### **2023 BEGINNING-OF-YEAR STATUTORY MEETINGS OF THE**

## WEST AFRICAN MONETARY INSTITUTIONS

# LOGISTICS NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS









#### 1. COUNTRY INFORMATION

The Gambia also known as the smiling coast of Africa is the smallest country on mainland Africa with a landmass of 11,295 square kilometers and a population of 1.9 million people. The Capital City, Banjul, is the Administrative Centre and hosts the Presidential Palace and the National Museum. The Gambian Dalasi (GMD), which replaced the British Pound as legal tender in 1971, is the local currency and is operated on a flexible exchange rate regime.

The country gained independence from Britain in February 1965 and has since retained English as the official language, although local languages such as Mandinka and Wolof are most widely spoken. **ONE** of the major attractions to the smiling coast is the year-round sunshine, backed by some soothing tropical weather and the long stretch of beautiful beaches along the Atlantic coast. This is also accompanied by the beautiful River Gambia which finely runs through the Centre of the country from west to east.

The President, His Excellency Mr. Adama Barrow, who was recently elected in December 2021, is the third president of the Republic of The Gambia.

The Gambian economy is mainly driven by agriculture and services. Agriculture provides employment for about 60 percent of the population, whilst the services sector contributes close to 65 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The Gambia's GDP is about 47 billion GMD, which translates to approximately USD 1 billion per year with a per capita income of USD 487. The Economy has been growing on average at 3.4 percent over the last ten years.

#### 2. EVENT BACKGROUND

The Republic of The Gambia through the collaboration of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA) and the Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) will be hosting the 2023 beginning-of-year Statutory Meetings of the West African monetary institutions from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

| DAY/DATE                                       | ACTIVITY  | VENUE  |
|--|---|--|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 | 52 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Technical<br>Committee    | Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara<br>International Conference<br>Centre |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                  | 46 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee<br>of Governors | Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara<br>International Conference<br>Centre |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023                 | 49 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the<br>Convergence Council    | Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara<br>International Conference<br>Centre |

#### The following is an overview of the meetings:

#### 3. MAIN EVENT VENUE

The meetings will be held at the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Centre in Kololi, Banjul, The Gambia. Banjul is the Capital city of The Gambia with a population of 459 thousand inhabitants. The city is the country's economic and administrative centre, and it hosts the Central Bank of The Gambia. Banjul is on St Mary's Island (Banjul Island), where the Gambia River enters the Atlantic Ocean



#### 3.1 ACCESSIBILITY

Banjul International Airport is conveniently situated only 20 minutes from Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Centre.

#### 4. TRAVEL TO BANJUL

Banjul International Airport is the primary airport in The Gambia and the main gateway for international travel. The major airline that operates from Banjul is Asky Airlines which reaches out to twenty-three cities in Western and Central African countries. Other frequent Airlines include Brussels Airlines, Royal Air Maroc, Air Senegal, Air France, Vueling, TAP Portugal, and Turkish Airlines.

#### **COVID 19 VACCINATION**

All participants are required to have a valid Covid 19 Vaccination Certificate upon arrival in The Gambia or a valid Negative PCR Test valid for not more than 72 hours before their arrival.

## A mandatory airport security levy must be paid upon entry and exit of the country. This levy amounts to US\$20. Holders of diplomatic passports are exempt.

#### 5. VISA REQUIREMENTS

The Government of The Gambia requires visitors to obtain a visa prior to or upon entering the country. Tourist travelers are typically granted a 30-day stay in The Gambia upon arrival.

- a. All participants must hold a valid passport or travel document which is valid for the duration of their stay and at least one blank page in their passport for the stamp.
- b. Most African Countries are Visa Free, while others can pay upon arrival.
- c. A single-entry visa costs £40 and a multiple-entry visa cost £60.
- d. For further information on visas, visit the Gambia Immigration Department website: www.accessgambia.com/information/visas-requirements.html
- e. Visas can be applied for before departure, by applying through The Gambia embassy abroad.
- f. Yellow Fever Vaccination Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Hepatitis B, and Rabies Tourism are highly recommended when visiting The Gambia.

