

SENEGAL

Date of Elections: January 28, 1973

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the National Assembly on the normal expiry of their terms of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Senegal, the National Assembly, consists of 100 members elected for 5 years. This total represents an increase of 20 from the previous general elections *.

Electoral System

All Senegalese nationals of either sex who are at least 21 years of age and who enjoy full civil and political rights are entitled to vote.

Every registered voter is eligible for election to the National Assembly provided he is at least 25 years of age and has fulfilled all legal requirements regarding active military service. Naturalized foreigners and women who have acquired Senegalese nationality by marriage are eligible only after expiry of a period of 10 years from the date of their naturalization. Ineligible are persons made so by court decision, those under guardianship, and convicted persons if their conviction conclusively prevents them from registering on an electoral list. Incumbents of certain public functions in Senegal, in a foreign State or in an international organization, as well as the members of the top management of public enterprises or of enterprises controlled by or otherwise having close connection to the public authorities are furthermore generally ineligible as Deputies.

Candidatures must be presented no later than 40 days prior to the election date.

For elections to the National Assembly, the entire country constitutes a single electoral college. Deputies are directly elected according to simple majority party-list system, without the possibility of vote-splitting, prefe-

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 7.

rential vote and incomplete lists. Each list must contain a number of names equal to the number of seats to be filled.

Parliamentary vacancies are filled within 3 months by by-election. No such election takes place within 12 months of the end of the Assembly's term.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

Combined with presidential elections, the legislative elections were contested exclusively by the 100 candidates of the country's sole political party, the *Union progressiste sinigalaise* (UPS), which had been formed in 1958. This list of candidates included nominees of local party units, trade unionists and 3 candidates of women's organizations, as well as 35 incumbent Deputies.

The Secretary-General of the UPS, Leopold Sédar Senghor, was re-elected President for a 5-year term.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections

Voters	1,327,572
Votes in favor of the <i>Union progressiste sinigalaise</i>	1,327,572