





Issue NO. 001/2022

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Period Covered April 2022



The National Assembly Elections conducted on 9th April 2022 elected 58 National Assembly Members. The previous National Assembly Elections was held on April 2017. Below is a table highlighting how Parties and Independent National Assembly members performed at the 9th April 2022 National Assembly elections.

	100		
Party Name	2017	2022	+/-
NPP	0	18	18
UDP	31	15	-16
Independent	1	12	11
APRC	5	2	-3
NRP	5	4	-1
PDOIS	4	2	-2
GDC	5	0	-5
PPP	2	0	-2
Total Seats	53	53	

## The Gambia's National Assembly was sworn into office on 14th April 2022 after Parliamentary Elections were concluded by

Sixth Legislature Sworn into Office

the Independent Electronal Commission (IEC) on 9th April 2022. A total of 58 National Assembly members were sworn in for the sixth legislature of which 53 are elected and 5 are nominated by the President.

The inauguration of the sixth legislature started with the election of the Speaker which was presided over by the Chief Justice Hassan Bubacar Jallow. After electing Nominated Member Hon Fabakary Tombong Jatta as

# Speaker Jatta will "Travel path to a Democratic Legislature"

The newly elected Speaker of the Gambian National Assembly, Hon Fabakary Tombong Jatta, has vowed to successfully transform the sixth legislature into a more vibrant and democratic parliament. Speaker Jatta announced his intention on Thursday 14th April 2022, while delivering his inaugural



Speaker and administering his oath of office the Chief Justice vacated the Chair for the new Speaker and the proceedings continued. The Speaker then presided over his first business which was to elect Nominated Member Hon Seedy SK Njie as Deputy Speaker. This was followed by the administration of oaths Deputy Speaker and Members-elect. The Majority Leader, Deputy Majority and Chief Whip were declared for the National People's Party (NPP) however the Minority Leader was announced at the second sitting. That concluded the first National Assembly sitting for the sixth legislature.

speech soon after taking his oath of office.

"I shall successfully travel the path pursued by various Speakers before me and my immediate predecessor, the legal luminary Rt. Hon. Mariam Jack-Denton to make the National Assembly a more vibrant and democratic Legislature responsive to the needs and aspirations of the Gambian people", he said.

He thanked the President and Hon Members, for the trust and confidence reposed in him by electing him as Speaker of the National Assembly. Speaker Jatta encouraged the new entrants to prepare and present statements on matters of the day and apply the Question Time well, adding that their brilliant visibility will affect their re-election.

About Newsletter - This is the first edition of the Gambia's Parliamentary Monthly Newsletter which focuses on the activities of the Gambia's National Assembly. Our team of reporters report from the National Assembly for Foroyaa Newspaper and Gainako Online Newspaper.

Inside the first edition - This first edition focuses on the elections results of the sixth legislature and the first two National Assembly sittings held in April 2022. This Newsletter also includes a pictorial of the National Assembly Members and much more.

## **Know Your National Assembly Members**

hapter VII, Part 3 of the ✓Gambia's 1997 Constitution provides the Legislative Powers of the Gambia's National Assembly to pass Bills. After the Bill are assented to by the President, they now become an Act. Bills can take a number of various forms such as the 1997 Constitution, Acts such as the National Human Rights Commission Act 2017. Bills can

Hon. Fabakary Tombong Jatta –

Speaker (Nominated)

Role of Speaker and

**Deputy Speaker** 

The Speaker is the first

I Officer of the Assembly and

the third highest ranking officer

of the State. This means that in

the absence of the President and

Vice President the Speaker is

in line to lead the Country. The

1997 Constitution prescribes

also be in the form of agreements countries, between other budgetary appropriations and much more.

The National Assembly has oversight functions which it can rely on to summon Public Officials and Members of the Executive to scrutinise their performance. Public institutions are also mandated to submit annual reports to the National Assembly to ensure Institutions dispatch their duties according to law.



