



UPR Pre-session on The Gambia

Statement by Solo Sandeng
Foundation

Geneva, 21st November 2024



About Solo Sandeng Foundation

- - Gambian organization promoting human rights, democratic reforms, and transitional justice.
- - Participated in UPR consultations with grassroots input.
- - Advocates for implementing recommendations from the 2019 UPR review.



Scope of Statement

- This statement focuses on:
 - - Transitional Justice
 - - Torture and Detention

Transitional Justice

- - TRRC investigated human rights violations from 1994-2017.
- - State accepted 263 TRRC recommendations in 2022.
- - Progress on implementation remains slow, particularly for memorialization and security reforms.

Recommendations: Transitional Justice

- 1. Develop a memorialization plan by 2026.
- 2. Search for disappeared persons and provide closure by 2027.
- 3. Implement security reforms, including enacting key legislation by 2027.

Torture and Recommendations

- - Prevention of Torture Act 2023 adopted.
- - Socio-cultural practices hinder accountability.
- Recommendations:
 - 1. Ratify OPCAT by 2025.
 - 2. Strengthen investigation and prevention mechanisms.

Detention and Recommendations

- - Section 19(3) allows 72-hour provisional detention.
- - Prisons face overcrowding and poor conditions.
- Recommendations:
 - 1. Amend Section 19(3) to 48 hours by 2025.
 - 2. Implement digital case management by 2027.