



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

147th IPU Assembly

Luanda, Angola
23–27 October 2023



Governing Council
Item 16

CL/212/16-P.1
10 June 2023

Election of the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

(Article 19 of the Statutes and Rules 6, 7 and 8 of
the Rules of the Governing Council)

Candidature

of

Ms. Adji Diarra MERGANE KANOUTÉ (Senegal)

On 10 June 2023, the Secretary General received a communication from the President of the National Assembly of Senegal, submitting the candidature of Ms. Adji Diarra Mergane Kanouté for the office of President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which is to be filled at the 212th session of the Governing Council.

The text of this communication and the additional materials received in support of this candidature can be found attached.

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**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SENEGAL**

Dakar, 9 June 2023

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

After addressing you my warmest greetings, I would like to express my satisfaction at the quality of our cooperation, founded on the values of peace, solidarity, democracy and freedom.

In this respect, as you know, our respective parliaments are working tirelessly to invigorate these values in favour of the profound aspirations of our peoples.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union is also part of this dynamic, through its noble missions to promote parliamentary diplomacy and peace, democracy and sustainable development throughout the world.

In this regard, I would like to reaffirm our strong commitment and readiness to work with you to achieve these laudable objectives.

It is in this spirit that I have decided to present the candidacy of the Honourable Deputy Mrs Adjii Diarra MERGANE KANOUTÉ for the position of President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, at the election scheduled for October 2023, in Luanda.

The Honourable Deputy, whose biography is attached, is the outgoing Vice-President of the IPU. Her term of office ended at the same time as that of Vice-President of the Executive Committee, at the close of the last Assembly held in Bahrain in March this year. She is currently Vice-Chairwoman of the majority group at the National Assembly, and is known for her rich career path, her political commitment, her remarkable contribution to the work of the Parliamentary Assembly, and her full commitment to the Inter-Parliamentary Union in a spirit of openness, generosity and solidarity, a true reflection of her laudable human and professional qualities.

It is in view of her excellent profile that I am officially submitting her application.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurance of my highest and most respectful consideration.

(Signed)

Amadou Mame DIOP
President of the National Assembly
of Senegal



Adj Diarra Mergane KANOUTE : A Presidency at the service of the IPU's influence

Dear Colleagues,

From 2019 to 2023, I sat on the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, of which I was Vice-President from 2021 to 2023. In addition to the Executive Committee, I have been a member of the IPU's Finance Committee and Women's Bureau since 2019. Suffice it to say that, in all humility, I've had the chance to get to know the institution for which I aspire to participate in leadership as President since I've been attending regularly and at various levels since 2017. In my various roles, I have always shown unfailing commitment to the tasks entrusted to me and to the success of our organization, so dear to parliamentary life around the world.

Elected Deputy in my country Senegal since 2017, I am now in my second consecutive term after being re-elected in 2022. As a woman who has been Vice-President of the Presidential Majority Group for almost seven years, I play a dynamic role in the functioning of our political entity. For me, politics only makes sense if my commitment can have an impact. This is the credo I live by at all times.

As Vice-President of the IPU Executive Committee since 2020, I have worked with determination and loyalty alongside its President to ensure that the organization's ideals and principles prevail.

If I am seeking your confidence, with the support of my country's highest authorities, to assume the position of President of the IUP, which will be designated at the 147th session next October in Luanda, it is because I am convinced that we have in our hands a fine tool that the founding fathers have bequeathed to us since 1889.

I am convinced that this tool can contribute even more to the triumph of the noble ideals of peace, democracy and prosperity in a more just and equitable world, but also to the effectiveness of our work as parliamentarians in our own countries, by harnessing the commitment of women and young people in tackling the challenges of our time, not least climate change.

This is why, dear fellow parliamentarians, I humbly request your support for my candidacy for the post of IPU President, promising to make my term of office truly a commitment to the influence of our organization and the triumph of its causes.

"Alone, we go faster. Together, we go further", as the African proverb says. Let's go together!



Biography of

Mrs Adji Diarra Mergane KANOUTE Candidate for the Presidency of the IPU

Mrs. Adji Diarra Mergane KANOUTE was a member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union from 2019 to 2023 and a member of the Women's Bureau and the Finance Committee. Between 2021 and 2023, she was Vice-President of the Executive Committee, Vice-President of the IPU, member of the Women's Bureau and member of the Finance Committee and Vice President of the Men/Women Parliamentary Group. As a member of the National Assembly of Senegal, she is designated Vice-President of the Presidential Majority Group.

Mrs. KANOUTE was born on 14 August 1972 in Kaolack, a region in central Senegal.

EDUCATION

She began her university curriculum at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, where, after studying Modern Literature, she obtained a Master's degree in Business Communication and a Bachelor's degree in Specialised Studies in Marketing-Management from the SUPDECO training institute in Dakar. She completed her training with a diploma in monitoring and evaluation in project management at the "Institut Supérieur d'Ingénierie Territoriale en Afrique".

Mrs. Adji Diarra Mergane KANOUTE also holds several certifications and attestations, including a skills certificate on "Communication and Public Relations Dynamisation" awarded in 2014 by the PRIORITE training centre in Casablanca, Morocco; and a training attestation on "Gender-Specific Perspectives on Election Observation in Senegal" by the NGO Alliance for Migration, Leadership and Development, obtained in 2012.

CAREER

Mrs Adji Diarra Mergane KANOUTE began her professional career in the private sector, and has held positions of responsibility (Marketing Director, Sales Manager, Technical Advisor) in both private and public organisations, including the Port Autonome de Dakar.

Her parliamentary experience began with her first mandate in 2017. Highly committed, she was awarded the prize for "Best parliamentarian for the year 2022" in Senegal and the "Calebasse Prize for Excellence as a female political role model" in 2017. At the IPU General Assembly in March 2023, she was honoured for "the invaluable contribution she has made to the work and mission of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in her role of member (2019-2023) and Vice-President of the Executive Committee (2021-2023)".

COMMITMENT

His community life is just as rich in experience. This is evidenced by the various responsibilities she has held within the "Commission pour la transparence des élections" (Commission for the transparency of elections) as General Rapporteur, and within the "Plateforme de riposte COVID 19 - Les femmes debout" (COVID 19- Women on their feet) as Executive Secretary.

Mrs Adji Diarra Mergane KANOUTE is the President of the "Protect Children Taxawu Xaléyi" Association, which fights against rape, sexual abuse and all forms of violence against children.