# Delegation from the Republic of Senegal
## *Position Paper for the United Nations General Assembly*

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly are the Role of Emerging Technologies in International Security and Disarmament; Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System and the Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women. The Republic of Senegal is looking forward to work closely with the UN member states in order to address those issues and find adequate solutions.

### *I. The Role of Emerging Technologies in International Security and Disarmament*

Senegal realizes that technology becomes more important in the daily life as well as for the government on a national level. Even though, Senegal and in general Africa still do not have the same possibility to access technology the way industrial nations have, it strongly believes that technology is supposed to be used in the procedure of establishing international security and promote disarmament.
Senegal is proud to say that it does not possess nuclear weapons and is a state party to the Nuclear Nonproliferation treaty as well as to the Biological and Toxin Weapons convention and to the Chemical Weapons Convention, which means that Senegal strongly encourages other countries to support and be part of the disarmament procedure. Nevertheless, there are still many countries that import weapons, such as Morocco with 13.4 million, the Ivory Coast with 12.3 million and Namibia with 9.1 million imports. This fact combined with the spread of illegal weapons and the unsafe situation especially in African countries leads to a dangerous instability of the continent.
Senegal also urges the UN member states to finally realize common standards for armed uncrewed aerial vehicles and to share policies and practices with the civilian population in order to provide the best possible protection.

Also, Senegal believes that the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and burgeoning weapons would advance peace on the one and develop the country on the other hand.
As far as it comes to International Security, Senegal forces the UN to not only provide technical equipment to the industrial nations to give them possibilities to influence the International Security in a positive way, but also to establish partnerships with trustworthy organizations in the developing countries that need support by the UN in order to resolve local disputes and establish security in African states with the aim of contributing to International Security. In this regard, it is also important to develop new techniques to ensure international peace such as a surveillance system of conflict areas or a shared system between the UN member states to better track people with a potential criminal background.

Nowadays, International Security is one of the main concerns. Therefore, it is necessary to establish an efficient and world-wide system using modern technology to establish surveillance and digital files to share information with other UN member states to cooperate in the battle against crimes, instability and the anguish of the people.

### *II. Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System*

First of all, Senegal acknowledges that an initiative called the UN Transparency and Accountability Initiative was founded and has identified eight areas where UN member states can increase transparency and accountability aiming to ensure that resources are utilized efficiently for their intended purpose. Senegal supports this initiative as well as the publication of ongoing projects and the work of the UN. Apart from providing relevant, accurate, timely, and accessible information to all the UN member states, it is important to have a comprehensive and effective system of oversight, both internal and external. Furthermore, Senegal approves the establishment of independent oversight committees by introducing the Independent Audit and Advisory Committee in 2007 which was developed by the General Assembly. Recently, the role of 129 resident coordinators got strengthened with the aim to avoid duplication of work and therefore ameliorate the deficit of coordination functions by giving responsibility to the resident coordinators who will easily give response to questions raised on a certain area in the world.

As far as accountability is concerned, the UN bodies have to make sure that they demonstrate that work has been conducted in accordance with agreed rules and standards. Therefore, they must share their

reports with the other UN bodies as well as with the UN member states. It is important to categorize information into secret ones and the ones which need to be shared. It is not only necessary to share information, but also to define and set goals that a certain UN body wants to reach in five or ten years. Creating an independent commission on failure that could analyze examples of UN member states of certain projects could be helpful as well to identify highlighting challenges and difficulties for projects planned by UN bodies.

The Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System is not only important to the people working in the several UN bodies but also to the UN system in general. Therefore, Senegal wants the UN member states to state where transparency could be improved and afterwards, implement new ideas concerning an information sharing system between the UN bodies and the UN member states.

### *III. Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women*

Around 35 per cent of women on a worldwide level have already experienced physical and/ or sexual intimate partner violence. Furthermore, adult women account for 51 per cent of all human trafficking victims. Regarding the issue of female genital mutilation, it can be stated that 200 million women and girls were victims of female genital mutilation.

Currently, the rate of sexual violence against women, including rape is high and lots of states do not qualify rape as a serious crime. Therefore, Senegal wants all UN member states to make sure and guarantee that violence against women is defined as a crime and has an effective sentence. Moreover, there is only limited medical, psychological and legal assistance provided to women victims of violence. That is why Senegal strongly encourages women to report cases of domestic violence and demands that the UN strengthens assistance to and rehabilitation of women victims of violence through the establishment of a comprehensive care system. Moreover, Senegal suggests that the UN implements a call service for all women in the UN member states who are supposed to be able to call the service and talk about their current situation and the violent experiences in order to find support and get advices and counsels.

Also, the UN member states are supposed to undertake awareness-raising and educational activities in high school and in the working life. Regarding this issue, Senegal wants the UN member states to use the UN Development Fund for Women as a role model because it did not only raise awareness through introducing campaigns, but also organized specific seminars aimed at doctors and law enforcement officials on providing medical, legal and psychological assistance to the victims of violence. Apart from strengthening the awareness-raising projects, it is also necessary to establish more efficient partnerships to non-governmental organizations to work efficiently and locally.

One achievement that we already reached is that the taboo on discussing violence against women, particularly sexual violence got lifted. As far as the general female genital mutilation rate is concerned, it can be stated that the rate in Senegal is 20%, but it definitely varies throughout the areas. This is the main reason why Senegal demands the UN to share data concerning Female Genital Mutilation. Besides, it wants the UN member states to have criminal law against female genital mutilation to be established efficiently.

Senegal also encourages UN member states to establish or extend mentee and mentor programs between women living in industrial nations and women living in developing nations in order to have somebody to talk about violence that was experienced. The female mentors in the industrial nations are supposed to get trained on what they can do to help women that experienced violence and how to support them as much as possible.

When it comes to woman trafficking and exploitation of prostitution, Senegal urges the UN member states to enforce mechanisms for the prosecution and punishment of traffickers and provide programs for assistance and legal support for victims. Therefore, it is important to include the issue of internet marriages and sexual exploitation in this issue.

Senegal considers the fight against Violence against Women as one of the latest main issues in the UN and want the member states to undertake appropriate measures to eliminate violence against women in all categories.