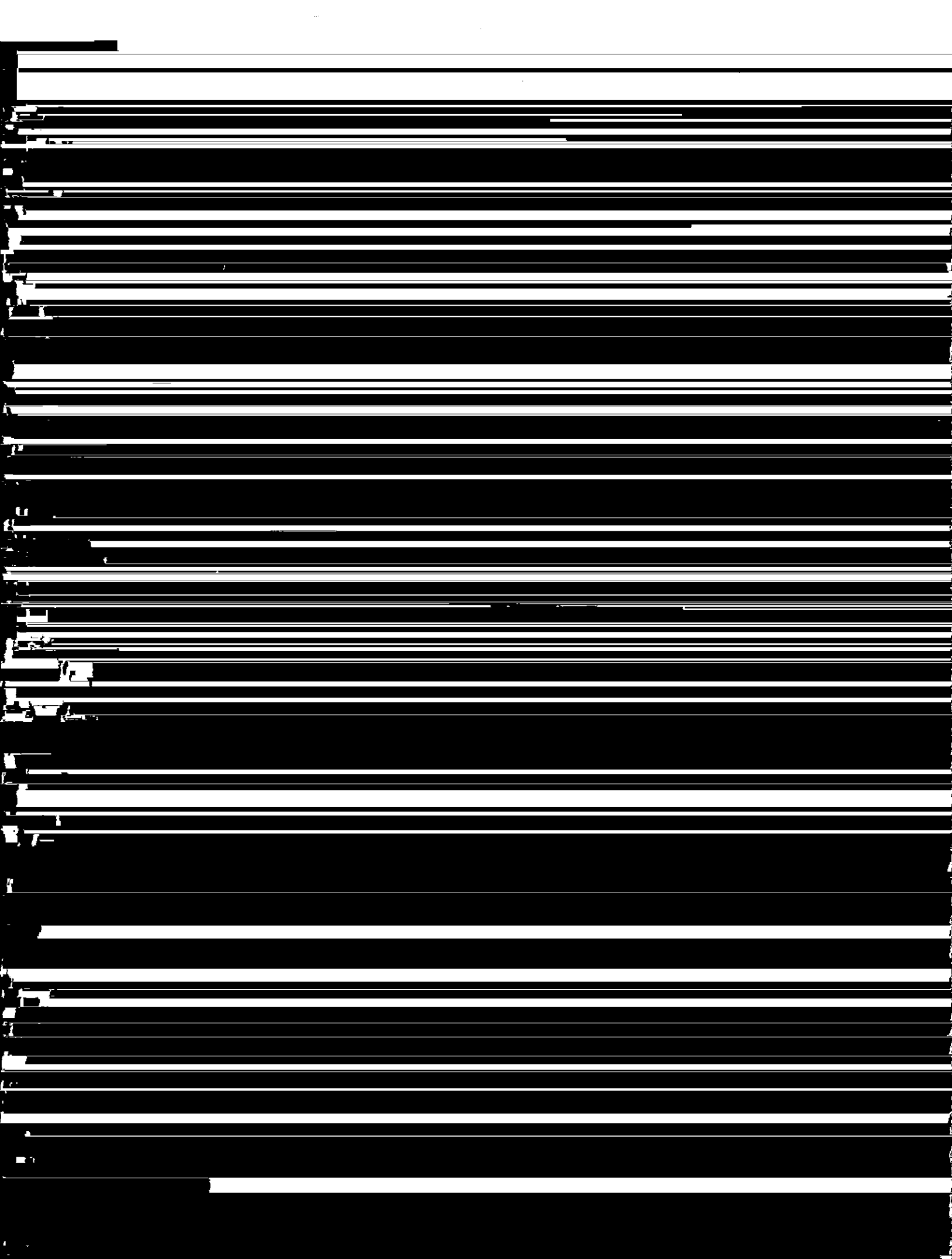


Statement by The Gambian Delegation to the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of  
the UN Population Commission on International Migration

Chairperson  
Distinguished Delegates  
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of Her Excellency, the Vice President and Secretary of State for Women's Affairs, Dr. Isatou Njie-Saidy, who is also the Chairperson, National Population Commission, I wish to deliver this statement on Gambia's experience on international migration.

Please allow me to congratulate you and your Bureau on your election for this particular session. International migration is a  
critical component of the development process.

