

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE BY H.E. TENENG MBA JAITEH,
AMBASSADOR OF THE GAMBIA AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE ACP
COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS ON THE LAUNCH OF THE OACPS – 5th
APRIL 2020**

It is a great honour to be Chairperson of the Committee of Ambassadors of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group at such an important and historic moment. Little did I know when we gathered in Nairobi last year, that I, and by extension, the Republic of The Gambia would be accorded such a significant place in history, to lead my colleagues on this incredible journey as we transition to being the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS).

I offer my heartfelt congratulations to all our countries and regions for taking this important transformative step in our organisation's history. The OACPS represents the hopes of over 1.5 billion citizens within Africa, the Caribbean and The Pacific regions. It carries with it the cumulative experience of over 45 years of the ACP since the inception of this extraordinary body in 1975. It also proudly represents the joint resolve and successful cooperation of the distinguished Ambassadors of our 79 Member States, working together to re-model our organization thereby enabling it to forge a better and brighter future for us all.

Once again, my sincere congratulations on this momentous occasion as we look forward to solidifying our unity and cooperation towards the achievement of the goals of the OACPS.