



# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## SIXTH LEGISLATURE THIRD ORDINARY SESSION IN THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE YEAR



# PARLIAMENTARY ROUNDUP



The Gambia Assembly



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# **THIRD ORDINARY SESSION IN THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE YEAR**

The Third Ordinary Session of the National Assembly in the 2025 Legislative Year commenced on the 08th – 29th September 2025.

This session highlighted the consideration of Records of Votes and Proceedings, passage of bills, adoption of reports, extension of the mandate of the Special Select Committee, taking of Parliamentary Questions and delivery of Ministerial Response to Committee Reports.



# BILLS



The session witnessed the **First Reading of the National Assembly Salaries and Pensions (Amendment) Bill, 2025**, by the Nominated Member and member of the Assembly Business Committee, Honorable Kebba Lang Fofana.

The bill sought to provide for the payment of gratuity to the; the next-of-kin of a member who dies before the end of their term; a member who resigns or is recalled by the electorate; and the person completing the residual term of a member who dies, resigns, or is recalled by the electorate.

**The First Reading of the Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2025** by the Honorable Minister of Defence overseeing the Ministry of Trade, Employment and Regional Integration. The bill sought to establish a modern, coherent, and development-oriented investment framework for The Gambia that enables the attraction, retention and expansion of responsible and sustainable investments.

**The First Reading of the National Food Security Corporation Bill, 2025** by the Honorable Minister of Agriculture Livestock & Food Security. The bill aims to change the Corporation's name, minimize dependence on the government and create a self-sustaining organization for the corporation.

**The Second Reading of the Prerogative of Mercy Bill, 2025** by Honorable Alhagie Mbow, Member for Upper Saloum. The bill was first brought during the Second Ordinary Session of the 2025 Legislative Year. It aims to establish a clear legal framework for the President of The Republic to grant pardons, detailing how the Committee on the Exercise of Mercy selects members and processes applications without altering the Constitution or imposing financial costs.



**The Third Reading of the Medicines and Related Products (Amendment) Bill 2025.** The First and Second Readings of the bill was held during the Second Ordinary Session in the 2025 Legislative Year, the bill was introduced by the Chairperson of the Health Committee, Hon. Amadou Camara. The bill aims to make exemption in the Medicines and Related Products Act 2014 relating to the issue of registration of medicines and related products. During this session, the bill has completed all stages of the National Assembly and now awaiting Presidential Assent.

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**The Second Reading, Consideration Stage and Third Reading of the Judicial Officers (Conditions of Service) Bill 2025** by the Honorable Minister of Justice. The bill was first introduced during the Second Ordinary Session of the 2025 Legislative Year following the subsequent withdrawal of the Judicial Officers (Remuneration) Bill 2024. The bill has completed all stages of the National Assembly and is awaiting Presidential Assent. It sought to provide a comprehensive framework for the conditions of service of Judicial Officers, addressing longstanding concerns about remuneration, pension, and, to a large extent, the independence of the Judiciary.

**The Third Reading of the National Security Council Bill, 2025** by the His Excellency the Vice President which was introduced (First Reading) by the Hon. Attorney General and Minister for Justice during the Third Ordinary Session of the 2024 Legislative Year. The bill was committed to the Standing Committee on Defence and Security after the second reading in the same session the report of the committee guided the committee throughout the Consideration stage. The bill seeks to promote the effective coordination of the security of The Gambia as an important factor for Security Sector Reforms. The bill has completed all stages of the bill and is awaiting Presidential Assent.

**Completion of the Consideration Stage and Third reading of the Elections Bill 2021**, which was introduced during the Fifth legislature, The bill aims to modernize, consolidate, and harmonize the electoral laws of The Gambia in order to ensure greater transparency, credibility, and fairness in the conduct of elections. This bill has also completed all stages of the National Assembly and awaiting Presidential Assent.



**The Third Reading of the Personal Data Protection and Privacy Bill 2025** by the Honorable Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services which was first introduced (First Reading) during the First Ordinary Session of the 2025 Legislative year and committed to the Select Committee on Education, ICT and Training., The Report of the Committee was adopted during the Second Ordinary session which helped guide the Consideration stage of the bill. The bill seeks to introduce comprehensive provisions that establish the foundational principles for the lawful processing of personal data. This bill has passed all stages of the National Assembly and awaiting Presidential Assent.

During the Third Ordinary Session, a total of Five (5) bills were passed and are awaiting Presidential Assent.

