



STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE

**HONOURABLE BAKARY BADJIE, MINISTER OF
YOUTH AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE GAMBIA**

AT THE
SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

DURING THE
79TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23rd September 2024

NEW YORK

Mr. President
Excellencies
Distinguished Delegates and Participants
Ladies and Gentlemen

The Government of The Gambia expresses sincere gratitude to the United Nations Secretary-General for convening this significant Summit, which aims to foster sustainable multilateral solutions to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and beyond. We also extend deep appreciation to the co-facilitators from Namibia and Germany for their tireless efforts in facilitating the negotiation processes and invaluable contributions to the preparation and execution of this Summit.

The Summit of the Future demonstrates our collective will to strengthen multilateralism, as it presents a significant opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to addressing shared global challenges. As we engage in discussions on enhancing multilateralism and transforming global governance in the coming days, let us accelerate our commitment to reinforcing our sacred multilateral principles, of upholding human rights, sustaining peace, and driving sustainable development. Solidarity and respect for human dignity must underpin our collective actions and commitments at all levels – be it regional or global. These are and should remain the bedrock of our efforts.

The theme, _____ is both timely and relevant. It is particularly relevant at this critical moment when the world, especially the Global South, is grappling with persistent existential challenges, including escalating regional tensions and instabilities such as the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, Palestine and the Sahel region have led to increased displacements of people particularly women and children thereby further depressing the economies of developing countries.

Mr. President,

As a developing country, The Gambia is deeply concerned about the disproportionate impacts of global challenges on small countries, especially, the

inclusive, and just societies. The pact is a call to action that places future generations at the core of our concerns.

We reaffirm our commitment to strengthening international cooperation to ensure that the goals of this Summit are realized to build a better tomorrow for future generations.

I thank you for your kind attention.