

# JUDGEMENT DEBT

## Minority Blows Alarm Over \$7 Bn Energy Sector Debt



**John Peter Amewu**



**John Jinapor**

The Minority in Parliament has expressed worry over what it says is a looming judgement debt against Ghana. According to the National Democratic Congress (NDC) Minority Ghana could

soon be slapped with a \$7 billion judgement debt over the protracted impasse between ENI/Vitol and Springfield Ghana, which was occasioned by a directive by then Minister of Energy, Mr. John Peter

Amewu, instructing the two parties to execute a Unitisation and Unit Operating Agreement (UUOA) at the Sankofa and Afina fields. ENI/Vitol has since challenged the

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## Is Rift Emerging Between US And EU Over Fate Of Iran Nuclear Deal?

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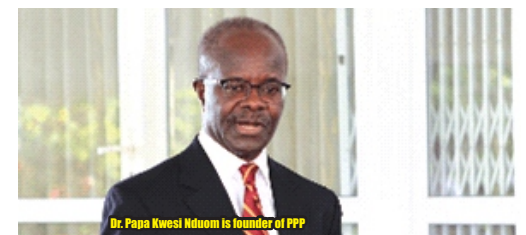
### Adopt Visa Application Refund Policy --Afaglo Urges Govt



*By Philip Antoh*

Even though Ghana has been touted as the gate way to Africa, the country is still marking time in the implementation

*cont. on page 2*



### Ghana Beyond Aid: Nduom Tells Akufo-Addo To Walk The Talk

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# The INSIGHT

## — EDITORIAL —

### THE CLIMATE WAR

A number of conferences aimed at addressing the issue of Climate Change have, for some time now, taken place in many cities across the world including that of Ghana's capital Accra.

All these meetings, seminar, conferences and workshops seek to brainstorm and formulate policies on how to reduce emissions especially on the global stage with rise in temperatures which now appear faster than projected.

At the core of all the discussions is funding and technology transfer and support needed to both address the current adaptation deficit and ways to protect rural and urban livelihoods, societies and economies from climate change impacts at different local scales.

Already, some environmental activists have organized series of demonstrations to get lawmakers globally to address the issue of climate change.

With a renewed commitment to protect the environment and the climate in particular, it is the view of the Insight that lawmakers in our part of the world would see the need to enact legislations that will address the climate change problem and also contribute in the fight for a better world devoid of human-induced disasters.

