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***PRESS RELEASE***

**U.S. / SENEGAL COOPERATION**

**U.S. Assists Legislators to Develop Anti-Corruption Strategies**

The United States, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) convened more than 35 members of the Senegalese Parliament this week to advocate stronger citizen oversight in reducing corruption in all aspects of the nation's affairs.

The two-day workshop was sponsored by a USAID supported coalition including the Forum Civil, the local arm of Transparency International, and Enda Graf, a Senegalese nongovernmental organization that has worked for 35 years on decentralization of government and local development, in partnership with the APNAC, a parliamentary association dedicated to promotion of integrity and efficiency throughout Senegalese society.

"You are engaged in a worthy and important fight," USAID/Senegal Mission Director Kevin Mullally told the assembled legislators. "Corruption is a complex phenomenon that takes multiple forms. But I am convinced that you have the resources at your disposal to, once again, take definitive steps against corruption and promote good governance."

The conference was opened by National Assembly President Mamadou Seck, who noted the progress in the process of engaging the Parliament in the budgetary process. He also thanked USAID for convening the conference, and said it underscores an evolving bilateral relationship between the governments of Senegal and the United States.

"Your presence here represents another example of the strong cooperation between our two countries," Assembly President Seck said. "We share the same values and objectives, and can speak openly at this level about our responsibility to address these issues."

In partnership with APNAC, the coalition between the Civil Forum and Enda Graf convened the parliamentarians for a series of panels to identify issues and potential solutions to seek centralized judicial solutions to corruption issues.



*National Assembly President Mamadou Seck and USAID/Senegal Mission Director  
Kevin Mullally*

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