

# Fourth Joint Meeting

AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and  
ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning  
and Economic Development 24 to 29 March 2011 Addis Ababa



# 2011

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*"Governing Development in Africa"*

## News and Information

### **ECA and the Gambia sign agreement in support of the Gambia's Programme for Accelerated Growth and Development**

*ECA Press Release No. 32/2011*

Addis Ababa, 28 March 2011 (ECA) - The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Government of the Gambia and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding that aims to support the Gambia's Programme for Accelerated Growth and Development (PAGE) for the period 2012-2015. It also seeks to support the development and management of planning capacity in the Gambia's public sector.

According to the ECA's Information and Communication Service (ICS), the agreement is the result of a formal request for technical support from the Government of The Gambia to ECA.

The partnership aims to create a platform for advisory service, technical support, capacity building; joint studies and sharing experiences and lessons learnt in the fields of national development planning. Further, support will go towards sectoral policy planning, design, financing, implementation, analyses, monitoring and evaluation and impacts assessments, budget design and analysis.

*ECA signs an MOU with the Gambia*

Mr. Janneh expressed optimism regarding the agreement and assured the delegation that ECA would prioritize continued support in the implementation process. He noted that the timing of the signing fitted in well with the issues under discussion at the ongoing annual Conference of African Ministers responsible for Finance, Economy, Planning and Economic Development on the theme, Governing development and the role of the State in economic transformation.

Mr. Mambury Njie, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs and head of delegation thanked Mr. Janneh for the UN's support to the Gambia and for the expeditious manner in which the agreement was processed.

"We had a clear vision, but operationalizing it calls for planning, which, in turn, requires capacity. This memorandum of understanding is a step forward in building our capacity," he said, adding that the support would help The Gambia improve efficiency and avoid duplication.

He also welcomed the Economic Report on Africa 2011 on the theme launched earlier today. He noted the analysis and proposals presented therein are relevant to Africa's development and that since it was produced by ECA and the African Union, the analysis can be said to be Africa-owned.

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