**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UPR REPORT OF TONGA AT THE 43RD SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP- 1 MAY-12 MAY 2023**

**Monday 1 May, 14:30 - 18:00**

**Thank you, Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Tonga and thanks them for their continued and constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

**Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia would like to make the following ***recommendations*** to the delegation of Tonga;

1. to consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
2. To consider aligning the definition of a child in line with the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
3. To ensure inclusive and equal access to education for children, especially for those with disabilities

**Mr Vice President,**

In conclusion, The Gambia wishes the distinguished delegation of Tonga a successful review and fruitful deliberations.

**Thank you.**