

ROYAL VISIT TO SENEGAL



NOVEMBER 2016

HM the King to Pay Official Visit to Senegal

Rabat, 04/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI will start on Sunday an official visit to Senegal, the Ministry of Royal Household, Protocol and Chancellery said on Friday.

Regarding the deep brotherly, spiritual and human relations between Morocco and Senegal, the special place that HM the King and all Moroccans give to Africa, and the high solicitude that the Sovereign grants to the continent, HM the King has decided to address the Royal Speech to His faithful people, on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the glorious Green March, from the city of Dakar, the ministry underlined in a statement

During this visit, HM the King will hold official talks with HE President Macky Sall. The two Heads of State will chair the signing ceremony of several bilateral agreements in various fields.

On this occasion, His Majesty will have a series of activities in several fields.

The visit comes at the end of the first part of the tour that HM the King has made to several African brothers.

Green March Speech from Dakar Shows HM the King's Choice to Speak to Africa, Africans (Macky Sall)

Dakar, 04/11/2016 (MAP) - The decision to address the Green March speech from the Senegalese capital shows the choice of HM King Mohammed VI to "speak to Africa and to Africans", Senegalese President Macky Sall said.

"Having chosen a country other than Morocco, an African country, Senegal today, to address a traditional historical discourse is symbolic of the nature of the relationship" between Morocco and Senegal, Sall told the press, underlining that this initiative reflects the "choice of His Majesty to speak to Africa and Africans".

Expressing the pleasure of Senegal to receive, Sunday, HM King Mohammed VI as part of His African tour, President Macky Sall stressed the symbolism of this date that coincides with the celebration of the Green March.

"The symbolism of the date is that His Majesty wanted, during his stay in Dakar, address His historic speech for a historical event, the Green March. And for the first time outside the Moroccan territory, He was keen to do it in Dakar", he said.

"I would like on behalf of the Senegalese people express to Him our gratitude and all the esteem that the Senegalese people, myself and the Senegalese Government have for HM King Mohammed VI and the friendly people of Morocco", the Senegalese president added.

HM the King's Visit to Senegal : Pres. Macky Sall Welcomes Distinguished Guest, Statement

Dakar, 05/11/2016 (MAP), President of the Republic of Senegal Macky Sall welcomes and wishes a nice stay to HM King Mohammed VI, expected Sunday in Dakar for an official visit to Senegal, said a statement by the Senegalese President's office.

"HM the King will kick off on Nov. 6, 2016, an official visit to Senegal and H.E. President Macky Sall welcomes the sovereign and wishes his distinguished guest a nice stay," said a statement issued on Saturday in Dakar.

HM the King's stay in Senegal is part of strengthening long-standing and privileged relations of friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Senegal, said the same source.

During his stay, HM the King will meet with H. E. President Macky Sall on issues of shared interest, in addition to the signature of cooperation agreements between the two countries, said the statement, adding the sovereign's visit will be also marked by important social activities for the benefit of the population.

HM King Mohammed VI Arrives in Dakar

Dakar, 06/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI, accompanied by HRH Prince Moulay Rachid and HH Prince Moulay Ismail, arrived on Sunday in Dakar for an official visit to the Republic of Senegal.

At his arrival at the Léopold Sédar Senghor airport, HM the King was greeted by Senegalese President H.E. Macky Sall.

The sovereign was afterwards greeted by Senegalese Prime Minister Mahammed Boun Abdallah Dionne, Speaker of the Senegalese National Assembly Moustapha Niasse, president of the high council of local authorities Ousmane Tanor Dieng, and president of the economic, social and environmental Council Aminata Tall.

HM the King was also greeted by the minister of state, director of president's office, the foreign minister, the interior minister, the Chief of general staff of Senegal's armies, the high commander of gendarmerie, the president's chief of staff and the governor of the region of Dakar.

The two leaders headed for the VIP stand to salute the flags while the national anthems were playing.

Afterwards, HM the King and the Senegalese head of state reviewed a detachment of the different corps of the Senegalese army who paid the honors.

The sovereign was, then, greeted by members of the Senegalese government, vice-speakers of the National Assembly, the Arab and African diplomatic corps accredited in Dakar, chiefs of brotherhoods, representatives of the Moroccan community living in Senegal, Morocco's ambassador in Dakar and members of the Moroccan diplomatic mission.

