



REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

**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**

Human Rights Council – 48th Session

General Debate on Item-10: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA**

**On behalf of the 16 Beneficiary Delegates representing Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and supported by the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to participate in the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**

07 October 2021

**Madam President,**

I have the honor of speaking on behalf of the beneficiary delegates of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund representing Benin, Cambodia, Comoros, Lesotho, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Nepal, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines, Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and my own country the Republic of The Gambia.

Every country, regardless of its size or its geographical location, have the right to participate effectively in the work of this Council, including by sharing their human rights achievements and challenges as well as needs for capacity building and technical assistance.

With the generous support of the Trust Fund, we, the delegates from 16 LDCs/SIDS were able to participate in the 48th session of HRC and made statements, and more importantly raise the voice and visibility of our countries in the work of this Council.

Our governments actively engaged in the Council's work including its UPR mechanism during this session, and we have gained a better

understanding of the role, functions and working methods of this Council in the promotion and protection of human rights across the world.

This is the first time most of us have had the opportunity to witness the workings of this Council, and this experience will be highly useful in our efforts to promote and protect human rights domestically and to increase our countries' effective engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms.

**Madam President,**

In accordance with the HRC Resolution 34/40, we urge all nations, particularly the developed countries to support the Trust Fund, to actively work towards ensuring inclusivity and universality in the work of the Council, especially to help raise the voice and visibility of LDCs and SIDS, so that we will leave no one behind.

I thank you, Madam President.