



# NAYCONF

National Youth Conference & Festival  
BANJUL 2022



NAYCONF DAILY Friday 16th Dec. 2022 No: 001



## MINISTER BADJIE VISITS NAYCONF VENUE AHEAD OF THE DELEGATES' ARRIVAL



## NYC ED OPTIMISTIC OF A SUCCESSFUL NAYCONF



## PRESIDENT BARROW OPENS NAYCONF TODAY



## NYC BOSS ADMONISHES YOUTH TO BE PATRIOTIC

# EDITORIAL

**NAYCONF** is a biennial event which brings together young people from all over the country and beyond to share their experiences and dilate on issues affecting them. It originates from **Youth Week** which dates back to the First Republic. It's activities were mainly focused on sporting activities as a way of showcasing young people's talents before its transition in the Second Republic to include a conference component hence the evolution of the new name "**National Youth Conference and Festival**" (**NAYCONF**).

At the advent of the new Gambia, the approach of NAYCONF has shifted to a more structured approach in both organization and content. A robust Pre-NAYCONF consultation takes into account the views of youth and stakeholders to inform the outcome. The thematic conference format allows for specialized and structures content delivery and impact evaluation. The result of this has been the formulation of the Gambia Country Program of Action on Youth (GPAY) which shall be the guiding framework for upcoming and subsequent NAYCONFs.

However, due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the NAYCONF was halted since after 2017 Basse NAYCONF.

Four years down the line, we are here in Banjul for the biggest national youth convergence witnessing the participation of all regions of the country.

The theme for **NAYCONF 2022** is '**The Role of Young People in the Maintenance of Peace and Security for Socio-Economic Development of the Country: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities**'. Under this

overarching theme, the conference is expected to be interactive and participatory so as to build consensus on quality actionable programmes and projects across the Eight thematic areas to be discussed during the conference. The 2022 NAYCONF is tipped to be one with a difference due to the fact that the concept is extended to include committees and thematic areas that were absent during the previous convergence. The Gender Committee and the pitching component are all aspects that are introduced for the first time.

NAYCONF also includes the sports component, academics and culture. One of the components that we are looking forward to is the Conference which is expected to produce resolutions, these resolutions will be documented and handed over to the respective stakeholders for actions to be taken.

With an unemployment rate of over 40%, it is expected that the youth will raise the issue of unemployment and urge the relevant stakeholders to take action. Migration, especially irregular migration has continued to dominate the local headlines, we also expect youth to raise this during the convergence.

We urge delegates and all those participating in the weeklong event to effectively participate in all the events and make their regions and country proud.

Finally, we wish the delegates a successful stay in Banjul.

# NYC ED OPTIMISTIC OF A SUCCESSFUL NAYCONF

By Sulayman Ceesay

**T**he Executive Director of the National Youth Council has expressed

optimism for the successful hosting of the 2022 Banjul Nayconf. Mr. Alhagie Jarju was speaking on the eve of the 13th edition of the National Youth Conference and Festival.

He told the media that the National Organising Committee (NOC) through various sub-committees has been working day and night to ensure a successful convergence. Nayconf, he said, provides many opportunities to advance youth development in the country. "It will give youth the opportunity to showcase their talents including their business ideas and possibly get support

for innovative business ideas," says ED.

According to him, Nayconf will also provide an opportunity to sustain the country's rich culture and identity. Dilating on the theme for this year, which is the role of young people in the maintenance of peace and security for the socio-economic development of the country; challenges and opportunities, Mr. Jarju said there cannot be sustainable peace without the involvement of youth in peacebuilding initiatives. NYC ED commended the government under the able leadership of H.E President Adama Barrow for contributing towards the successful hosting of the Nayconf.





## PRESIDENT BARROW OPENS NAYCONF TODAY

H.E Mr. Adama Barrow, President of the Republic of The Gambia will today presides over the official opening ceremony of the 13th edition of the National Youth Conference and Festival, Nayconf in Banjul.

President Barrow had earlier in the week met with the National Organizing Committee of the biggest youth gathering in The Gambia at State House in Banjul.