The Senegalese president was greeted by members of the official delegation accompanying HM the King, composed notably of the sovereign's advisors Fouad Ali El Himma and Yassir Zenagui.

The delegation includes also agriculture and fisheries minister Aziz Akhannouch, minister delegate for foreign affairs Nasser Bourita, as well as high-ranking civil and military figures.

After a short break at the VIP lounge at the Léopold Sédar Senghor airport, the official procession headed for HM the King's residence.

Full Speech of HM the King on 41st Anniversary of Green March

Dakar, 06/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI delivered, on Sunday in Dakar, a speech to the Moroccan people on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the Green March.

Here follows the full text of the speech:

“Praise be to God May peace and blessings be upon the Prophet, His Kith and Kin

Dear Citizens,

Today I am addressing you, on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the Green March, from Dakar, the capital city of the sister nation Senegal, and I know that this move will not surprise you.

As a matter of fact, Senegal was one of the countries that took part in this national epic, together with other African and Arab nations.

This beloved country has always been at the forefront of advocates of the Kingdom’s territorial unity and lofty interests.

Furthermore, on several occasions, it has shown through words and deeds that it considers the cause of the Moroccan Sahara as one its own national causes.

Moroccans will not forget the courageous, solidarity-based stance taken by this country when Morocco decided to withdraw from the Organization of African Unity, back in 1984. The then President, Mr. Abdou Diouf, deemed that it was impossible to imagine the Organization without Morocco.

The same stance was adopted by many African states, such as Guinea, Gabon and former Zaire.

I have also chosen Senegal because of the special status it enjoys in Africa, thanks to its historically democratic model, its political and social stability, as well as its economic dynamism.

There are also fraternal bonds, based on solidarity and a shared destiny, which have historically existed between the Moroccan and the Senegalese peoples, who stand as one single people, with each one forming a natural extension of the other, in a unique symbiosis between two independent countries respecting each other’s particularities.

Dear Citizens,

On the same day last year, I delivered a speech on Africa from Laayoune, in the Moroccan Sahara, and today, I am talking to you from the heart of Africa about the Moroccan Sahara.

By delivering my speech from this hospitable land I am expressing a keen interest in our continent.

Morocco’s African policy will not be limited to West and Central Africa. I will see to it that it acquires a continental dimension and covers the whole of Africa.

In this regard, I have visited Rwanda and Tanzania even though our relations with East-African countries are limited - not out of neglect or lack of effort, but for objective reasons, such as language, geographic distance and cultural differences.

Together with the powerful leaders of these countries, with whom we share the same willingness, we have decided to give fresh impetus to our political and economic relations, given the political clout of this region, its economic potential and its strategic assets.

At the end of this unprecedented tour, I would like to share with you, dear citizens, the results of these visits.

The first signs of such openness to this important African area emerged with the visit to Morocco, last June, by my brother Mr. Paul Kagamé, President of the Republic of Rwanda.

My visit to Rwanda has enabled us to consolidate this trend, as the foundations for a promising partnership in all fields have been laid in order to build the main pillar on which to develop our relations with the region.

My trip to Tanzania was prompted by its status in the region, its geographic location and its human potential. I was also keen to coordinate with this country regarding regional and international issues.

I have also been in touch with authorities in the Republic of Ethiopia, with whom we will open a new chapter in our relations.

It will also be the first stop in the second part of my African tour, which will include a number of Sub-Saharan countries, in connection with Morocco's return to the continental organization.

Dear Citizens,

Morocco's return to the African Union is not a tactical decision, nor is it motivated by passing considerations. It is a rational decision, taken after careful thought.

When we announced our return, we were not asking for anyone's permission to exercise our legitimate right.

In any case, Morocco is returning to its natural place and is supported by an overwhelming majority to reclaim its seat within the African institutional family.

Morocco, which does not meddle in other states' home affairs and rejects divisive policies, hopes all parties will respond to this decision in a wise and responsible manner, to make sure African unity and African peoples' interests prevail.

This decision is the culmination of our African policy and the outcome of Morocco's solidarity-based field action in a number of African countries, in terms of economic and human development aimed at serving African citizens.

