



Embassy of the United States of America

Dakar, Senegal

Ambassade des Etats-Unis

Ave Jean XXIII x Rue Kléber - B.P. 49 DAKAR, Sénégal - Tél. 823-4296

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***PRESS RELEASE***

**CLARIFICATION TO REPORTING ON U.S. INTENTIONS TO NAME A SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE CASAMANCE**

Several newspapers in Senegal reported the United States intends to name a special representative to the Casamance region. These news reports refer to this individual as a “Presidential Envoy,” “Special Envoy to the Casamance,” or “Mr. Casamance.” The Embassy of the United States would like to clarify these reports.

The Government of the United States has never designated an individual as a special or presidential envoy to the Casamance and has no intention of doing so.

To date, The United States has not asked the Government of Senegal for permission to open any diplomatic or consular offices outside of Dakar or to base any diplomatic or consular officials outside of the capital.

The Government of the United States views the security situation in the region as an internal Senegalese matter. The U.S. Government has always supported a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the Casamance and will continue to coordinate with the Senegalese Government any efforts to assist actors in the peace process by increasing skills in conflict resolution and through appropriate support for the peace dialogue. The United States is not seeking a mediation role in the conflict and has not been asked to do so.

All American Personnel accredited to Senegal work out of the United States Embassy in Dakar. The U.S. Embassy does not have any individuals restricted to work in any specific region of the country. The diplomats in the U.S. Embassy work to strengthen relations between the American people and the people of Senegal and to improve the U.S. Government’s understanding of events and issues in all regions of the country, including the South.

We regret any confusion that may have been caused by previous reporting that did not accurately reflect the facts of U.S. diplomatic representation in Senegal.

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