The meeting was meant to update the President on the level of preparedness of the NOC as well as to thank him for his support of the upcoming Nayconf.

The Gambian leader reaffirmed his government's commitment to supporting young people in the development of The Gambia

while urging them to be responsible and remain positive at all times.

He assured the delegation that he do personal donation to the event.

The president had since then reaffirmed his personal support to the Nayconf and encouraged everyone to follow suit.

Bakary Y. Badjie, the Minister of Youth and Sports, who doubles as the Chairperson of the NOC, hailed the government and donors for their support. He informed the President that Nayconf boosts economic activities of the host region as well as refurbished sporting infrastructure and schools that will be used, which is a legacy to be left in Banjul.

Ousman Fatty, Chairman of the National Youth Council, affirmed that President

Barrow will be the chief guest of honor, saying his participation will boost the morale of young people.

The 13th edition of the biennial gathering of youths is expected to attract more than 2000 delegates from the country and abroad. It will feature several activities, including a national youth conference, sporting competitions, pitching competitions, cooking competitions, entrepreneurship, wrestling as well as traditional and cultural performances.

The theme for this year's event is: "The role of youth in the maintenance of peace and security for socio-economic development of the economic; challenges and opportunities".

# NYC BOSS ADMONISHES YOUTH TO BE PATRIOTIC

**T**he Chairperson of the National Youth Council, Mr Ousman Fatty has urged young people in the country to remain committed and dedicated to nation-building. Mr, Fatty was speaking to Nayconf Daily shortly before the commencement of the National Youth Conference and Festival (Nayconf).

Chairman Fatty further called on the youth to exercise tranquillity, self-restraint, and patience as they meet to discuss issues affecting youth development among others.

With regard to the resolution, the NYC Chairman is with conviction that the resolutions to be made at the end of the convergence will put the government in the spotlight. "It will make the government reflect and adapt to address some of the burning desires of the youth of this nation," he says.

Fatty, who also doubles as the Co-Chairperson of the National Organizing Committee of Nayconf, said they have put in all the necessary

arrangements to make this year's Nayconf a resounding success.

"The planning is at the tail end as 90% of what is needed is in place," he told NAYCONF Daily in an exclusive interview on Thursday.

The biennial event that gathers the nation's youth together to discuss issues affecting their lives, and showcase their talents in various sporting and cultural disciplines have so far been received with a lot of excitement among young people after years of hard work, mobilization of resources, and planning by competent authorities.

NYC board chair was also full of praises for the unprecedented support this year's Nayconf has received from the government of the Gambia which he believes will help in the successful hosting of the event.

"We appreciated the unprecedented financial support of D8.5 million, from the government of The Gambia, this is the first of its kind under the stewardship of our able Honorable Minister Bakary Y.Badjie,"

The 2022 NAYCONF, he added, will also include a pitching competition, a resounding initiative that will be used as a springboard to empower young entrepreneurs.

"All the competitors in this pitching are youth and the winners will have cash prizes and all those who participate will be supported in one way or the other, this will help in promoting and empowering their businesses," he added.

Meanwhile, the first runner will go home with D125, 000, the second runner D100, 000, and the third runner-up will receive D90, 000.

In addressing the issue of dilemma, Chairperson Fatty is hopeful that a youth village that will host NAYCONF and other major youth events in the country will be resolved by the authorities at some point.

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## LIST OF NAYCONF NOC MEMBERS 2022

No	Name	Committee
1	Balla Jatta	Health
2	Seyfo Singhateh	Health
3	Lamin Gassama	Health
4	Jim Jobe	Health
5	Dr Lamin Nyassi	Health
6	Lamin Bojang	Health
7	Fatoumata Gassama	Health
8	Ya Buba Sawo	Health
9	Ebrima Ceesay	Health
10	Fallou Jobe	Health
11	Mustapha Senghore	Security
12	Habiba Jarju	Security
13	Ebrima Ceesay	Security
14	Malifa Barry	Security
15	Ndegen Jobe	Conference
16	Alfosainey Gano	Conference
17	Omar Jarju	Conference
18	Yankuba Manjang	Conference
19	Bakary Sonko	Conference