In addition to cooperation at the bilateral level and with regional groupings, this return will enable our country to adhere to sectoral development strategies in Africa and actively support and enrich them thanks to the outstanding experience Morocco has gained in various fields.

As far as the continent's major issues and problems are concerned, the return of my country to its institutional family will enable Morocco to help make the voice of Africa heard in international forums.

It will also enable it to further strengthen its commitment to finding objective solutions to these issues, bearing in mind African peoples' interests and particularities.

In this regard, I am keen to further contribute to consolidating security and stability in the various war zones and hotspots and to finding peaceful solutions to conflicts.

Furthermore, this return will enable Morocco to become more involved in the continent's efforts to fight extremism and terrorism, which compromise the future of Africa.

In this context, we are committed to sharing with our African brothers our outstanding, internationally recognized experience in the fields of security cooperation and fighting radicalism.

As far as migration is concerned, our country will continue to strive to deal with the real causes of the phenomenon and link it to development, within a human, solidarity-based approach which upholds migrants' rights and preserves their dignity.

Aware that Africa is one of the regions most affected by climate change, I have made sure that the Climate Conference which opens in Marrakech this week, is a conference for Africa.

Accordingly, I have called for an African summit to be held on the sidelines of this conference in order to develop a common vision to uphold our continent's demands, particularly in terms of funding and transfer of technology.

Dear Citizens,

Morocco's return to its continental institutional family will not change our unwavering position regarding the Moroccan Sahara.

On the contrary, it will enable us to defend our legitimate rights and correct the fallacies peddled by opponents of our territorial unity, particularly within the African Union.

We will also foil their attempts to insert such fallacies into resolutions which are contrary to the base set by the United Nations for the settlement of this fabricated regional dispute and to the stances adopted by most African states.

Dear Citizens,

Our African policies have proved successful – thanks be to God – and are starting to bear fruits, both at the level of political stances regarding the issue of our territorial unity, and in terms of further economic involvement and stronger relations with various African countries.

Today, Morocco is regarded as an influential regional power and enjoys the esteem and trust not only of the continent's leaders, but of its peoples too.

In this regard, I look forward to seeing the government adopt a comprehensive, integrated policy towards Africa and deal with the continent as one bloc.

I also expect ministers to grant as much importance to Africa as to their missions and trips to western countries.

Morocco needs a serious, responsible government. The future cabinet should not be the result of calculations aimed at fulfilling political parties' wishes, based on electoral arithmetic, as if there were spoils to be shared out.

A government should have a clear program and well-defined priorities, both for home and foreign affairs, particularly as far as Africa is concerned. The government should have the ability to deal with the difficulties inherited from past years, with respect to Morocco's obligations towards its partners.

The government should involve an efficient, coherent structuring effort, consonant with programs and priorities. It also requires qualified, skilled resources, with specific sectoral attributions.

These are the criteria I will ensure are respected when the next government is formed, in compliance with a strict methodology. I will not tolerate any attempts to deviate from it.

Moroccans expect the coming government to be up to the challenge of this crucial phase.

Dear Citizens,

I am sure that a stronger democratic, development process and a consolidated African policy will contribute to safeguarding our national and territorial unity.

Our southern provinces are strong thanks to their populations' commitment to their Moroccan nationality and to the nation's political system.

This has been mirrored in their massive participation in various elections and their voluntary, responsible involvement in the management of their local affairs.

These provinces are also ambitious, thanks to the specific development model and projects launched in the region.

Moreover, they have the potential, in terms of security, stability and infrastructure, to become an integrated development hub, at both regional and continental levels, as well as a platform for economic cooperation between Morocco and Africa.

The development and stability of our southern provinces are a historic, national responsibility we should all strive to fulfill, through dedicated joint action.

On this occasion, I remember with deep respect the architect of the Green March, my revered father His Late Majesty King Hassan II - may he rest in peace – as well as all the nation's glorious martyrs.

I would also like to pay tribute to all components of our Royal Armed Forces for their devotion and constant mobilization, under my commandership, to defend the nation's unity and sovereignty and preserve its security and stability.

Wassalamu alaikum warahmatullah wabarakatuh”.