# MOTIONS



Pursuant to section 79(1)(a) and (c) of the 1997 Constitution, the session considered and ratified the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Treaty) was tabled by the **Honorable Minister for Environment, Climate Change & Natural Resources.**



The Consideration and Adoption of the motion for the Protection of Customary Land Rights and Fair Land Governance in The Gambia which was tabled by **Honorable Sulayman Saho, Member for Central Baddibu.**



Motion to consider the Extension of the Mandate of the Special Select Committee set up to inquire into the sale and disposal of assets identified by the 'Janneh Commission' in relation to former President Jammeh by the Chairperson of the Special Select Committee **Honorable Abdoulie Ceesay, Deputy Majority Leader and Member for Old Yundum.**



The Session also witnessed a Matter of Day on the removal of Mr. Modou Ceesay as Auditor General of The Gambia by **Honorable Almameh Gibba, Member for Foni Kansala.**



THE REMOVAL OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL MR. MODOU CEESAY ORDER 51: MATTER OF

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

During this session, a total of four Committee Reports were tabled and adopted, and one Report from International Parliamentary Delegations were also tabled and adopted by Plenary;



Report of the Proceedings of the 54th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Africa Region Conference, 10th–16th August 2025, which was hosted by the National Assembly of The Gambia, was presented by **Honorable Alhagie Babou Ceesay** member of the CPA Africa Regional Delegation.



Report of the delegation of the Select Committee on Regional Government, Lands, Ombudsman & IEC of the National Assembly to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to inspect the state of preparedness for the 2025 Hajj operations by **Honorable Sulayman Jammeh**, Chairperson of the Select Committee.



Report of the Standing Committee on Defence and Security of the National Assembly on an oversight visit to Police Stations, Military Barracks, Custom Units, Prisons, and Drug Law Enforcement Agencies by **Honorable Almameh Gibba**, Member of the Committee.

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Report of the Finance and Public Accounts Committee (FPAC) of the National Assembly on Capacity Building on Finance for Non-Finance Managers, held in Ghana from 16th to 29th July 2025..

Finance and Public Accounts Committee (FPAC) updates on the National Assembly Resolutions of 29th September 2022, 14th September 2023, and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 by **Honorable Alhagie S Darbo**, Chairperson of the Finance and Public Accounts Committee.



# MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENTS



In accordance with Standing Order 100 of the Standing Orders, Minister's Reply to the Report/Resolution of the Joint Committee of FPAC and PEC of the National Assembly on the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Petroleum Products of 36,953.614 metric tons valued at \$30,000,000 (Thirty million US Dollars), by the **Honorable Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs.**

Minister's Reply to the Report/Resolution of the Finance and Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly on the 2020 Audited Accounts of the Government of The Gambia, Annual Activity Reports and Audited Financial Statements of Public Agencies, Hospitals and Local Government Councils by the **Honorable Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs.**



Minister's Reply to the Report of the Select Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the National Assembly on the follow-up tour on the implementation of the Resolutions passed by the National Assembly on the matter of the Seccos, by Honorable **Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Food Security.**

Minister's Reply to the Report of the Joint Committee on Environment and Agriculture of the National Assembly on the probe into the activities of transhumance in The Gambia, by the Honorable **Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Food Security**

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# **THIRD ORDINARY SESSION IN THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE YEAR**

In pursuant to Standing Order 41 of the National Assembly Standing Orders a total of 38 Oral Questions and Answers Sessions were poised to Honorable Ministers with respect to their various portfolios of responsibilities, the following Hon. Ministers appeared before the Assembly to orally answer questions from the Honorable members in which they were notified before appearance.

(1) Hon. Attorney General and Minister for Justice

(2) Hon. Minister for Health

(3) Hon. Minister for Lands, Regional Government and Religious Affairs

(4) Hon. Minister for Youth and Sports

(5) Hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambians Abroad

(6) Hon. Minister for Interior

(7) Hon. Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Food Security

(8) Hon. Minister for Information, Media and Broadcasting Services

(9) Hon. Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources

(10) Hon. Minister for Fisheries and Water Resources

(11) Hon. Minister for Defence overseeing Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The motion on the Adjournment Debate was delivered by the Chief Majority Whip, Honorable Omar Darboe. Third Ordinary Session was adjourned Sine-die without debate.

# THIRD ORDINARY SESSION OF THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE YEAR



**THE GAMBIA**



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

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