



**Statement at the Summit of the Future  
by  
Omar Alieu Touray  
President of the Commission.**

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

I stand on existing protocols and commend the Secretary General of the United Nations and his team for convening this important Summit

The timing of the summit is particularly significant coming, as it does, at a time when our world stands at a crossroads - between a path to the past where global affairs was reduced to a war of the jungle, and a road that promises a more just and peaceful world that thrives on multilateralism, collaboration and justice.

Excellencies ladies and gentlemen.

Let us be frank with ourselves and ask the question: *what is new in the Pact for the Future.* The answer Excellencies is that there us hardly anything new in the pact that we have not committed ourselves to in the past under the UN or other frameworks. The fact that we have come back to the same old commitments suggests that we still need greater political will to deliver on the good promises.

For ECOWAS therefore, the difference between the Pact for the Future and earlier global agreements will lie in delivery - in delivering on our commitments in the area of peace and security, sustainable socio-economic development, climate justice and youth empowerment. It will also mean concrete action to promote and support our regional unity (not our disunity), our integration (not our disintegration) and a commitment not to turn Africa and west Africa in particular into a zone of proxy conflicts.



ECOWAS COMMISSION  
COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO  
COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO

If we fail to deliver once again, history will look back to this summit not as the **summit of the future** but a **Summit of the Past**. This is the choice before us.

I thank you.