

National Assembly, New Assembly Building, Reginald Pye Lane, Banjul, The Gambia

[OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT]

2ND SITTING OF THE 1ST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE 6TH LEGISLATURE

National Assembly Proceedings of

Tuesday, 3rd March 2026

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1. Prayers

[The Assembly met at 10:30 a.m. in the New National Assembly Building, Reginald Pye Lane, Banjul.]

[The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Seedy S.K. Njie, read the Prayers.]

[The Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

The Assembly was called to Order.

2. Corrections and Approval of the Record of Votes and Proceedings of the National Assembly Sitting of Monday, 2nd March 2026

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the Records of Votes and Proceedings of Monday, 2nd March 2026, is before us for corrections and approval. Can any Honourable Member please move a motion for the corrections and approval of the said Record of Votes and Proceedings? Yes, Member for Illiassa.

HON SANKUNG DAMPHA [ILLIASA]: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I rise to move that the Records of Votes and Proceedings of the National Assembly Sittings of Monday, 2nd March 2026, be corrected and approved.

Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder? Yes, the Member for Upper Fulladu West.

HON BAKARY KORA [UPPER FULLADU WEST]: Yes, thank you. I rise to second the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, it has been moved and seconded that the Record of Votes and Proceedings of the National Assembly Sitting of Monday, 2nd March 2026, be approved.

[Question Proposed]

Any issues or observations from Honourable Members may be drawn to our attention by raising your tags. Of course, we will look at the records page by page beginning with Page 1.

Honourable Members, any issue or observation on Page 1? Can we move to Page 2? Page 2. Page 3, Honourable Members, Page 2. Yes, Member for Serekunda.

HON MUSA CHAM [SEREKUNDA]: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. There is an issue here. Since the notice of the upcoming business has nothing to do with yesterday's business, so why does it appear here?

Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, Member for Lower Saloum. Upper Saloum yea, because it was on the Order Paper.

HON SAINEY JAWARA [LOWER SALOUM]: Honourable Member, yes, we are considering the proceedings of yesterday because it was part of the Order Paper for yesterday's business.

THE SPEAKER: Exactly, that is correct. Page 3, any other? Yes, Member for Serekunda.

HON MUSA CHAM [SEREKUNDA]: You know, we support innovation. We know it is a thrive towards innovation, but the fact is that, this was never discussed during yesterday's event. So, to… yea. Okay, it was never discussed.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let us move to Page 3. Any other on Page 3? Honourable Members, order. That was what was captured on the Order Paper. So, it is only correct, no! no, debate, no, no, proposal here later after the records. Any other on Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Yes, Member for Wuli East.

HON SUWAIBOU TOURAY [WULI EAST]: Thank you. On Page 6 under the names, you have a sentence there which reads: 'both the Honourable Ministers' when the article "the" is to be put there. It is meant to make emphasis on one thing specific, but this is… so we just say, "both Honourable Ministers".

THE SPEAKER: We are not getting you. I cannot hear you from our end here.

HON SUWAIBOU TOURAY [WULI EAST]: "Both Honourable Ministers, answered all the questions" rather than 'both the Honourable Ministers'. No, they are not the same.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, you are right. Honourable Members, yes, he is right. Just above bills 'both the Honourable Ministers', so we remove the article 'the'. Can we move to Page 7? Page 7. Can we move to Page 8? Page 9.

Honourable Members, it has been moved and seconded, so I now put the question.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[That the Record of Votes and Proceedings of the National Assembly Sitting of Monday 2nd March, 2026 be Approved with Amendments.]

Clerk, we may proceed, please.

3. Bill in accordance with Order 73:

i. **Consideration Stage of the National Food Security Cooperation Bill, 2025** *[By the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Livestock & Food Security]*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members would recall that after the Second Reading Stage, the Bill was automatically referred to ABC. Therefore, the Bill is appointed today for the Consideration Stage in accordance with Order 73.

During the Consideration Stage, Members shall have the opportunity to give detail consideration and scrutiny to every clause and schedule in the Bill. This stage also provides the first opportunity for amendments to the Bill to be debated and voted on.

Therefore, I will now resolve the Assembly into the Committee of the Whole Assembly to give consideration to this bill entitled *"The National Food Security Cooperation Bill, 2025"*.

Committee of the Whole Assembly

The Assembly Resumed

THE SPEAKER: The Member for Basse and others, the Assembly now resumes. Honourable Members, may I now call on the Honourable Minister to report to the Assembly as to what transpired at the Committee of Supply.

HON DR DEMBA SABALLY [MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & FOOD SECURITY]: Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members of this august Assembly, I report that the Bill entitled *"The National Food Security Cooperation Bill, 2025"* has gone through the Committee of the Whole Assembly with amendments, and that the report of the Committee of the Whole Assembly on *"The National Food Security Cooperation Bill, 2025"* be adopted.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, order.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[That the Report of the Committee of the Whole Assembly on "The National Food Security Cooperation Bill, 2025" be adopted.]

Honourable Members, in accordance with Order 73[4] of the Standing Orders, the Bill is hereby referred to the Assembly Business Committee for scheduling of the Third Reading.

However, before this date, the Office of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Food Security and the Office of the Clerk are hereby urged to comply with Standing Order 73[5] to ensure that the amended version of the Bill is printed and circulated to Members in advance.

On that note, Honourable Members, I want to thank the Honourable Minister and his technicians. I also want to thank the Deputy Managing Director of the Cooperation and staff for their insightful contributions.

My special thanks go to the Honourable Members of the National Assembly for their participation, great work and enthusiasm. I can see the commitment of some Members to national duties. While wishing you a successful Ramadan, I pray that Allah accept our fast.

4. Adjournment

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[That this Assembly stand adjourned until Wednesday, 4th March 2026, at 10:00 a.m.]

[The Speaker finally slammed the Gavel against the sound block signalling the end of the day's proceedings.]

THE END