Hon Seedy SK Njie - Deputy Speaker (Nominated)

in the Assembly at sittings or in their absence the Deputy Speaker or in their absence a member elected by the Assembly for that purpose. The Speaker also has the responsibility to interpret the Standing Order of the National Assembly in the Assembly. Hon Mariam Jack Denton was the Speaker of the Fifth Legislature and has handed over to Hon that the Speaker shall preside Fabakary Tombong Jatta.



Hon Billay G Tunkara of Kantora (NPP) Majority Leader - Re-Elected

## Role of Majority and **Minority Leader**

The Majority Leader is Lelected from the party that has the highest number of seats in the Assembly. Meanwhile the Minority Leader is elected from the party that has the second largest number of seats in the Assembly. Both Majority and Legislature.



Hon. Alhagie S Darboe of Brikama North (UDP) Minority Leader – Re-Elected

Minority Leaders are members of the National Assembly Authority. During the tenure of the Fifth Legislature Hon Kebba K Barrow was the Majority Leader while Hon Samba Jallow was the Minority Leader. Both members were re-elected in the Sixth

#### 3 Nominated Members

Provision 88 of the 1997 **P**Constitution provides for the President to Nominate 5 National Assembly Members while Provision 93 of the 1997 Constitution provides for the Speaker and Deputy Speaker to be elected from the 5 Nominated National Assembly Members. On the right and below are the three members that have been nominated to the National Assembly in addition to Speaker Hon Fabakary T. Jatta and Deputy Speaker Hon Seedy SK



Hon Maimuna Ceesav (Nominated)



Hon Fatoumata Jawara (Nominated)



Hon Kebba Lang Fofana (Nominated)

## 4 NRP and 2 APRC National Assembly members



Hon Samba Jallow of Niamina Dankunku (NRP) Re-Elected



Hon Alhagie Mbowe of Upper Saloum (NRP) Re-Elected



Hon Sainey Jawara of Lower Saloum (NRP) Re-Elected



Hon Amadou Camara of Nianija (NRP) Re-Elected



Hon Sulayman Jammeh of Bundungka Kunda (APRC) New



Hon Sheriff Sarr of Jeshwang (APRC) New

# Know Your National Assembly Members – Continued 17 NPP National Assembly Members (Excluding Majority Leader)



Hon Abdoulie Ceesay of Old Yundum (NPP) Re-Elected



Hon Salifu Jawo of Jokadu (NPP) Re-Elected



Hon Kebba Jallow of Jarra Central (NPP) Re-Elected



Hon Birom JS Sowe of Niamina West (NPP) Re-Elected



Hon Nfally M Kora of Tumana (NPP) New



Hon Omar Darboe of Upper Nuimi (NPP) Re-Elected



Hon Dawda Jeng of Niamina East (NPP) New



Hon Bakary Kora of Upper Fulladu West (NPP) New



Hon Gibbi Mballow of Lower Fulladu (NPP) New



Hon Alieu Baldeh of Jarra West (NPP) New



Hon Nfamara Sabally of Wuli West (NPP) New



Hon Tamsir Cham of Lower Nuimi (NPP) New



Hon Saikou Bah of Basse Constituency (NPP) New



Hon Essa Conteh of Jimara (NPP) New



Hon Haruna Barry of Jarra East (NPP) New



Hon Sankung Dampha of Illiasa (NPP) New



Hon Ebrima Jaiteh of Sandu (NPP) New

## **Know Your National Assembly Members - Continued** 14 UDP National Assembly Members (Excluding Minority Leader)



Hon Kebba K Barrow of Kombo South (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Madi MK Ceesay of Serrekunda West (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Sulayman Saho of Central Baddibu (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Alfusainey Ceesay of Sami (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Yaya Gassama of Kiang East (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Lamin J Sanneh of Brikama South (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Assan Touray of Bakau (UDP) Re-Elected



