

Letter to the President of Senegal

LETTER ID	LTL-ACT-146
ADDRESSEE	President Bassirou Diomaye Faye
COUNTRY	Senegal
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PUBLISHED	2026-06-13 12:00:00
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English

To His Excellency Bassirou Diomaye Faye

President of the Republic of Senegal

Palais de la République, Dakar

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you as a citizen witnessing our nation navigate a period of significant promise and expectation in June 2026. Senegal stands as a pillar of stability in West Africa, yet, as we walk the streets of Dakar or travel to the vibrant interiors of Casamance, we feel the urgent heartbeat of a nation that is ready for more. We are a country of nearly 19 million people, a proud demographic giant compared to our island neighbors, possessing a landmass that anchors the westernmost point of the continent.

Life in Senegal is a blend of intense industry and deep-seated community. Most of our people are engaged in the informal economy—hustling in the bustling markets, working in the artisanal fishing sector that feeds our families, or tending to the fields.

For our youth, the future is the primary conversation; they enter the workforce early, often before adulthood, out of necessity. Education is mandatory, yet our schools are stretched, and the struggle between tradition and modern academic requirements is ever-present. For the working parent, the "nursery" is the extended family; there is no institutional substitute for the care provided by grandparents and community elders, who remain the custodians of our values while parents chase livelihoods.

When a citizen falls ill, we rely on a healthcare system that strives for excellence but often faces the challenge of infrastructure gaps. While we have made strides in medical coverage, for many, the local pharmacy or the wisdom of traditional knowledge still bridges the gap where institutional medicine does not yet reach. Our elderly, the keepers of our history, receive pensions, but like everywhere else, the rising cost of living makes these modest payments feel like a race they are constantly losing.

Our entertainment is the lifeblood of our culture. We don't have sterile leisure; we have the visceral power of Mbalax music, the intense social energy of our traditional wrestling matches—our true national pastime—and the late-night tea circles where the pulse of the nation is truly felt.

Mr. President, the people have placed their trust in you. We do not need more grand political rhetoric; we need tangible results. We need an economy that does not just grow in statistics, but in the wallets of the fishermen in Saint-Louis and the traders in Dakar. We need schools that guarantee a future, not just attendance, and a country where every citizen—young or old—feels that they are moving forward, not just standing still.

With the hope of a patriot,

A Concerned Citizen of Senegal

Sovereign Performance Audit: Senegal (June 2026)

Sector

Score

Summary

Political Stability

4.5

Strong democratic culture; recent peaceful leadership transition confirms resilience.

Economic Development

3.0

Growing, yet heavily reliant on primary exports and vulnerable to inflation.

Social Infrastructure

2.5

Healthcare and education improving, but access remains unequal between urban/rural.

Public Trust

4.0

High optimism surrounding the new administration's reformist agenda.

Final Verdict: 3.5 / The West African Vanguard.

Senegal has the potential to lead the region, provided the current administration can translate its reformist mandate into immediate economic relief. The gap between political success and the daily cost of living for the common citizen is the primary hurdle for the next two years.

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