

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-seventh session
Geneva, 15-19 April 2024**

Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development

Statement 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: HIGH – LEVEL PANEL ON
GLOBAL COOPERATION ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION
FOR DEVELOPMENT – CSTD 27TH SESSION, 15TH APRIL 2024**

Thank you chair and the panel for their valuable presentations.

I would like to commend the UNCTAD Secretariat and the secretary General Madame Rebecca Grynsperg for the insightful analysis contained in the report on the status of Global Cooperation on Science, Technology and Innovation for development. The report has succinctly elaborated the key channels, mechanisms and shortcomings for international collaboration and remedies to empower less technologically advanced countries, in their efforts to catch up with rapid technological changes.

“Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development” as one of the CSTD priority themes for the 2023–2024 intersessional period is timely for our countries, given the urgent need to address inequalities exacerbated by the unprecedented climate change crisis and the COVID-19 Pandemic crisis. **(The Gambia has contributed to this which can be found on the CSTD 27th website)**

The development and supply of innovative products is essential in enhancing capacities and transfer of technology in the health sector. However, this process has to be complemented by the strengthening of health systems and capacities to enable delivery of the essential health products and technologies.



**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**

For developing countries, it is important to adopt inclusive approaches in the mobilization of efforts and resources to realise effective and meaningful achievements on Science, Technology and Innovation. Thus, increased focus should be placed on strengthening institutional capacities by enhancing the capacities of National Innovative centres through infrastructural development, capacity building and resource mobilization.

The Gambia supports international solidarity and global initiatives through the partnership among Member States, UNCTAD and developing partners, stakeholders both public and private sectors, civil society, academia, in support of innovation for development.

Finally, to ensure that no one is left behind, what further recommendations can the panel share to help Member States avoid or minimise overly protective measures in the delivery of technology, new COVID-19 tools and to mitigate impact on other diseases?