

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

**Lisbon, Portugal
6-7 November 2023**

**CSTD 2023-2024 priority theme on “Global cooperation in science, technology and
innovation for development”**

Statement submitted by

The Gambia

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.



**THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE,
WTO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA**

**THE GAMBIA INTERVENTION: PRIORITY THEME 2: GLOBAL COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT – CSTD
INTERSESIONAL PANEL, 6 TO 7 NOVEMBER 2023**

Thank you chair.

We thank the panellists for their presentations and the valuable information shared with us on the existing cooperation initiatives and opportunities on STI for development.

The Gambia is a beneficiary country of the Young Female Scientist Programme in 2022, organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in collaboration with Okayama University in Japan and we commend such south-south collaboration and similar global and regional cooperations and initiatives in the interest of developing countries and LDCs.

The Gambia through its related programmes adopted, capacities are being built in STEM, Health, ICT, and Agriculture and women and girls are prioritized in awarding scholarship for employability and career development in the field.

Nevertheless, The Gambia needs further support and technical assistance in building capacities in skills and sectoral institutions that will support the development of STI and technology development in The Gambia.

The Gambia will continue to strengthen its strategy on international cooperation and partnership for the enhancement of the progress registered in the Science and Technology sector. The Gambia as an CSTD member, also values its partnership and close collaboration with the various international organisations in its drive to address STI and ICT challenges - such as the UN SDG, UN Technology Bank, UNESCO, WIPO, AU STI Agenda, ARIPO and ECOWAS STI Agenda and has established bilateral partnership with countries for data development, research, institutions capacity building



**THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE,
WTO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA**

The Gambia is committed to achieving the SDGs and as well as Agenda 2063, etc., but cannot fund the implementation of these frameworks through domestic resource mobilization alone and therefore requires support from development partners at both global and regional levels.

The country is currently finalizing the financing strategy of the Recovery Focused National Development Plan (RF-NDP 2023-2027) and will keep engaged for support to the strategy for the implementation of the Recovery Plan. The Plan has given consideration to international and regional programmes for the alignment of its priorities and to ensure that the plan is harmonized with the existing cooperation programmes as opportunities to address the specific needs and challenges of the country and as well the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change 2030.

We commend the CSTD for the services provided to the Members and we hope to see the secretariat moving more in the direction to strengthen collaborations among CSTD Members, continue providing guidance on international STI collaboration and technology sharing and also help in addressing common challenges faced by developing countries and LDCs in the STI field.

In line with its objectives, we call on CSTD to increase strong advocacy strategies for support and funding of the UN Technology Bank for LDCs to ensure that the benefits of STI cooperation are equitable.

I thank you