of preparation, commitment, and belief in the power of sports to unite, heal, and elevate.

For the next four years, Gambia will proudly hold this title. But the true victory lies in the inspiration these boys have given to every young Gambian: that from tragedy can come triumph, and from pain, greatness.





MOYS APPROVES D7 MILLION FOR AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES IN ALGERIA

The Government of The Gambia, through the Ministry of Youth & Sports, has approved D7 million to support the Gambia's participation in the first-ever African School Games in Algeria.

The Gambian delegation, made up of 26 student-athletes and officials, will compete in six sporting disciplines, including athletic, basketball, volleyball, wrestling etc, in Algeria tomorrow to represent The Smiling Coast at the continental stage.

This bold move is backed by a strong partnership between the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Gambia National Olympic Committee (GNOC)—a team effort to give our young athletes the chance to shine internationally.

**NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL
THE GAMBIA**

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INDEPENDENCE STADIUM . BAKAU