Hon Fatou Cham of Sanimentereng (UDP) New



Hon Yahya Sanyang of Latrikunda (UDP) New



Hon Kemo Gassama of Lower Baddibu (UDP) New



Hon Modu Lamin B Bah of Banjul North (UDP) New



Hon Musa Badjie of Tallinding Kunjang (UDP) New



Hon Lamin Ceesay of Kiang West (UDP) New



Hon Abdou Sowe of Kombo East (UDP) New



Hon Suwaibou Touray of Wuli East (PDOIS) Re-Elected



Hon Musa Cham of Serekunda (PDOIS) New

## Know Your National Assembly Members – Continued 12 Independent National Assembly Members



Hon Fatoumata Njai of Banjul South (Independent) Re-Elected



Hon Abdoulie Njai of Banjul Central (Independent) New



Hon Omar Jammeh of Janjanbureh (Independent) New



Hon Kebba T Sanneh of Foni Jarrol (Independent) New



Hon Alagie B Ceesay of Sabach Sanjal (Independent) New



Hon Omar Jobe of Niani (Independent) New



Hon Pa Dembo Sanneh of Foni Bondali (Independent) New



Hon Amie Colley of Foni Brefet (Independent) New



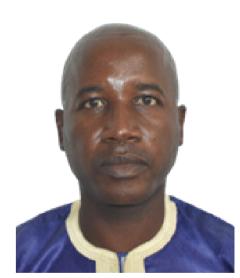
Hon Bakary K Badjie of Foni Bintang (Independent) New



Hon Almameh Gibba of Foni Kansala (Independent) New

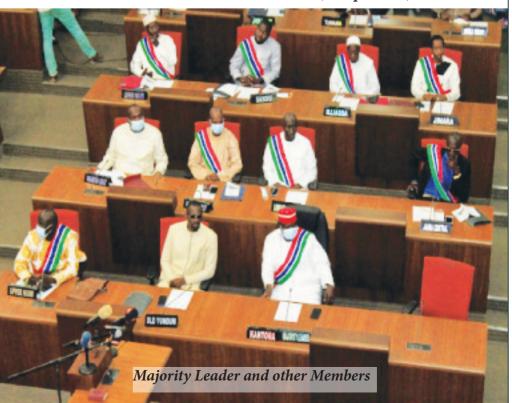


Hon Muhammed Kanteh of Busumbala (Independent) New



Hon Yunusa N Bah of Kiang Central (Independent) New





## Four Councillors Resigned to Contest in 9th April 2022 Parliamentary Elections



he Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) conducted Local Government By-Elections on 14th May 2022 because four Councillors resigned to contest in the recently concluded 9th April 2022 Elections. At the end of 9th April 2022, two Councillors won seats in the National Assembly while the other two lost. This is their story.

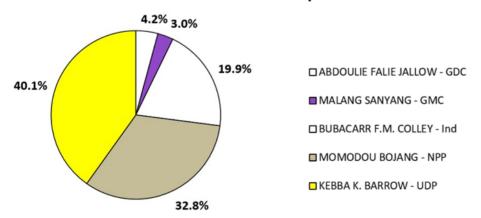
#### Former UDP Councillor Contested for Kombo South Under NPP

Speaking to former Councillor Momodou Bojang of Sanyang Ward he confirmed to our reporter that he will not contest for the upcoming 14th May 2022 By-Elections to retain his seat after resigning in April. Mr Bojang won his Councillor seat under the United Democratic Party (UDP) ticket back in 2018, however, he contested for the Kombo South Parliamentary seat under President Adama Barrow's National People's Party (NPP).

Mr Bojang lost to former UDP Majority Leader, Hon Kebba K. Barrow who ran a successful re-election bid. According to Bojang, he doesn't "think it's necessary for [him] to contest in this by-election, after resigning from the post and [contesting] for a [higher] position". In his view it's time for him "to give chance to others, to contribute their quota [in developing] their communities like" he did.

When asked if he regretted resigning from his position, Bojang stressed that he did not regret the experience and is more resolved to progress his "political career". Explaining his decision to cross carpet from the UDP to NPP, Bojang says he was fired from the UDP alongside the Brikama Area Council Chairperson Sheriffo and Bilal Faal. "At the time of my resignation as Councillor I was not with UDP, I am supporting NPP and because I am supporting NPP" that's why he contested under the NPP said the former Councillor.