HM the King: Morocco Needs Serious, Responsible Government, Away from Electoral Arithmetic

Dakar, 06/11/2016 (MAP), HM King Mohammed VI affirmed, on Sunday, that Morocco needs a serious, responsible government, away from electoral arithmetic.

“The future cabinet should not be the result of calculations aimed at fulfilling political parties’ wishes, based on electoral arithmetic, as if there were spoils to be shared out,” said the sovereign in a speech on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the glorious Green March, delivered to the Nation from the Senegalese capital Dakar.

“A government should have a clear program and well-defined priorities, both for home and foreign affairs, particularly as far as Africa is concerned. The government should have the ability to deal with the difficulties inherited from past years, with respect to Morocco’s obligations towards its partners,” HM the King said.

In this regard, the sovereign noted that the government should involve an efficient, coherent structuring effort, consonant with programs and priorities, adding that it also requires qualified, skilled resources, with specific sectoral attributions.

“These are the criteria I will ensure are respected when the next government is formed, in compliance with a strict methodology. I will not tolerate any attempts to deviate from it,” HM the King asserted.

Moroccans expect the coming government to be up to the challenge of this crucial phase, the monarch underlined.

Senegal Has Always Been At Forefront of Advocates of Kingdom’s Territorial Unity, HM the King

Dakar, 06/11/2016 (MAP), Senegal has always been at the forefront of advocates of the Kingdom’s territorial unity and lofty interests, underlined HM King Mohammed VI on Sunday.

On several occasions, it (Senegal) has shown through words and deeds that it considers the cause of the Moroccan Sahara as one its own national causes, said HM the King in a speech delivered from Dakar on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the glorious Green March.

The sovereign stressed that “Moroccans will not forget the courageous, solidarity-based stance taken by Senegal when Morocco decided to withdraw from the Organization of African Unity, back in 1984. The same stance was adopted by many African states, such as Guinea, Gabon and former Zaire.”

“I have also chosen Senegal because of the special status it enjoys in Africa, thanks to its historically democratic model, its political and social stability, as well as its economic dynamism,” the monarch said.

There are also fraternal bonds, based on solidarity and a shared destiny, which have historically existed between the Moroccan and the Senegalese peoples, who stand as one single people, with each one forming a natural extension of the other, in a unique symbiosis between two independent countries respecting each other’s particularities, HM the King underlined, adding that “on the same day last year, I delivered a speech on Africa from Laayoune, in the Moroccan Sahara, and today, I am talking to you from the heart of Africa about the Moroccan Sahara.”

“By delivering my speech from this hospitable land I am expressing a keen interest in our continent,”

HM the King insisted, highlighting the fact that "Morocco's African policy will not be limited to West and Central Africa. I will see to it that it acquires a continental dimension and covers the whole of Africa."

Together with the powerful leaders of these countries, with whom we share the same willingness, we have decided to give fresh impetus to our political and economic relations, given the political clout of this region, its economic potential and its strategic assets, the sovereign underscored.

The sovereign noted that his visit to Rwanda has enabled him to consolidate this trend, as the foundations for a promising partnership in all fields have been laid in order to build the main pillar on which to develop relations with the region.

HM the King added that his trip to Tanzania was prompted by its status in the region, its geographic location and its human potential. "I was also keen to coordinate with this country regarding regional and international issues. I have also been in touch with authorities in the Republic of Ethiopia, with whom we will open a new chapter in our relations," His Majesty said.

This country will also be the first stop in the second part of the royal tour to Africa, which will include a number of Sub-Saharan countries, in connection with Morocco's return to the continental organization, HM the King added.

HM the King Holds Private Meeting with Senegalese Pres.

Dakar, 07/11/2016 (MAP), HM King Mohammed VI held, on Monday at the presidential palace in Dakar, a private meeting with president of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall.

HM the King arrived on Sunday in Dakar for an official visit to the Republic of Senegal.

HM the King, Senegalese Pres. Chair Launch Ceremony of Partnership to Support Small-scale Agriculture, Rural Areas in Senegal

Dakar, 07/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI, accompanied by HH Prince Moulay Ismail, and President of the Republic of Senegal, HE. Macky Sall, chaired, on Monday at the presidential palace in Dakar, the launch ceremony of a partnership to support small-scale agriculture and rural areas in Senegal.