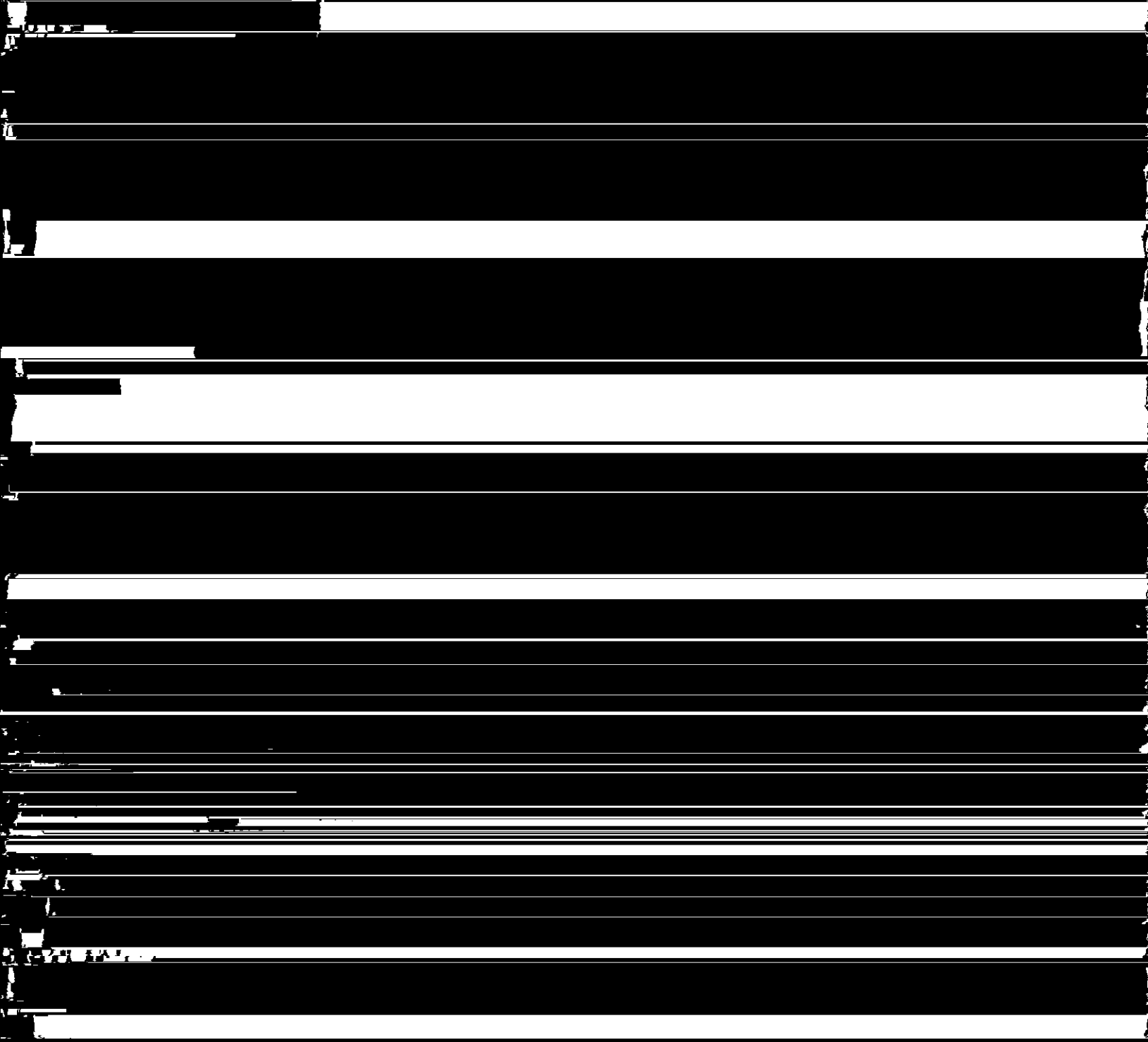


currently an overwhelming proportion of teachers in the Tertiary institutions are non-Gambians.

Chairperson  
Distinguished Delegates  
Ladies and gentlemen

Although reliable statistics on international migration are difficult to come by, estimates of emigrants run into thousands, most of who are found in the USA, Europe and other African Countries.

Though their number may be relatively small, the



within and among countries, formulating such policies would require enormous political will and commitment from all stakeholders. However, every effort should be made to ensure that not only are these policies formulated but operationalized. To counter the effects of international migration, a plausible alternative is for the sending countries to create the necessary enabling environment and to minimize migration-related risks.