#### Results for Kombo South - 9th April 2022



## Former APRC Councillor Rejected at NPP's Brikama South Primary

Another former Councillor who resigned and lost his Parliamentary bid for election in April 2022 is Lamin Jarju the former Councillor for Marakissa Ward. Mr Jarju was rejected at an NPP Primary, which forced him to contest under an Independent ticket. The former Councillor lost to UDP's Hon Alagie S Darboe

who ran a successful re-election bid to retain his Brikama South seat.

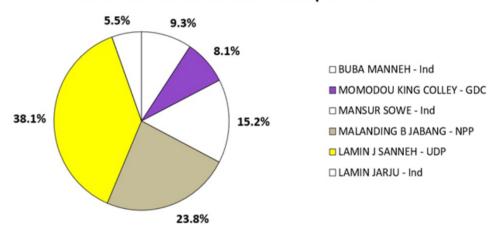
The former Councillor confirmed with Gainako that he resigned from his seat to contest in the 9th April 2022 National Assembly Elections. "I resigned from the post because I want to give chance to others who wanted to contest for the Councillorship position," he said.

Given that Mr Jarju had won his Councillor position under the Alliance for Patriotic Reorientation and Construction (APRC) our reporter questioned the former Councillor's decision to contest as an Independent candidate.

The former Councillor explained that "this time [he] contested as an Independent Candidate because steps taken by NPP-APRC alliance didn't certify" him. According to Mr Jarju, after failing to win the NPP Primary for Brikama South he was compelled to contest as an Independent candidate.

Progressing from Council to Parliament appears to be a natural progression for career Politicians, however, it can be risky as candidates can end up with no Political position after resigning from their Councillor position.

#### Results for Brikama South - 9th April 2022



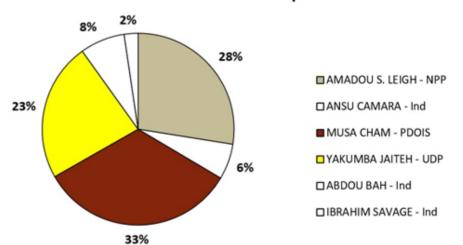
## Two Councillors turned Parliamentarians

The former Councillor for Bundung Six Junction, Hon Sulayman Jammeh was elected as Parliamentarian for Bundunka Kunda constituency with almost 50% of the votes cast. Hon Jammeh defeated incumbent Hon Bakary Njie of the UDP by almost 14% of the votes cast.

Hon Jammeh who served two terms as an APRC Councillor believes that the achievements he recorded during his terms made the difference in the Bundunka Kunda Parliamentary elections.

According to Hon Jammeh "it was not my own decision but a decision from my constituency. After serving them for ten years they want me to represent them at the National Assembly," said the newly elected Parliamentarian.

#### Results for Serrekunda - 9th April 2022



The second Councillor who made the successful rise from Council to Parliament is Hon Musa Cham of the People's Democratic Organisation for Independence and Socialism (PDOIS). Hon Cham replaced PDOIS' Party Leader Hon Halifa Sallah for the Serrekunda Parliamentary seat.

Hon Cham resigned as Councillor for London Corner and

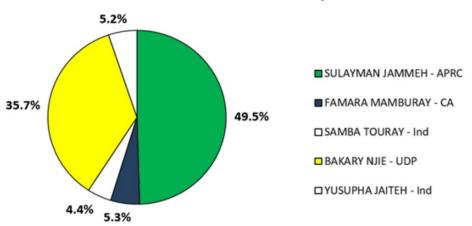
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went into the National Assembly elections convinced that his performance as Councillor will win him the Serrekunda seat. When asked if he had any alternative plans if he had lost the elections the confident Parliamentarian stressed that he would have continued his community service work.

Confirming to Gainako that he resigned from his Council position to contest in the 9th April 2022 Elections Hon Cham opined that "the worst scenario could be if I was rejected by the people, then I could have equally continued my community services work".

