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*Brussels, 29 August 2019/ACP:* The Secretary General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States H.E Dr Patrick Gomes has learnt with deep sadness of the passing of the First President of the Republic of The Gambia, H.E Alhaji Sir. Dawda Kairaba Jawara, on Tuesday, 27th August 2019.

Sir. Dawda Kairaba Jawara will be remembered as amongst the foremost crop of leaders who laid the foundations of democracy and a champion of international peace, justice and human rights. As a statesman, he steadfastly worked to consolidate the peace, stability, good governance in the West African sub-region and in the African Continent.

The Secretary General expresses his deepest condolences to the immediate family as well as to the Government and the People of the Republic of The Gambia. He conveys the Group's solidarity with the People and Government of the Republic of the Gambia during this difficult time.

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