20	Ansumana Camara	Conference
21	Mberry Jobe	Conference
22	Ismaila Badjie	Conference
23	Omar Bah	Conference
26	Juju Jallow	Food-Committee
27	Isatou Njie	Food-Committee
28	Fatou John	Food-Committee
29	Amie Badjie	Food-Committee
30	Betty Correa	Food-Committee
31	Sadibou Manneh	Food-Committee
32	Marchel Mendy	Sports-Committee
33	Ebou Secka	Sports-Committee
34	Mahmoud L Jawla	Sports-Committee
35	Abdoulie Bojang	Sports-Committee
36	Malang Kongira	Sports-Committee
37	Abdoulie M. Kah	Sports-Committee
38	Mariama M. Sallah	Sports-Committee
39	Alhagie Ceesay	Sports-Committee
40	Gibril Z. Martin	Sports-Committee
41	Edrissa Jammeh	Sports-Committee
42	Sering Modou Faye	Sports-Committee
43	Haddijatou Colley	Sports-Committee
44	Pa Malick Ceesay	Sports-Committee
45	Lamin S. Jawara	Sports-Committee
46	Pa Dodou Sarr	Sports-Committee
47	Kumba Njie Fatty	Sports-Committee



48	Alasana Drammeh	Accommodation	74	Ebrima Boye	Culture/Academic
49	Essaha Sowe	Accommodation	75	Musa Jobe	Culture/Academic
50	Isatou Njie	Accommodation	76	Jainaba Sanneh	Culture/Academic
51	Sandigie Njie	Accommodation	77	Sheikh Tijan Njie	Culture/Academic
52	Abdoulie Taal	Accommodation	78	Lamin Saidykhan	Culture/Academic
53	Muhammed S. Bah	Media	79	Mohammed Coker	Culture/Academic
54	Nfamara Jawneh	Media	80	Pa Modou Njie	Culture/Academic
55	Fatoumatta K Saidykhan	Media	81	Ousman Fatty	Fund Raising and Finance
56	Ebrima M Touray	Media	82	Foday Sisawo	Fund Raising and Finance
57	Sulayman Ceesay	Media	83	Bai Jobe	Fund Raising and Finance
58	Basiru Jaye	Media	84	Lala Touray	Fund Raising and Finance
59	Kutubo Khan	Media	85	Alagie Jarju	Fund Raising and Finance
60	Amadou W. Jallow	Media	86	Isatoou M Secka	Fund Raising and Finance
61	Bintou Sanneh	Media	87	Jacquelin Sylva	Fund Raising and Finance
62	Mustapha Sonko	Media	88	Modou Loum	Fund Raising and Finance
63	Lamarana S. Jallow	Media	89	Pa Suwareh Faye	Fund Raising and Finance
64	Adama Manneh	Media	90	Fatou Bojang	Secretariat
65	Mamie Sarr	Media	91	Muhammed Cham	Secretariat
66	Omar Cham	Culture/Academic	92	Lamin Sanneh	Secretariat
67	Mariama Cham	Culture/Academic	93	Edris Muhammed L Manneh	Secretariat
68	Cherno Gaye	Culture/Academic	94	Lamin Gassama	Secretariat
69	Satang Dumbuya	Culture/Academic			
70	Modou Lamin Jarjusey	Culture/Academic			
71	Lamin Sanyang	Culture/Academic			
72	Lamin Jawara	Culture/Academic			
73	Mariama M Jallow	Culture/Academic			



95	Mariama Jobarteh	Gender
96	Lisa Camara	Gender
97	Zahra Jarju	Gender
98	Lala Touray	Gender
99	Omar Camara	Gender
100	Matarr Saine	Transport/Logistic
101	Ebrima Jammeh	Transport/Logistic
102	Kebba Sumareh	Transport/Logistic
103	Lamin Sanneh	Transport/Logistic
104	Musa O. Mendy	Transport/Logistic
105	Omar MN Camara	Store and Supply
106	Awa Jarju	Store and Supply
107	Famara Dampha	Store and Supply
108	Isa Gibba	Store and Supply
109	Fafa Njie	Store and Supply
110	Musa Touray	Store and Supply