#### Results for Bundunka Kunda - 9th April 2022



## 'The Future of Progressive Politics Lies in your Hands' Former Speaker Denton Tells 6th Legislature



idding farewell to the **D**Legislature, former the Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Mariam Jack Denton, has told the incoming Sixth Legislature of the Gambia that the future of the nation's progressive politics lies in their

Speaker Denton said this on Monday 28th February 2022, while delivering a farewell speech at the assembly, as the life of the term of the Fifth Legislature came to its end.

"For parliaments and parliamentarians in general, the future of the Gambian progressive politics lies in your hands. I therefore wish the new coming legislature and the members all the best in the great task that lies ahead", said the former Speaker of the House.

She highlighted that the Fifth Legislature registered successes such as the adoption of the revised Standing Order, consideration and passing of 53 bills, which include but not limited to the TRRC Act, CRC Act, NHRC Act, Disabilities Act, National Health Insurance Act and Public Service Pensions Act 2022 amongst others.

Former Speaker Denton also paid tribute to the late parliamentarians of the Fixth Legislature, who answered the call of the Almighty Allah, namely late Hon. Demba Sowe for Niamina West and Hon. Fakebba Kolley for Kiang West and the former Clerk Dodou CM Kebbeh.

"We pray that their gentle souls will rest in perfect peace in Jannatul Firdaus", said fomer Speaker Denton.

## National Assembly Members elected in April 2017 Members of The Fifth Legislature

No.	Names	Constituency	Party
1	Muhammed Ndow	Banjul Central	PPP
2	Fatoumatta Njie	Banjul South	PPP
3	Ousman Sillah	Banjul North	PDOIS
4	Kajali Fofana	Jarra West	UDP
5	Kebba Jallow	Jarra Central	GDC
.6	Sainey Touray	Jarra East	UDP
7	Yaya Gassama	Kiang East	UDP
	BaKary Camara	Klang Central	UDP
	Fakebba NL Colley	Kiang West	UDP
	Assan Touray	Bakau	UDP
	Alhagie Drammeh	Jeshwang	UDP
	Halifa Sallah	Serrekunda	PDOIS
13	13.Madi MK Ceesay	Serrekunda West	UDP
	Fatou K Jawara	Tallinding	UDP
	Bakary Njie	Bundung	UDP
	Saikou Marong	Latrikunda	UDP
	Matarr Jeng	Lower Niumi	UDP
	Omar Darboe	Upper Niumi	UDP
	Salifu Jawo	Jokadu	GDC
	Alhagie Jawara	Lower Baddibu	UDP
	Sulayman Saho	Central Baddibu	UDP
	Dembo KM Camara	Illiasa	UDP
	Ousman Touray	Sabach Sanjal	NRP
	Momodou Camara	Janjanbureh	UDP
	Demba Sowe	Niamina West	GDC
	Omar Ceesay	Niamina East	GDC
	Samba Jallow	Niamina Dankunku	NRP
	Alhagie Darboe	Lower Fulladu West	UDP
	Dawda Kawsu Jawara	Upper Fulladu West	UDP
	Jawara-Lower Saloum	Lower Saloum	NRP
	Alhagie Mbow	Upper Saloum	NRP
	Alhagie FB Sillah	Niani	UDP
	Amadou Camara		NRP
	Alfusani Y Ceesay	Nianija Sami	UDP
	Suwaidou Touray Sidia S Jatta	Wulli East Wulli West	PDOIS PDOIS
	Billay G Tunkara	Kantora	UDP
	Foday NM Drammeh	Tumana	UDP
	Muhammed Magassy	Basse	Independent
	Alhagie H Sowe	Jimara	GDC
	Kaddy Camara	Foni Bondali	APRC
	Musa Amui Nyassi	Foni Kansala	APRC
	Momodou Camara	Foni-Bintang	APRC
	Lamin FM Conta	Kombo East	UDP
	Baba Galleh Jallow	Sanimentereng	UDP
	Alhagie S Jammeh	Foni Jarrol	APRC
	Abdoulie Ceesay	Old Yundum	UDP
	Salkouba Jarju	Busumbala	UDP
	Kebba K Barrow	Kombo South	UDP
	Lamin J Sanneh	Brikama South	UDP
	Alagie S Darboe	Brikama North	UDP
	Muhammed Mahanera	Sandu	UDP
53	Sunkary Badjie	Foni Brefet	APRC









