

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the Second Extra Ordinary Session in the 2022 Legislative Year. The sitting was held due to a certificate of urgency from the President of The Gambia, which the members decided to grant after a vote – Yes (36) v No (10).

HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

Below are some highlights of what happened in Parliament during the extra ordinary sitting.

Bills and Papers

##	Title	Date presented	Stage of Bill/Paper	Committee Responsible
1	The Gambia Public Procurement Bill, 2022	06/10/2022	3 rd Reading	Committee of the Whole Assembly

MPs Statements

- The Hon. Member for Upper Saloum made a statement that this is the bill to fight corruption.
- The Hon. Member for Jarra Central made a statement supporting the bill while indicating that the country is moving in the right direction. According to the Hon, he would not do justice if he does not support the passing of this bill.
- The Hon. Member for Nianija made a statement about tackling corruption. According to the Hon, if members are truly concerned about issues surrounding corruption, then this is the bill.
- The Hon. Member for Niamina West made a statement that time should be inculcated into the bill.
- The Hon. Member for Kombo East made a statement about valuing the urgency of the bill as he hopes it is a step in the right direction.
- The Hon. Member for Lower Saloum made a statement on the bill being a good step. According to the Hon, if the bill comes to minimize corruption, they should not say no to it.
- The Hon. Member for Janjanbureh made a statement regarding the certificate of urgency attached to the bill, which he calls conflicting. He would have preferred the Anti-Corruption Bill.
- The Hon. Member for Central Baddibu made a statement calling the bill a modern procurement law. He supports the contents of the bill and does not think the bill is here to undermine GPPA (Gambia Public Procurement Authority).
- The Hon. Member for Serrekunda West made a statement suggesting the bill will complement corruption. He believes the only bill that can tackle corruption is the Anti-Corruption Bill.
- The Hon. Nominated Member made a statement that there is no Anti-Corruption Bill if a functional GPPA does not exist. He added that everything is guided by law and when you talk about procurement there is public interest because the value of money is involved.

KEY OBSERVATIONS

1. The Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs answered to all the concerns raised by Hon. Members in relation to the bill. He added that all matters concerned with procurement are covered in the bill.
2. The Speaker described contributions from Parliamentarians to be very enriching.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The House was committed to the Committee of the Whole Assembly to make amendments to the bill.
- The Bill has been read a third time and has been passed
- Committee Sittings will resume Tuesday 11th October 2022.
- PNAfrica will continue monitoring and bring up-to-date information of what is happening in Parliament. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#).