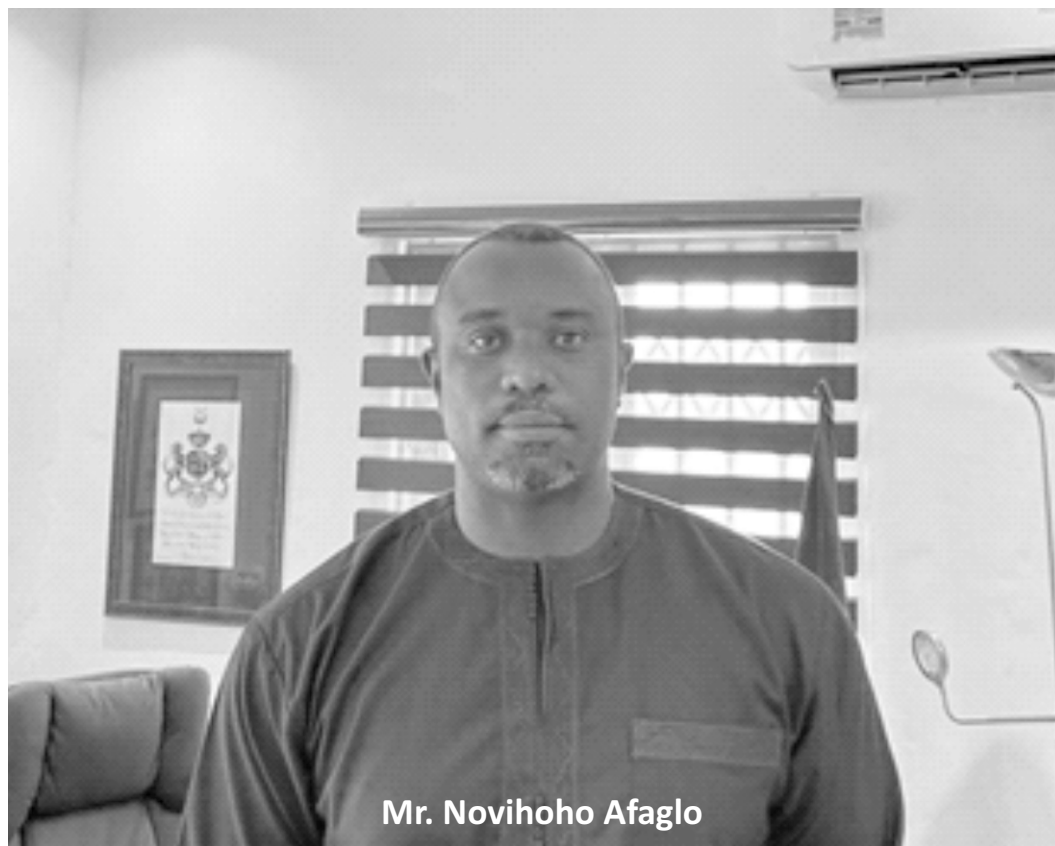
It is regrettable that in spite of warning from scientists for countries to take steps to roll back their carbon emissions, some other so called world leaders are not interested and do not believe in the scientific findings.

The reality however is that whether one chooses to believe the scientists or not, happenings these days especially with unpredictable weather patterns of extremely cold and hot climatic conditions, accentuated by increasing natural disasters give cause for worry and importantly to act. Those climate sceptics can afford to be in their comfort zone and think all is well, but the situation is worse than is thought.

The quest to maintain hegemonies need not blind us towards the path of world destruction.

Time for action is now and those countries that pollute the world the more with their toxic fumes need to act by reducing their carbon emissions.

## Adopt Visa Application Refund Policy -Afaglo Urges Govt



Mr. Novihoho Afaglo

*from front page*

of certain policy directions in relation to visa application refund policy.

Currently, Ghana doesn't have any universal policy or guideline for it citizens to demand refund from embassies when their visa application forms are refused.

This development has empowered some embassies in the country to act evasively towards citizens by refusing them visas without any reasonable grounds.

Based on this, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Marrer Ghana Limited and Susatgad Boat Industries, Mr. Novihoho Afaglo has appealed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration and the Interior Ministry through the Ghana Immigration Service to immediately adopt a visa refund policy.

Mr. Afaglo said the policy will help citizens demand for visa refund when the embassies denied their visa applications wrongly or intentionally.

Speaking in an interview, he said it is high time the Ghana government adopted policies to check activities of these embassies and how they are treating Ghanaian citizens.

"It is sometimes strange and unexplainable how these embassies deny visa applications forms to Ghanaians whose documents and paper works are genuine," he stated.

Mr. Afaglo mentioned Nigeria as one of the countries in Africa that has taken a step

further in the visa refund policy.

The policy in Nigeria states that a refund will be issued, upon request, and with supporting proof and or evidence from the customer, for an acceptable reasons for a refund to be made.

"Notwithstanding the above, Nigeria Immigration Services reserves the right to grant or deny refunds to anyone for any reason."

He therefore called on the government of Ghana to initiate programmes and policies towards the immediate adoption and implementation of visa refund policy to ease the pressure of citizens whose applications are denied without refund.