#### 6. AIRPORT TRANSFERS

The Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) will provide complimentary airport transfers to and from the hotel for all participants staying at the;

- a. Kairaba Beach Hotel (5-star)
- b. Africa Princess Beach Hotel (4-star)
- c. Tamala Beach Resort (4-star)
- d. Senegambia Beach Hotel (3-star)
- e. Coco Ocean (5-star)

In this regard, participants are requested to complete their online registration and hotel booking not later than 23rd January 2023.

#### 6.1 PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- a. Ensure your complete flight details are up to date by 23rd January 2023, via the online registration portal: <u>https://www.cbg.gm/2022-wami-registration</u>
- b. Any changes to flight details after 23rd January 2023 should be notified to the organizers immediately.
- c. For participants who wish to cover their own ground transport and airport transfers, it may cost about 20 USD between the Airport and the Hotel of their choice.

#### 7. ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

The Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) proposes the following accommodation options. **Note:** The reservation confirmation is on a first-come-first-served basis: You will get the link to book your accommodation upon successful registration. The Dalasi-Us Dollar Exchange rate as at January 17, 2023, is GMD61.11=UD\$1.

#### 1. KAIRABA BEACH HOTEL (5-Star Hotel).

| ROOM TYPE    | ROOMS | SGL B/B USD | DBL B/B USD | MEAL<br>PLAN |
|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| STD GARDEN   |       |             |             |              |
| ROOM         | 25    | \$95        | \$128       | BB           |
| DELUXE ROOM  | 76    | \$102       | \$138       | BB           |
| SUP.DLX ROOM | 19    | \$128       | \$160       | BB           |
| PREM.SUITE   | 20    | \$140       | \$184       | BB           |
| GARDEN SUITE | 4     | \$217       | \$280       | BB           |
| EXEC.SUITE   | 2     | \$230       | \$296       | BB           |
| PRES.SUITE   | 2     | \$396       | \$504       | BB           |

Email: info@kairabahotel.com and booking code - 9705

Phone: +220 -7088801 Website: kairabahotel.com

#### 2. AFRICAN PRINCESS BEACH HOTEL (5-Star Hotel) ROOM RATES FROM 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER TO 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023 BED & BREAKFAST

| ROOM TYPE             | Single Occupancy | Double Occupancy |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Standard Room         | D9000.00         | D11,000.00       |
| Standard Room Swim-up | D11500.00        | D13000.00        |
| Suite                 | D14000.00        | D16000.00        |
| Villa                 | D40,000.00       | D40,000.00       |

Note: Swim-up Rooms are 54, Standards are 84 and Suites are 2 and rates already included a 10% discount.

Email: <u>reservations@africanprincesshotel.com</u> <u>Code: 500149</u> www. Africanprincesshotel.com, Instagram: African princess beach

Tel: 7333354/7495003

#### 3. TAMALA BEACH RESORT (4-Star Plus Hotel)

| ROOM<br>TYPE                 | SINGLE<br>OCCUPANC<br>Y | DOUBLE<br>OCCUPANCY | (JAN 4 <sup>TH</sup> to<br>APRIL. 30,<br>2023) | (JAN 4 <sup>TH</sup> to<br>APRIL. 30,<br>2023) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
|                              |                         |                     | DAY(SGL)                                       | DAY(DBL)                                       |
| Swim-up pool<br>premium room | SGL                     |                     |  |  |
| Ocean view                   |                         | DBL                 | \$173  | \$179  |
| Swim-up pool<br>premium room | SGL                     |                     |  |  |
| pool view                    |                         | DBL                 | \$166  | \$172  |
| Premium room<br>ocean view   | SGL                     | DBL                 | \$158  | \$164  |
| Premium room<br>pool view    | SGL                     | DBL                 | \$151  | \$156  |
| premium room<br>Garden view  | SGL                     | DBL                 | \$143  | \$148  |

Note: All rates are Bed and Breakfast and a 10% discount on the above room rates.