At the beginning of the ceremony, minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Aziz Akhannouch, presented before the two leaders an outline of this partnership program, developed in accordance with the High Royal instructions to benefit the Senegalese State from Morocco's expertise in developing small-scale agriculture, notably as part of Morocco Green Plan.

This partnership is part of the existing cooperation between Morocco and Senegal in the agricultural field, mainly in training, technology transfer and financial support, which will contribute to the success of this new ambitious partnership, Akhannouch said.

The partnership for the support of small-scale agriculture and rural areas in Senegal is based on the joint approach of four key actors, namely the Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development, Morocco's Groupe Crédit Agricole, Groupe Banque Centrale Populaire, and the ministry of Agriculture

and Fisheries, added Akhannouch.

The Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development will provide expertise in terms of social development, and a financial contribution of 1 million Euros for the creation of a guarantee fund, said the minister.

Morocco's Groupe Crédit Agricole will provide expertise in financial engineering, Akhannouch said, noting that the Groupe Bank Centrale Populaire, already established in Senegal, will provide an additional financial contribution of 1.5 million Euros.

The ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries will provide experience notably in project management, he added.

Later on, HM the King and the Senegal President chaired the signing ceremony of two agreements on the implementation of the Moroccan-Senegalese agricultural partnership program.

The first agreement provides for the establishment of a funding mechanism to support small-scale agriculture and rural areas, while the second concerns the implementation of a development plan for octopus fishing between the Moroccan and the Senegalese governments.

The agreements reflect HM King Mohammed VI's commitment to consolidating South-South cooperation, as well as the common will of the two countries' Heads of State to further promote relations between Senegal and Morocco.

At the end of the ceremony, Senegalese minister of Tourism and Air Transport, Maimouna Ndoye Seck, read out a statement by the Foreign ministries of Morocco and Senegal on accelerating discussions for a partnership between Royal Air Maroc and Air Senegal S.A, benefiting both companies.

The ceremony was attended by the official delegation accompanying the Sovereign, members of the Senegalese government and several civil and military high officials.

HM the King, President Macky Sall Launch Octopus Development Plan for Senegal

Dakar, 07/11/2016 (MAP), HM King Mohammed VI, accompanied by HH Prince Moulay Ismail and Senegalese president, H.E. Macky Sall launched, on Monday in Dakar, the Octopus Development Plan for the benefit of Senegal.

The Plan, whose implementation memorandum of understanding was inked today under the chairmanship of the two leaders, will be carried out over five phases and seeks mainly octopus' preservation and promotion, the restoration of this resource stock and its protection against socio-economic impacts.

The first phase will concern the setting up of a methodological working group tasked with determining the plan and zone for scientific exploration, elaborating a sampling strategy and campaign planning. Two bilateral meetings yearly will be held between the Moroccan and Senegalese scientists.

The second phase, related to the scientific campaign, touches on operations of bathymetric scanning and trawling, an inventory of species and biological sampling, sampling and measurements of oceanographic parameters. Two campaigns will be organized annually during hot and cold seasons.

As for the third phase, it is aimed at statistic and geostatistic treatment, the establishment of a cartog-

raphy on distributions, demographic structures of biological parameters, and abundances and biomasses. The joint working group will hold a meeting at the end of mission (Morocco-Senegal).

The fourth phase involves the assessment and modeling of the exploitable potential through the evaluation of potentialities of optimal capture and the assessment of exploitation scenarios and fishing effort. This stage will lead to the setting up of a stock evaluation group.

The fifth concerns the establishment of the development plan related to sensitive zones and periods (biological rest periods and threatened zones), the biomass and exploitable potential (fishing quota), in addition to the fishing dynamic and strategy (development unit). A triennial scientific evaluation group will be created in this regard.

On this occasion, HM the King handed the Senegalese authorities a grant by the Kingdom of Morocco composed of 12 engines (inflatable boats) for rescue operations and monitoring fishing activities.

Senegalese President Offers Official Luncheon in Honor of HM the King

Dakar, 07/11/2016 (MAP), President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall offered, on Monday in Dakar, an official luncheon in honor of HM King Mohammed VI and the delegation accompanying the sovereign.

The event was attended by members of the Senegalese government and several high-ranking civil and military figures.