### THE INSIGHT

**ACTING EDITOR** - **BENJAMIN AKUFFO**  
(0244669960)  
benjaminakuffo65@yahoo.com

**Secretary** - **Gifty Agyemang**

**Design and Graphics** - **Godwin K. Attah**

**Production Manager** - **Kweku Menz**

#### **PUBLISHERS**

**Militant Publications Limited**  
P. O. Box NT 272

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Tel: 0244379344/0242836930

Email: theinsightonline20@gmail.com

LONDON CONTACT

5A Wesminster Bridge Road, London SE 1- 7XW

Tel: 0171-6201430

E-mail: prattc22@aol.com

# JUDGEMENT DEBT

## Minority Blows Alarm Over \$7 Bn Energy Sector Debt



**John Peter Amewu**



**John Jinapor**

decision of the Minister, insisting that the action was premature and did not meet industry standards leading to a stalemate in the implementation of the directive.

The Minority, in a statement signed by John Jinapor, Ranking Member on Mines and Energy Committee of Parliament, said the current impasse has also led to a bitter legal dispute resulting in a Ghanaian court order directing ENI/Vitol to deposit 30% of its monthly revenue into an escrow account pending unitisation. "We are also aware that ENI/Vitol has commenced legal action in the International Court of Arbitration seeking damages of about \$7 billion against the Government of Ghana," the statement said.

The Minority said they are concerned about the increasingly negative impact this avoidable dispute is creating in the

upstream petroleum sector, especially its implications for attracting giant oil players to invest in Ghana, bearing in mind that ENI is considered the 4th largest oil producer in the world.

The Minority claims the Unitisation process has been so poorly managed that Ghana's reputation has been hugely tainted in the oil and gas sector.

"Indeed, since assuming office in 2017, the Akufo-Addo/Bawumia led Government has not successfully executed a single block agreement, neither has any new oil field been brought into production," the statement noted.

The Minority, therefore, called on the Government and President Akufo-Addo in particular to, as a matter of urgency, intervene in this matter and

help find an amicable solution to the impasse before the \$7 billion judgement debt matures into a pain on the neck of the already burdened Ghanaian taxpayer.

It said the three producing fields bequeathed to this government by the NDC will be depleted in the next 10-15 years and requires urgent steps to increase Ghana's reserves.

The Minority expressed hope that the president would listen to this caution and take the appropriate steps to save the Ghanaian taxpayer \$7 billion.

This is the full text of the statement;  
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31/07/2022

### GHANA FACES \$7 BILLION JUDGEMENT DEBT

The Minority in Parliament has noted with grave concern, the protracted impasse between ENI/Vitol and Springfield Ghana, which was occasioned from a directive by then Minister of Energy, Mr. John Peter Amewu, instructing the two parties to execute a Unitisation and Unit Operating Agreement (UUOA) at the Sankofa and Afina fields. ENI/Vitol has since challenged the decision of the Minister insisting that the decision was premature and did not meet industry standards leading to a stalemate in the implementation of the directive.

We note that the current impasse has also led to a bitter legal dispute resulting in a Ghanaian court order directing ENI/Vitol to deposit 30% of its monthly revenue into an escrow account pending unitisation.

We are also aware that ENI/Vitol has commenced legal action in the International Court of Arbitration seeking damages of about \$7 billion against the Government of Ghana.

The Minority is very much concerned about the increasing negative impact this avoidable dispute is creating in the upstream petroleum sector especially its implications for attracting giant oil players to invest in Ghana; bearing in mind that ENI is considered the 4th largest oil producer in the world.

It should be noted that the Unitisation process has been so poorly managed that Ghana's reputation has been hugely tainted in the oil and gas sector. Indeed, since assuming office in 2017, the Akufo-Addo/Bawumia led Government has not successfully executed a single block agreement, neither has any new oil field been brought into production.

We, therefore, call on the Government and President Akufo-Addo in particular to, as a matter of urgency, intervene in this matter and help find an amicable solution to the impasse, before the \$7 billion judgement debt matures into a pain on the neck of

the already burdened Ghanaian taxpayer.

The three producing fields bequeathed to this government by the NDC will be depleted in the next 10-15 years and requires urgent steps to increase Ghana's reserves.

