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The Gambia Parliamentary Election

Arrival of the African Union Observer Mission to the Gambia

Gambia , 24th March 2012- The African Union Observer Mission arrived on the 22nd to the Gambia to observe the Parliamentary Election, scheduled to take place on the 29th , March 2012.

The African Union Observers Mission made up of 10 teams of 2 each to cover the six regions of the Gambia during the Parliamentary elections.

1. Lower river (Mansa Konko)
2. Central river (Janjanbureh)
3. North bank (kerewan)
4. Upper river (Basse)
5. Western (Brikama)
6. Banjul (North, Central, South)

The 2 parties out of the total 8 are taking part in the parliamentary election namely the Ruling Party , Alliance for Patriotic Re- Orientation and Construction (A.P.R.C) with 24 candidates and the National Reconciliation Party (NRF) with 8 candidates and 20 independent candidates.

The observation mission is led by Dr. Fonkam Samuel Azuu, Chairman of Election Cameroon. The Gambian parliament has a membership of 53, 49 of

whom are elected at the district levels while the president nominates the remaining four, two of whom are to serve as speaker and deputy speaker respectively.

Gambia is the smallest country on mainland Africa, Its area is 11,295 km² with an estimated population of 1.7 million, surrounded by Senegal except for a short coastline on the Atlantic Ocean in the west.

Gambia gained independence in 1965 from the United Kingdom and joined the Commonwealth of Nations.

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