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#### Period Covered April 2022

### **National Assembly Bill Tracker**

his page features **▲** information published on the National Assembly's official website. The National Assembly website includes a list of 33 Bills tabled at the National Assembly. Below are 19 Bills that have been passed and assented to;

National Human Rights Commission Bill 2019

National Health Insurance Bill 2020

Christian (Amendment) Bill 2020 Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2019

Women Enterprise Fund Bill

Women's (Amendment) Bill 2020 Registration (Amendment) Bill 2020

Persons With Disabilities Bill 2020

Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2020

Married Women's **Property** (Amendment) Bill 2020

Domestic Violence (Amendment) Bill 2020

National Accreditation & Quality Assurance Authority Bill 2020

Matrimonial Causes (Amendment) Bill 2020

Births, Death & Marriages Bill 2020

Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2020

Public Service Pension Bill 2020 Civil Marriages (Amendment) Bill 2020

Access To Information Bill 2019 Petroleum Commission Bill 2020



These Bills were passed by the Fifth Legislature lead by Hon Mariam Jack Denton.

## 11 Bills are Currently At the National Assembly for Consideration

ccording to the National Assembly's Official website 11 Bills are currently being considered by the National some Assembly with Committee Stage. These Bills are considered to be in the Amber Zone.



Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill 2019 The Gambia Nationality & Out of the 53 NAMs Citizenship Bill 2020 Tourism Offences (Amendment)

Bill 2020 Gambia Anti-Corruption Bill

2019 International Crimes Bill 2020

Prevention And Prohibition of Torture Bill 2020

Labor (Amendment) Bill 2020 Criminal Offences Bill 2020 The Gambia Public Procurement

Authority Bill 2020 Force Labor (Amendment) Bill 2020

Criminal Procedure Bill 2020



#### 3 Bills Failed in Parliament

total of 3 Bills have failed Aat the 2nd and 3rd Reading Stage and these are the Skin Bleaching (Prohibition) Repeal Bill 2020 (3rd Reading), the Constitution of the Gambian (Promulgation) Bill 2020 and Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2021 both failed at the second reading.

#### Re-Elected and **New NAMs**

The table on the right depicts a list of all 53 National Assembly Members that were elected on 9th April 2022. There is a total of 33 newly elected NAMs and 20 re-elected.

Out of the 53 Elected NAMs, 12 members are Independent Candidates, stark contrast to the 2017 Elections when only one Independent Candidate was elected.

elected in 2017 two of them were given a state funeral after they passed away. They are Hon Fakeba N.L. Colley (UDP) for Kiang West and Hon Demba Sowe (GDC) of Niamina West who was replaced by Hon Biram J.S. Sowe (NPP) at a By-Election in November 2020.

The remaining 41 seats were won by Parties with 33 of them going to NPP (18) and UDP (15) Candidates.