Times are indeed hard, with the government struggling to raise revenue.

So, the last thing the government should be contemplating is to watch their reckless decision to wilfully cause Ghanaians an avoidable judgement debt to a gargantuan tune of \$7 billion. The dispute with ENI requires tactful leadership which is unfortunately not forthcoming from this government.

We hope the President will listen to this caution from the Minority and take the appropriate steps to save the Ghanaian Taxpayer \$7 billion.

Thank you

Signed

Hon. John Abdulai Jinapor

(MP- Yapei-Kusawgu

Constituency

(Ranking Member-Mines and

Energy Committee)

## Gh¢6 Million Spent On Recent Corruption Perception Survey – GSS

A total of GH¢6million was spent on the latest corruption perception report by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) and CHRAJ. Government Statistician Professor Samuel Kobina Annim disclosed that a component of the expenditure was from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). "In total, we spent about GH¢6 million on this survey, but obviously this had a component of the

expenditure from UNODC side because of the technical support they provided, but once we are doing this by ourselves, we think something around GH¢5 million will suffice," he said in a JoyNews interview.

Prof. Annim, however, stated that talks are ongoing to decide how often the survey can be done. "We have already started conversations on that; unfortunately, the conversations are from our

development partners, but what we are going to do together with CHRAJ is to approach the Minister for Finance to see what government can do in terms of whether every year or every two years." The report stated that 25.9% percent of all survey respondents who had at least one contact with a public official in the 12 months prior to the 2021 survey paid at least one bribe or were asked to pay a bribe in the same period.

Meanwhile, the Inspector General of the [Ghana Police Service](#), Dr. [George Akuffo Dampare](#), has expressed his dissatisfaction with the details of the report, therefore questioning the methodology used.

"Our discomfort, therefore, is the use of selective ranking methodology to project the outcomes in a manner that puts an unfair focus on the Police Service with all the others in your corruption index escaping public scrutiny," the IGP said.



Samuel Kobina Annim, Director-General of the Ghana Statistical Service

"The Service has almost now become the default institution of choice for such research and has therefore encouraged a deep-seated public stereotype over the years."



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS REPORT

## Compiled By Peoples Dispatch

### Is Rift Emerging Between US And EU Over Fate Of Iran Nuclear Deal?

At a time when Iran is reportedly [considering](#) the draft proposal for the revival of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as the Iran nuclear deal is officially known, Josep Borrell, European Union's high representative of foreign affairs and security policy, had earlier last week submitted to, Brett McGurk, US President Joe Biden's advisor on the Middle East, asserting that the revival of the deal is "highly unlikely."

According to a [report](#) in *Axios* last Wednesday, McGurk blamed Iran for stalling the finalization of the deal by asking the US to "add something to the pot" before accepting it. Without clarifying what he meant, he said that the US is not going to do such a thing and instead is planning to impose more sanctions on Iran in order to ensure its "diplomatic isolation." This statement comes on the day after Borrell's [opinion piece](#) in *Financial Times (FT)* claiming "now is the time to save" the deal. Borrell said that though Donald Trump's so-called "maximum pressure campaign" failed, "despite the best efforts of

remaining participants, Iran's people have been deprived of the full benefits of the sanctions lifting."

Iranian chief negotiator Bagheri Kani has acknowledged the proposal and claimed that he will soon share his country's responses and final proposal to "conclude the talks."

Borrell emphasized that despite political risks involved for the US administration in the context of the upcoming midterm elections for the US congress, the draft of the proposal submitted by him should be taken into consideration and "decisions need to be taken to seize this unique opportunity to succeed."

Borrell has been the leading figure in the indirect talks between the US and Iran in Vienna which went on for more than a year. The talks have been stalled for months now due to the US' reluctance to give guarantees to Iranians that all sanctions will be lifted before the resumption of the JCPOA.