Tel: 220 7202145/7372404 Email: modou135@gmail.com Reservations@tamalaresort.com www.Tamalaresort.com

#### 4. COCO OCEAN (5-Star Hotel)

| ROOM TYPES            | ECOWAS RATES<br>SINGLE | ECOWAS RATES<br>DOUBLE |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Junior Suite          | €110                   | €130                   |
| Deluxe Suite          | €110                   | €130                   |
| Club Villa/Pent House | €140                   | €140                   |
| Royal Suite           | €200                   | €200                   |

Note: All the above rates are including breakfast

Email: info@cocoocean.com, website: www.cocoocean.com Tel: 00220 4466500 Fax: 00220 4466900 Mob:00220 7100043

#### 5. SENEGAMBIA BEACH HOTEL – (3 Star Plus)

| <b>ROOM TYPES</b> | Occupancy | ROOMS | CHARGES   |
|-------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| Superior Room     | SINGLE    |       | D5,500.00 |
| DELUXE Kololi     | SINGLE    |       | D6,800.00 |

Note: Superior rooms and Kololi suites for the delegates

Reservations Mobile: +220 2000348 Email: <u>fom@senegambiahotel.com</u> <u>info@senegambiahotel.com</u> and <u>booking is CBG-SBH</u> website: <u>www.senegambiahotel.com</u>

#### 6. PARADISE SUITES HOTEL (4-STAR)

| ROOM                             | RATE PER NIGHT |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Standard Single                  | \$20           |
| Suits                            | \$50           |
| Maisonette (2Bed Room Apartment) | \$70           |
| Villa (2Bedroom Apartment)       | \$80           |

Note: All rates include breakfast

Contacts: 02203237594, 002204463439 Email: <u>gmparadisehotel@outlook.com</u>

#### 7. BAMBOO HOTEL (3-STAR)

| ТҮРЕ      | ROOM TYPE | RATE PER NIGHT |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Standard  | Single    | D2500.00       |
| Superior  | Single    | D3000.00       |
| Superior  | 3 persons | D3500.00       |
| Deluxe    | Single    | D2800.00       |
| Extra Pax | single    | D1000.00       |

Tel: 002207572632/7327336: Fax:4464158 Email: <u>baobabbooking@hotmail.com</u> www.Baobabresort.net

#### 8. SEAVIEW HOTEL

| ROOM            | RATE PER NIGHT |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Standard Single | \$45           |
| Suits           | \$50           |

Notes: The fees include breakfast and WIFI

Contact: Matta Ceesay 7863562 Email: seaviewbookings@gmail.com

#### 8. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Dress Code: Business attire.
- b. Forum Languages: Interpretation from English to French, and vice versa, will be provided.
- c. **Security:** Please keep your badge visible during all the WAMZ business and social events.
- d. **Insurance:** The Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) will provide emergency medical attention at the venue. However, it is recommended that all participants secure appropriate travel and health insurance for the coverage of any medical care during their stay in The Gambia. The organizers do not provide any such coverage and accept no responsibility in this regard.
- e. **Climate:** The weather in February in Banjul is pleasant and sunny, approximately ranging from a low temperature of 20°C to a high temperature of 33.9°C.
- f. Currency: The legal tender in The Gambia is Dalasi. VISA, MASTER, DEBIT, and CREDIT CARDS are widely accepted. Foreign currency can be exchanged at Banks and Foreign Exchange Bureaus. Hotels may also accept payment in foreign currency. The market exchange rate by 17th January 2023 was D61.11/USD.
- g. Electricity: 220 / 230 V AC 50 Hz. Power plugs and sockets are of type G type used. If you are from a country with different voltage and pin sockets, we recommend bringing adaptors with you.



- Mobile network operators: The dialing code for The Gambia is (+220). There are few mobile phone companies operating in The Gambia, but the main are Gamcel, Africell and Qcell. WIFI is available at the conference venue and all major hotels.
- i. **Emergency services:** The emergency service phone number is 117 for Police and 116 for Medical.

THANKYOU!