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‘ASPUNA’ CASSAVA MILLING FACTORY AUTHORITIES DILATE ON CHALLENGES

By Nelson Manneh.

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Aspuna company Gambia Limited, is the first of the London headquartered Aspuna group of companies located in the Gambia. The company is an international social impact commodities producer, processor and trade with the core team comprising senior executive members who have a combined 40 years of experience in the commodities industry.

The company operates in agriculture, with a view to expand in other commodities in the sector. Maria-Yassin Jah a co-founder of the company on Tuesday December 11th 2018 explains the objectives of establishing such a company in Duwasu Village, Kombo East District of West Coast Region of the Gambia.

Jah said she meet with her co-founders in one of the Universities in Landon: that with her experience of the country the Gambia, she realize that there is a lot of resources in the Gambia but especially in the Agriculture sector, but one thing is a major problem that is processing.

“I thought of how to improve the lives of farmers in the Gambia. In doing so I saw the reason why farmers in the Gambia, are not progressing which is lack of a good market for their products,” she said.

To improve the lives of farmers in the Gambia, Jah said that they decide to come up with such a company that will be processing cassava in to starch, as a substitute for wheat flour.

“Cassava can be process in to many products and among them is glue, cardboard, textile, plywood etc.” she said.

She said that the products that will be produced from the cassavas will not only be sold in the Gambia but will be exported to the sub-regions and internationally: that this is why they are working hard to make sure that the products are up to standard.

On the challenges they are facing as at now, Madam Jah said is reaching farmers in remote areas and lack of electricity in the area, are some of the hurdles hindering their operations: that they spend a lot of resources in buying fuel and maintaining their generator.

She urges the Government of the Gambia to come to their aid by extending electricity supply to that area in other for them to realize their aim in establishing such a great company.

Luis Prazeres another co-founder of the Aspuna Company told this reporter that their objective is to reduce the unemployment rate in the Gambia and make sure that the youths realize their potentials in their own country.

“We are working not only to provide jobs to the people, but also to make sure that there are standards in the business sectors in the Gambia,” he said.

He added that the safety of their staff is their first priority, for Aspuna Company: that they have all kinds of facilities to make sure that the right of their staff is exercised.

He said that they will continue to work with all stakeholders to make sure that they achieve their dreams.