Trump had withdrawn from the

multi-party JCPOA unilaterally in 2018 and imposed various sanctions against Iran, questioning the effectiveness of the deal in curbing the Iranian missiles program and its regional policy. Iran has since then scaled down its commitments to the deal.

The three European signatories of the deal, the UK, France and Germany, have refused to withdraw from the deal along with the other signatories Russia and China. These remaining signatories have been trying to revive the deal, which they claim is crucial for regional and global peace and disarmament.

Supporting Borrell's claims, French President Emmanuel Macron [said](#) on Thursday that the chances of JCPOA's revival are still there and the ball is in Iran's court now.

Seyed Mohammad Marandi, professor at Tehran University and part of the official Iranian delegation at the Vienna talks, also hinted about the possible rift between the US and EU



over the Iran nuclear deal. He claimed on Wednesday that Europeans had been willing to resume the deal for a long time now despite US reluctance. "If it was for the European Union to decide, the EU would immediately accept Iran's conditions for the revival of the nuclear deal," he said in a Twitter post.

Biden, who had promised to revive the deal once in power, has failed to do so due to internal calculations and strict opposition from Israel.

Israel sees Iran as the main

threat to its security in the region. Israeli objections to the 2015 nuclear deal were among the main reasons for Trump's decision to withdraw. During his visit to Israel earlier this month, Biden signed a deal with Israel to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. He also [claimed](#) that the US is ready to take any measure, including the use of force if necessary, to stop Iran from doing so. This is despite the fact that Iran has officially declared that it does not seek to develop a nuclear arsenal.

### Panamanian Movements Win Key Agreement With Government On Fuel Price



Organized People (ANADEPO) from Veraguas, and the Indigenous Peoples Alliance signed an agreement with the Cortizo government to reduce and freeze the price of fuel at USD 3.25 per gallon for the next three months, through a decree which will be renewable.

According to the agreement, the new fuel prices will be applied nationwide. The government will allocate about USD 200 million in subsidies to alleviate the impact of the rise in fuel prices in the international market. The fuel subsidy benefits will be available to use in agricultural machinery. Luxury yachts as well as government officials' vehicles will be excluded from the benefits.

The figure of USD 3.25 per gallon had been agreed upon last week in [an](#)

[initial negotiation table between the government and the ANADEPO](#), which the alliance subsequently rejected after consulting with the grassroots movements.

Fernando Abrego, general secretary of the Association of Teachers of Panama (ASOPROF) and one of the representatives of the People United for Life Alliance, hailed the agreement as a victory for the people in the streets. "Every achievement made on the single dialogue table is the result of the struggle in the streets for a better Panama," said Abrego in conversation with *Prensa Latina*. Earlier this week, on July 24, the organizations behind the nationwide protests succeeded in convincing the national government [to reduce the cost of 72 essential commodities by 30%](#).

The organizations had called for the

national strike demanding justice for the poor with a list of 32 demands that address the growing economic and social crises in the country. Following several discussions among grassroots organizations from diverse sectors, it was agreed to raise and achieve eight fundamental demands at the negotiation table.

The reduction and freezing of the price of basic commodities and the reduction and freezing of the price of fuel are two of those eight essential demands. Other demands include freezing the price of medicine and resolving the lack of medicine supply, allocation of 6% of the GDP for the public education budget, reducing and freezing the price of electricity, measures to combat corruption, evaluation of the crisis of the

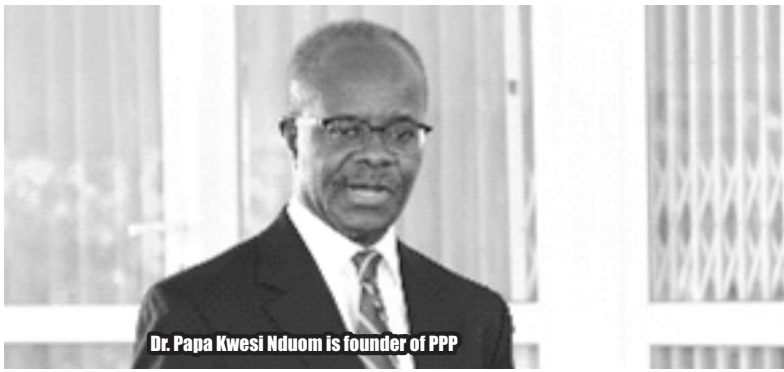
social security fund, and the establishment of an intersectoral and monitoring table.