## Minister Badjie Visits Nayconf Venue Ahead of The Delegates' Arrival

*By Sulayman Waan*

The Honourable Minister of Youths and Sports, Hon. Bakary Y. Badjie, yesterday visited accommodation and sporting facilities for regional delegates of the National Youth Conference and Festival (Nayconf) ahead of their much-anticipated arrival in the capital city. The Minister was accompanied by Deputy Executive Director for the National Youth Council (NYC) Pa Malick Ceesay, Chairperson for NYC Mr. Ousman Fatty, Director of Programmes and Planning of the Ministry, Mr. Suute Jawo among other NOC members. The minister and team of technicians

visited Saint Augustine Senior Secondary School, Saint Joseph Senior Secondary School, Crab Island Technical and Vocational Educational Training Center, and ST. Augustine Upper Basic School. The visits were meant to get first-hand information about the above-mentioned places and make further adjustments needed to ensure comfortable accommodation and a hitch-free Nayconf.

The Nayconf is a biennial event that brings together young people from across the country to discuss issues affecting them as well as their role in national development. The conference affords youths, through their accredited representations the

opportunity to discuss matters of common interest, and their role in national development. Speaking to Nayconf Daily shortly after the tour, Minister Badjie said, the visit to the accommodations and sports facilities ahead of the arrival of regional delegates was meant to ensure all is intact. "We are going to converge about two thousand young people here; therefore, we believe there is a need for us to go around and see the places where they going to stay before their arrival. This would ensure everything is put in place before the arrivals of regional delegates and other guests," he says. Minister Badjie was out on the ground working with people to make sure that

anything that needs to be fixed is fixed on time. "Otherwise, I could sit and assume that everything is good just to realize something is not good at the last minute, and then we will run into chaos trying to fix it. This is what we are trying to avoid," he said. Leading by example, the Nayconf Daily has seen Minister Badjie and his team working on removing furniture from the classrooms at Saint Augustine Senior Secondary School to ensure the delegates' welfare. When asked why he physically participated in the work, Minister Badjie said as a leader he deems it necessary to take the lead in doing the work to ensure the job is done as expected. "So, I told my team that we have to remove the furniture by ourselves or assign

others because that was the only way they could have done to get the furniture out of the classroom. Otherwise, it could have been there," says Badjie.

### **NAYCONF meant to unify young people**

Soliciting understanding from the young people, he urged the young people to understand that NAYCONF is a national youth event that is geared toward developing them and the country at large. "It is an event that is meant to unify young people. It is an event where youth come together to share ideas and experiences. It enables youth to compete in ideas, talents, and skills," he noted. However, he advised the youth to maintain peace and calm throughout the

event, adding government does want any form of conflict in the course of the biannual event. The youth and sports minister further urged the young people to always maintain discipline throughout their stay in Banjul.

Minister Badjie further advised the youth to limit their movement and concentrate on their purpose of being in the capital city while urging them to avoid going to restricted places and to be law-abiding.

"There is a greater need for the youth to make the best use of the Nayconf through networking; gaining skills, knowledge, and experience from one another to enable them return something tangible to their various regions," he told Nayconf Daily.

# Gov't Envisages Laying the Foundation for a Youth Village

*By Alieu Jallow*

**M**r. Suute Jawo, Director of Planning at the Ministry of Youth and Sports told NAYCONF Daily that the government of The Gambia envisages laying the foundation for a youth village for the young people of this nation.

The youth village, he explained will serve as a multi-purpose center with a one-stop shop that will provide convenience and efficiency as well as revenue for youth. Advancing the idea of the youth village, Director Jawo affirmed that the national youth council and the secretariat have

developed a proposal for donor funding.

"The purpose of the youth village will serve us with multiuse not only to host the NAYCONF but a one-stop shop that will provide the young people to access most of the things they may need to develop themselves," he said.

Mr. Jawo highlighted that once this dream is realized; it will help to address the prevailing issues of accommodation, its burden, and the cost attached to the government.

