



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja

Press Release

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NIGERIA AND THE GAMBIA: A SHARED DEMOCRATIC JOURNEY AND ENDURING PARTNERSHIP AS BANJUL MARKS INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Yusuf Maitama Tuggar, OON, extends warm congratulations to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambians Abroad of The Gambia, Honourable Sering Modou Njie on the joyous occasion of their Independence Day, commemorated annually on 18 February.

This historic anniversary marks The Gambia's attainment of independence in 1965 and reflects the country's enduring commitment to sovereignty, democratic governance, and national unity. Therefore, as citizens across The Gambia gather to celebrate this important milestone through parades and national festivities, Nigeria joins in honouring the resilience and aspirations of the Gambian people.

Nigeria and The Gambia share a longstanding and fraternal relationship rooted in common history, cultural affinity, and shared membership in regional and international organizations, particularly ECOWAS, the African Union, and the United Nations. Both countries have consistently collaborated in advancing democratic norms, regional stability, and economic integration within West Africa.

Nigeria acknowledges the strong bilateral cooperation between Abuja and Banjul across political dialogue, security collaboration, trade, education, and technical assistance. The two countries continue to work closely in promoting peacebuilding efforts, strengthening democratic institutions, and deepening regional integration in line with the objectives of ECOWAS and the African Continental Free Trade Area.

The Honourable Minister reaffirms Nigeria's commitment to further strengthening bilateral relations with The Gambia, expanding cooperation in areas of mutual interest, and consolidating people-to-people ties that reflect the spirit of African solidarity and shared progress.

On this significant national occasion, the Government and people of Nigeria convey their best wishes to the Government and people of The Gambia for continued peace, democratic consolidation, and sustainable development.

Signed:

**Kimiebi Imomotimi Ebiefa, anipr
Spokesperson
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja
Wednesday, 18 February 2026**