Leaders of the alliances are engaged in dialogue with government officials around these demands, and are hoping to reach agreements on all demands in the coming days. Meanwhile, thousands of people are demonstrating in the streets. Roadblocks are being lifted gradually as the negotiations proceed, however, the strike in various sectors and protests in different parts of the country continue. The construction workers associated with the Single Union of Construction Workers (SUNTRACS) and teachers associated with the ASOPROF, among other unions, have been organizing massive marches everyday.

Social organizations and trade unions which have been mobilizing across Panama in rejection of the high cost of living and neoliberalism since July 1, last Wednesday reached another agreement with the right-wing government of President Laurentino Cortizo.

On the 28th day of the national strike and the 8th day of the negotiation process, the representatives of the People United for Life Alliance from the capital Panama City, the National Alliance for the Rights of the

# Ghana Beyond Aid: Nduom Tells Akufo-Addo To Walk The Talk



Dr. Papa Kwesi Nduom is founder of PPP

The Founder of the Progressive People's Party (PPP), Dr. Papa Kwesi Nduom, has tasked the President, Nana Akufo-Addo, to take firm steps to ensure indigenous Ghanaian control (ownership) of the financial sector—banking, insurance, investment, pension, and others at all levels.

The business mogul and politician made the call in an open letter to President Akufo-Addo on the Ghana Beyond Aid idea and asked for a complete ban on the importation of chocolate, soft drinks, fruit juices and fruits, rice, sugar, poultry, and meats.

He has also called on the Nana Addo-led government to walk the talk of the “Ghana Beyond Aid” mantra.

According to Dr Nduom, for the president to succeed with his “Ghana Beyond Aid” agenda, the government must first ban the serving of imported foods and drinks at all state functions, Again, implementers of the school feeding programmes must only use locally produced foods and drinks. He added, “All professional services agreements – architectural, technology, financial, etc., must have at least 25% indigenous Ghanaian participation. All new and renewed

concessions for gold, bauxite, oil and gas, diamonds, and timber must have a minimum of 25% indigenous Ghana ownership. The digitalization agenda must be placed firmly, 100% in the hands of indigenous Ghanaians and their companies. Give full rights and recognition to Ghanaians who by necessity have become citizens of other countries—to vote, be employed by the state, and compete for elective offices. Will this hurt? Initially, yes. But eventually, we will be a better country, one whose citizens can aspire to prosperity with confidence.”

This is the full text of the letter:

HE. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo  
Jubilee House  
Accra

Dear Mr. President,  
Ghana Beyond Aid: My Recommendations To Walk the Talk “Ghana Beyond Aid” is a vision put forth by your Administration. You have articulated this forcefully and pushed it in presentations to Ghanaian citizens. You have also stood your ground on this with foreign leaders particularly those from the western divide of global governance. Many have hailed it and bought into it as a vital agenda. Recently though, the vision seems to be fading and does not find expression in formal presentations such as the budget and your own speeches at home and abroad. It is time to light some fire under this vision and make it real. To begin with, I support this vision for Ghana because it will promote self-reliance that would lead to greater prosperity for our citizens. I am a supporter of “Ghana Beyond Aid” without reservations.

