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**STATEMENT
ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP
BY**

**MR. AMADOU JAITEH
FIRST SECRETARY
OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE GAMBIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**BEFORE THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
74TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**UNDER AGENDA ITEM 16
“ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AT THE UNITED NATIONS”**

NEW YORK, 17TH OCTOBER 2009

Chair person ,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group. The African Group would like to thank the Secretary -General for his report on Administration of Justice at the United Nations as contained in document A/74/172.

Chair person ,

The African Group is pleased to observe the progress so far made in the internal justice system in the United Nations. The costs for litigation including attorney fees, pre-trial expenditures for depositions and interrogatories, records searches, and court fees can be extremely high and due to our Organization's distinctive
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administration of justice at the United Nations. The African Group reiterates its continued and unwavering commitment to support the Organisation's efforts to ensure its staff feels confident that if they seek justice through both the formal and informal internal justice mechanisms, the system will be accessible, the professional and independent judges will hear their case, the judgment will be fair, and they will have access to professional legal advice.

I thank you