"It will also help us house some sub-regional conferences which have to do with young people by extending even international

depending on how we really handle and carefully utilized it in the best interest," he said.

The idea of a youth village sounds bright, appealing, and welcoming to the young people and as well government however, as the world continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia- Ukraine war, Director, Jawo outlines that these and donor fatigue will hurt the realization of this dream.

Mr. Jawo urged the young people to look at it as their own business as charity begins at home thus all hands must be on deck to make this dream becomes a reality.



## Regional Delegates Expect a Nayconf With a Difference

**By Awa Macalo**

**A**s hundreds of young people from diverse regions in the Gambia meet again for the most anticipated National Youth Conference and Festival in Banjul, regional delegates have started sharing their views with Nayconf Daily.

The delegates expressed their expectations with enchanting smiles and lots of excitement as they arrived at their respective centres.

While helping his team to properly settle down, Alpha Dem, the Public Relations Officer for Kanifing Municipal Youth Committee shared his expectations.

“We believe after the end of this conference; young people will come up with solutions that would be very reflective in the youth affairs.” He added “not only at the national assembly where it will be a table out, but also at

our different regions because for us at KM, the resolutions that we did during pre-conference, was a pass to our council whereby the council will also look into the youth matters. During the conference here which is more important than the entire Nayconf, young people will discuss on the thematic areas and come up with solutions that we believe will reflect on our lives as young people.”

Dem Added: “Again, in sports, we can see that other countries are doing way more than the Gambia, but with this Nayconf, we have identified very talented young people who will potentially end up representing us globally. We want to have more Gina Bass and even Sadio Manneh. One more thing, we are going with all the trophies, Banjul will be receiving one hosting the event,” he said.

Momodou Salieu Jallow, a delegate from the Upper River Region, shows excitement and

gratefulness to be part of the two thousand delegates for this year’s Nayconf, With a warm smile he said,

“I am expecting to engage and network with young people from different regions. we are representing the country and I am sure it is going to be an educative week long.” these young people are ready to come up with solutions to some of the problems we are faced with as a youth in the country.”

He added: “We are a lot of sporting and cultural activities coming up, and I have learned for the first time there be a cooking competition between regions which is so exciting.”

The regional Vice Chairperson for North Bank Region, Fatou O. Jallow, said part of the objectives of the conference is for the youth to take leadership roles in all decision-making processes and development processes in the country.



# Editorial Team



**MUHAMMED S BAH**  
Editor – In Chief



**NFAMARA JAWANEH**  
Deputy Editor



**SULAYMAN CEESAY**  
Sub-Editor



**MUSTAPHA SONKO**  
Proof Reader



**ABDOULIE SAMBOU**  
Layout Editor



**Lamarana S Jallow**  
Newsroom Coordinator



**HE. ADAMA BARROW**  
President of the Republic of The Gambia



**HON. BAKARY Y. BADJIE**  
Minister of Youth and Sports  
of the Republic The Gambia



**HER WORSHIP  
ROHEY MALICK LOWE**  
Mayoress of Banjul

## OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

**DATE:** 16th December, 2022  
**VENUE:** Never Again Memorial Arch

### PROGRAMME GUIDE

**MCs:** Alagie Jarju - Executive Director National Youth Council  
Fatoumatta Cham - Journalist

TIME	ACTIVITY	FACILITATOR
16:00	Arrival of Participants and the Police Band	Protocol committee
16:30	Arrival of invited guest	
17:00	Arrival of H.E President of the Republic of The Gambia	Protocol State House
17:15	National Anthem of The Gambia	Police Band
	Prayers	Imam/Pasture – Banjul
	March Pass by Participants and other Groups	Police Band
18:00	Welcome Statement by Mayoress Banjul City Council	Rohey Malick Lowe
18:10	Statement by Chairperson National Youth Council	Ousman Fatty
18:20	Interlude	Artists
19:00	Statement by Hon. Minister for Youth and Sports	Bakary Y. Badjie
19:10	Official Opening Address by HE the President of the Republic of The Gambia.	H. E President Adama Barrow
19:20	Opening and Inspection of Youth Exhibition and Health fair by HE and Delegation	Protocol Committee