HM the King Receives Artist-Photographer Mohamed Maradji Who Presented to Sovereign His New Book

Dakar, 07/11/2016 (MAP), HM King Mohammed VI received, on Monday at his residence in Dakar, the artist-photographer Mohamed Maradji who presented to the sovereign his new book entitled "The Three Monarchs, History Through Photography".

This book testifies to the work done by the three glorious kings, late king Mohammed V and late king Hassan II, as well as HM King Mohammed VI and their efforts in building modern Morocco through one thousand historical pictures by this artist-photographer.

HM the King, Senegalese Pres. Launch in Dakar Project to Set Up Entrepreneurship Training Center

Dakar, 08/11/2016 (MAP), HM King Mohammed VI and President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall chaired, on Tuesday at the presidential palace in Dakar, the launch ceremony of the project on the setting up of an Entrepreneurship Training Center, a project that confirms the sovereign's continuous commitment to solid, active and solidarity-based south-south cooperation.

At the beginning of the ceremony, president delegate for the Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development Mostapha Terrab gave before the two heads of states a speech in which he underlined that this training center is based on a common vision to share know-how and expertise among

the Moroccan and Senegalese partners.

The center, to be built in the new urban zone of Diamniadio (Dakar), will offer technical training to create enterprises, said Terrab, noting that the future facility will train 300 young people yearly on entrepreneurship, assist 100 young people holding projects to set up their enterprises, in addition to training on tourism trades with an initial capacity of 100 students annually.

Fruit of a partnership between the Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development, the Senegalese ministry of vocational training, apprenticeship and handicraft and the Office of vocational training and labor promotion (OFPPT), the center will benefit poor and dropout young people aged 18-35, as well as graduates of vocational training or skilled work, said Terrab.

The training starts first with the selection and guidance for candidates ('Soft Skills' training, entrepreneurship unit), then the choice of project holders (individualized assistance for project setting up, internship) and afterwards support to create enterprises (funding support mechanism, mentoring and entrepreneurial coaching), Terrab added.

The center will offer a training program that is adapted to the local context and includes basic courses (management, accounting..) and practical internships with the aim of setting up businesses, he noted, underlining that at the end of the training cycle, the students will possess the tools enabling them to create their own enterprises which will facilitate their professional and social integration.

The president delegate for the Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development, set up in 2008 at the initiative of HM King Mohammed VI, presented afterwards the Foundation's fields of activities, philosophy and achievements.

Terrab also cited the Foundation's project of building and equipping the Mohammed VI Ophthalmology Clinic of Dakar in 2013, affirming that 16,000 medical checkups and 800 ophthalmological surgeries are conducted on a yearly basis in the facility which also ensure training for its medical staff.

He also recalled the construction of a small-scale fishing unloading site in Soumbédioune in Dakar, adding that this fishing site will be operational late 2017.

Afterwards, HM the King, who was accompanied by HH Prince Moulay Ismail, and the Senegalese head of state presided over the signing ceremony of a draft agreement for the setting up of the Entrepreneurship Training Center.

It was inked, on the Senegalese side, by minister of vocational training, apprenticeship and handicraft Mamdou Talla and, on the Moroccan side, by Mostapha Terrab, president delegate for the Mohammed VI Foundation for Sustainable Development and Larbi Bencheikh, director general of the Office of vocational training and labor promotion (OFPPT).

The ceremony was attended by the official delegation accompanying the sovereign, members of the Senegalese government and several high-ranking civil and military figures.

HM the King Makes Donation of Medicines to Senegalese National Council for the Fight Against AIDS

Dakar, 08/11/2016 (MAP) – HM King Mohammed VI, accompanied by President of the Republic of Senegal HE. Macky Sall made, Tuesday at Hopital Principal de Dakar, a donation to the Senegalese National Council for the fight against AIDS.

This initiative is part of the active and multifaceted cooperation binding Morocco and Senegal.

It also mirrors HM the King's willingness to contribute to the progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of Senegal, the improvement of health and living conditions of vulnerable population and to the creation of necessary conditions for achieving sustainable human development.

The donation of 1.6 tons of medicines for the treatment of opportunistic diseases and infections caused by AIDS/HIV, offered by the Mohammed VI Foundation for sustainable development to the Senegalese National Council for the fight against AIDS, includes three medicine classes, namely antiviral, antibacterial and antifungal.