Name of NAM	Constituency	Re-Elected or New
Bakary Kora (NPP)	Upper Fulladu West	New
Saikou Bah (NPP)	Basse	New
Sankung Dampha (NPP)	Illiassa	New
Esa Conteh (NPP)	Jimara	New
Haruna Barry (NPP)	Jarra East	New
Alieu Baldeh (NPP)	Jarra West	New
Gibbi Mballow (NPP)	Lower Fulladu West	New
Tamsir Cham (NPP)	Lower Niumi	New
Dawda Jeng (NPP)	Niamina East	New
Ebrima Jaiteh (NPP)	Sandu	New
Nfally M. Kora (NPP)	Tumana	New
Nfamara Sabally (NPP)	Wuli West	New
Kebba Jallow (NPP)	Jarra Central	Re-Elected
Salifu Jawo (NPP)	Jokadu	Re-Elected
Birom J. S. Sowe (NPP)	Niamina West	Re-Elected
Abdoulie Ceesay (NPP)	Old Yundum	Re-Elected
Omar Darboe (NPP)	Upper Niumi	Re-Elected
Billay G. Tunkara (NPP)	Kantora	Re-Elected
Modou Lamin B. Bah (UDP)	Banjul North	New
Lamin Ceesay (UDP)	Kiang West	New
Abdou Sowe (UDP)	Kombo East	New
Yaya Sanyang (UDP)	Latrikunda Sabijie	New
Kemo Gasama (UDP)	Lower Badibu	New
Fatou Cham (UDP)	Sanneh Mentereng	New
Musa Badjie (UDP)	Tallinding Kunjang	New
Assan Touray (UDP)	Bakau	Re-Elected
Alagie S. Darboe (UDP)	Brikama North	Re-Elected
Lamin J. Sanneh (UDP)	Brikama South	Re-Elected
Sulayman Saho (UDP)	Central Baddibu	Re-Elected
Yaya Gassama (UDP)	Kiang East	Re-Elected
Kebba K. Barrow (UDP)	Kombo South	Re-Elected
Alfusainey Ceesay (UDP)	Sami	Re-Elected
Madi Ceesay (UDP)	Serekunda West	Re-Elected
Abdoulie Njai (Ind)	Banjul Central	New
Muhammed Kanteh (Ind)	Busumbala	New
Bakary K. Badjie (Ind)	Foni Bintang Karanai	New
Pa Dembo Sanneh (Ind)	Foni Bondali	New
Amie Colley (Ind)	Foni Brefet	New
Kebba T. Sanneh (Ind)	Foni Jarrol	New
Almameh Gibba (Ind)	Foni Kansala	New
Omar Jammeh (Ind)	Janjanbureh	New
Yunusa N. Bah (Ind)	Kiang Central	New
Omar Jobe (Ind)	Niani	New
Alhagie B Ceesay (Ind)	Sabach Sanjal	New
Fatoumatta Njai (Ind)	Banjul South	Re-Elected
Sainey Jawara (NRP)	Lower Saloum	Re-Elected
Samba Jallow (NRP)	Niamina Dankuna	Re-Elected
Amadou Camara (NRP)	Nianija	Re-Elected
Alhagie Mbow (NRP)	Upper Saloum	Re-Elected
Sulayman Jammeh (APRC)	Bundungka Kunda	New
Sheriff S. Sarr (APRC)	Jeshwang	New
Musa Cham (PDOIS)	Serekunda	New
Suwaibou Touray (PDOIS)	Wuli East	Re-Elected

## Second PRAG Executive 1. **Elected**

The Parliamentary Reporters Association of the Gambia voted in their second Executive on 16th April 2022. Out of seven positions available elections were held for only two roles namely the Vice Dean and Organizing Secretary Role. The complete list of Executive Kaddijatou Jawo Members is shown on the right.

- Dean Aji Fatou Faal,
- Vice Dean Adama Tine 2.
- 3. Secretary-General - Yusef **Taylor**
- International 4. Relations Officer - Kebba AF Touray
- 5. Assistant Secretary-General - Banna Sabally,
- 6. Treasurer- Uthman Jeng
- 7. Auditor – Edrissa Jallow
- Organising Secretary -

## Parliament Adopts Report of Selection Committee with

**Amendments** Gambian Parliamentarians adopted the report of the selection committee with amendments on 18th April 2022. The report which designates members into various committee was adopted after a lively debate by members of the National Assembly. The report was tabled by Majority Leader Hon Billay G Tunkara of Kantora and seconded by Hon Amadou Camara for Nianija.

After a debate in which members challenged nomination of Seedy

SK Njie as the head of the Defense Committee and the exclusion of Hon Yaya Gassama from the Education Committee and Hon Suwaibou Touray from the Human Rights and Constitutional Matters Committee.

After a lengthy debate on the report, the assembly adopted the report of the Selection Committee with amendments. The subsequent edition of the Gambia Parliamentary Newsletter will feature the list of members selected to the various committees.

#### **AUTHORS**

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