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NGO in general consultative status
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H.E. Mr. Adama Barrow

President of the Republic of the Gambia
Banjul, The Gambia

New York/The Hague/Buenos Aires, 7 February 2017

Honorable Mr. President,

On behalf of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), we would like to congratulate you on your election victory and on becoming the President of the Republic of the Gambia.

PGA is the largest transnational network of members of parliament from all regions of the world that, in their personal capacity, support peace, democracy, human rights, non-discrimination and the Rule of Law, which shall entail the effective functioning of national justice systems and the universality of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to end impunity for the most serious crimes under International law. The vision of our Organization is *to contribute to the creation of a Rules-Based International Order for a more equitable, safe, and democratic world.*

It is against this background that, on 10 December 2016 (International Human Rights Day), our global network – meeting in Dakar for its 38th Annual parliamentary forum – issued a statement strongly condemning the problematic approach taken by your predecessor and calling for a smooth and peaceful transition to power in The Gambia.

In the same vein, PGA is now confident that the Gambian people and your Administration will transform the country into a law-abiding nation committed to human rights and the fight against impunity.

In this regard, we welcome your firm commitment to democracy, rule of law and human rights, as well as your pledge to establish a truth and reconciliation commission, which will investigate crimes allegedly committed under your predecessor rule.

You have also pledged to halt the process of withdrawal from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) initiated by Mr. Jammeh's administration in October 2016. We welcome this commitment and encourage you to make it one of your first acts of government, which will send a strong message confirming the Gambia's new stand in the International Community of peace-loving and law-abiding nations.

We hold the firm belief that membership in the Rome Statute is a very important measure to prevent mass atrocities, given that impunity for perpetrators of international atrocities only serves to increase the likelihood of new, equally horrific crimes.

We look forward to your reply, and we remain at the humble disposal of your Government for any matter that may be of assistance to the priorities highlighted in this letter.

Once again, allow us to offer you our most sincere congratulations and the expressions of our highest esteem, consideration and respect.

Dip. Margarita Stolbizer (Argentina)
President, Parliamentarians for Global Action

Dr. David Donat Cattin
Secretary-General, PGA