On this occasion, HM the King and President Macky Sall posed for a souvenir photo with students in medicine pursuing their studies in Senegal. Later on, the two Heads of State visited the maternity ward of Hopital (hospital) Principal de Dakar.

Upon their arrival at the hospital, HM the King and Senegal's President were greeted by Senegalese Armed Forces minister, Augustin Tine, executive secretary of the National Council for the fight against AIDS, Safiatou Thiam, the general physician, director of Hopital Principal de Dakar, as well as by the deputy chairman and the volunteer members of the Mohammed VI Foundation for sustainable development.

HM the King, Senegalese Head of State Chair Presentation Ceremony of Moroccan-Senegalese Economic Impetus Group's Work

Diamniadio (Senegal), 09/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI and President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall, chaired, on Wednesday at the Abdou Diouf international conference center of Diamniadio (near Dakar), the ceremony to present the work by the Moroccan-Senegalese Economic Impetus Group.

At the beginning of this ceremony, Minister of foreign affairs and Senegalese expatriates Mankeur Ndiaye presented, in his capacity of co-chairman of the Moroccan-Senegalese Economic Impetus Group, a report on the meeting by the group members, held on Tuesday in Dakar, and focusing mainly on the elaboration of four important partnership agreements which the two parties agreed to sign.

They are, he noted, a partnership agreement on joint actions for tourism promotion and development between the Moroccan Tourism Office and the Senegalese Agency for Tourism Promotion, and an agreement on the creation of a periodic exhibition on social and solidarity-based economy and handicraft, the sharing of INDH good practices and the community development urgency program.

The two parties also agreed to ink a partnership agreement to set up in Senegal a center for digital competences and a draft agreement on a joint venture between Moroccan logistics group "La Voie Express" and Senegalese company "Tex Courrier".

Two other partnership and bilateral cooperation agreements are under way, he said.

President of the Senegalese national employers' council Baidy Agne gave, afterwards, a speech in which he underlined that this follow-up meeting of the said group shows the exceptional relations between Senegal and Morocco, as well as the dynamic of economic cooperation and business partnership promoted by the two countries.

Baidy Agne reiterated, on this occasion, the group members' commitment to striving for the establishment of a win-win partnership between the private sector of the two countries.

Chairwoman of Moroccan employers' association (CGEM) Miriem Bensalah Cheqroun voiced the will of the group members to forge ahead with the implementation of objectives set by the body, namely multiplying investment, contributing to the emergence of regional economic stakeholders for job creation and encouraging regional economic integration.

To this end, she went on, the group has elaborated nine recommendations related to the amelioration of the group's governance, the setting up of a market of transportation and logistics, the convergence of standards, the development of tourist inflows, the reciprocity of investment flows, the promotion of the local human capital, the reinforcement of social economy, the improvement of access to financial information and the signature of a trade agreement between Morocco and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Set up during HM the King's visit in May 2015 to Dakar, the Moroccan-Senegalese economic impetus group is a body established by the two countries to structure and spur their economic partnership relations, promote co-emergence, encourage partnership between the two countries' private sectors and monitor the implementation of private-private and public-private agreements between the two countries.

The inception of the new group is an implementation of HM the King's instructions to further strengthen ties with Senegal, a sister country with which Morocco has a fruitful and multi-faceted cooperation.

It is also in line with the vision of the two leaders, HM King Mohammed VI and President Macky Sall, to make bilateral cooperation a model in Africa.

Co-chaired by the Foreign ministers and chairmen of employers' association in both countries, the Moroccan-Senegalese economic impetus group includes 10 priority sectors of activity, with a co-chairmanship on each side.

On this occasion, HM King Mohammed VI and President Macky Sall presided over the signing ceremony of four public-private and private-private economic partnership agreements.

Later on, the two Heads of State posed for a souvenir photo with members of the group.

The ceremony was attended by the official delegation accompanying the Sovereign, members of the Senegalese government, Moroccan and Senegalese economic operators and several civil and military high-ranking officials.

Senegalese President Receives CGEM Chairwoman

Diamniadio (Senegal), 09/11/2016 (MAP), President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall, received, on Wednesday at the Abdou Diouf international conference center of Diamniadio (near Dakar), chairwoman of the Moroccan employers' association (CGEM) Miriem Bensalah Cheqroun.

The audience took place following the ceremony to present the work carried out by the Moroccan-Senegalese Economic Impetus group. The ceremony was chaired by HM King Mohammed VI and the Senegalese president.

Four agreements of public-private and private-private economic partnership were inked during this event.

Macky Sall Hails Dynamism of Moroccan-Senegalese Private Sectors

Diamniadio (Senegal), 09/11/2016 (MAP) - Senegalese President Macky Sall hailed, Wednesday in Diamniadio, the dynamism of the Moroccan and Senegalese private sectors, as part of the Economic Impetus Group.

"We should congratulate the private sectors of both countries for the dynamism they have shown and further encourage them," Macky Sall told the press after the presentation ceremony of Moroccan-Senegalese Economic Impetus Group's Work, chaired by HM King Mohammed VI and the Senegalese Head of State.

The agreements that were signed between Morocco and Senegal organize and accompany the partnership between businesses, Moroccan and Senegalese private sectors, and also define the framework for cooperation between the two countries, he said.

"As long as the private sectors of both countries continue to discuss and work together, things will move even faster. I want to congratulate them," he said.

Four public-private and private-private economic partnership agreements were signed at the ceremony.

HM the King Performs Friday Prayer in Dakar Grand Mosque

Dakar, 11/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI, commander of the faithful, accompanied by HH Prince Moulay Ismail and Senegalese Prime Minister Mahammed Boun Abdallah Dionne, performed the Friday prayer in the Dakar Grand Mosque.

Following the Friday prayer, HM the King donated 10,000 copies of the holy Quran to the parties in charge of the management of religious affairs in Senegal. The Quran copies are published by the Mohammed VI Foundation for Holy Quran Publication and are meant to be distributed in Senegal's mosques.

This batch of Quran copies, based on Warsh version from Nafi as adopted by Morocco and these countries, is offered in accordance with the royal instructions to meet the needs of mosques in western African countries.

HM the King Leaves Senegal at the End of Official Visit

Dakar 12/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI, accompanied by HH Prince Moulay Ismail, left Dakar, Saturday afternoon, at the end of an official visit to the Republic of Senegal.

The Sovereign was greeted, at the Léopold Sédar Senghor international airport, by Senegalese Prime Minister, Mahammed Boun Abdallah Dionne.

HM the King was also greeted by members of the Senegalese government as well as by the Ambassador of Morocco to Senegal and members of the Moroccan diplomatic mission.

HM the King and the Senegalese Prime Minister reviewed a detachment of the different corps of the Senegalese army who paid the honors.

The Sovereign was then greeted by Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese abroad, Chief of General Staff of the Senegalese Armed Forces, High Commander of the Gendarmerie and Chief of Staff of the President.

HM the King Sends Message of Thanks to Pres. Macky Sall Following Official Visit to Senegal

Rabat 12/11/2016 (MAP) - HM King Mohammed VI sent a message of thanks to Senegalese President, Macky Sall, following the official visit paid by the Sovereign to the Republic of Senegal.

In this message, HM the King expressed to President Sall his sincere thanks for the warm welcome extended to him and the delegation accompanying the Sovereign.

HM the King also expressed his sincere wishes of health and happiness to Senegalese President.

Thanks to its symbolism, its scope and its results, this visit will remain forever engraved in the history of relations between Morocco and Senegal, the Sovereign underlined, adding that the choice of Dakar to deliver the Green March Speech for the first time outside Morocco, "mirrors my personal attachment to Senegal and the strengthening of the excellent relations which bind our two countries."

In this regard, HM the King noted that the several projects launched and agreements signed during this visit demonstrate "our shared willingness to bring new dynamics to these relations as part of a stable and sustainable inter-African strategic partnership."

"The consistency of our views on various regional and international issues of common interest has been enhanced through our cordial and fruitful talks, which provides new perspectives to our joint action in order to promote peace, security and stability in Africa and the world," the Sovereign said.

HM the King seized this opportunity to pay tribute to the enlightened policies of the Senegalese President and to the sustained efforts he has made to lead the brotherly people of Senegal towards further progress and prosperity.