My concern is that this vision may become a mere slogan. Over the years, Ghanaians have heard “the private sector is the engine of growth” with no fuel to make the engine move for the benefit of the people. They have been presented with “Zero Tolerance for Corruption” and “Probity, Accountability, Transparency” and yet corruption is seen by citizens as the main barrier to their well-being. Many leaders, in business and politics, have put out their versions of “Ghana First” visions yet there is no standard agenda to work with to make it come alive. When the late General Ignatius Kutu Acheampong championed the Ghanaian ownership of the commanding heights of the economy, it spawned concrete actions that are still delivering benefits to the state and its people. “Operation Feed Yourself” was and remains a popular policy from the Acheampong era. Given where we are, the following are actions I highly recommend for you consider implementing to push the “Ghana Beyond Aid” vision. All infrastructure contracts signed

by the state must have a minimum of 25% of value go to an indigenous Ghanaian and his/her enterprise.

All Cocoa roads and projects funded by COCOBOD must be given to indigenous Ghanaians and their companies.

Ban completely, the importation of chocolate, soft drinks, fruit juices, fruits, poultry, and meats.

Ban the importation of rice and sugar.

Immediately ban serving any imported food or drink at all state functions.

School feeding programmes must only use locally produced food and drinks.

Take firm steps to ensure indigenous Ghanaian control (ownership) of the financial sector – banking, insurance, investment, pension, and others at all levels.

All professional services agreements – architectural, technology, financial, etc., must have at least 25% indigenous Ghanaian participation.

All new and renewed concessions for gold, bauxite, oil and gas, diamond, and timber must have a minimum of 25% indigenous Ghana ownership.

The digitalization agenda must be placed firmly, 100% in the hands of indigenous Ghanaians and their companies.

Give full rights and recognition to Ghanaians who by necessity have become citizens of other countries – to vote, be employed by the state, and compete for elective offices.

Will this hurt? Initially, yes. But eventually, we will be a better country, one whose citizens can aspire to prosperity with confidence.

I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the recommendations further.

Presented, Your Excellency, for your consideration.

Papa Kwesi Nduom.

Source: [gbcghanaonline.com](http://gbcghanaonline.com)

## Education Minister Unhappy With Prolonged Non-Payment Of Teachers' Salaries

With news that for the past seven months, some teachers in the country have not been paid their salaries, the Minister of Education, Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum, has expressed his distress about the situation.

Giving his assurances that all such affected teachers would be paid soon, the minister however indicated that the situation should not have extended this long.

Earlier reports had indicated that some teachers had been complaining about how difficult it has been for them to access their salaries due to the delays in getting their biometric registration done.

The process is to help the teachers get their staff identification numbers but the process has been dragging.

Reacting to this development in a report put together by asaaseradio.com, Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum said he feels sorry about the way things are.

“Tell them I apologise... This shouldn't be the case. I have talked to the Ghana Education Service (GES) to send me the data on how many have their identity cards and how many do not have them. I am going to check when I get to the office to really see to this. “... It is unfortunate. It shouldn't be that anybody works for seven months, not just seven months, we are not getting the productivity from that person when they are not being paid. And the sad thing is that you end up



Dr. Yaw Adutwum is the Minister of Education

paying them, and the productivity is lost,” he said. The minister also indicated that meetings had been held among the appropriate stakeholders to ensure that in the future, monies of the teachers are not held back more than three months. “... We have had discussions that it shouldn't be more than three months. So I am very distressed by this; that teachers have not been paid for seven months. I don't like teachers to be stressed out,” he added.

## 'It Can't Be True' Opuni, Agongo, Agricult Defrauded State Of \$65.2m – Retired Cocobod Director

A retired deputy director in charge of monitoring and evaluation at the Cocoa Health and Extension Division (CHED) of the Ghana Cocoa Board (Cocobod), Mr Peter Okyere Boateng, has told Justice Clemence Honyenuga's court in the ongoing GHS271-million financial loss case that Cocobod increased the quantum of Lithovit liquid fertiliser purchased from 750,000 litres to one million litres the following year following recommendations of the effectiveness of the agrochemical produced by Agricult Ghana Limited, a company owned by businessman Seidu Agongo who is being tried along with former Cocobod CEO Stephen Kwabena Opuni for collectively causing financial loss of \$65.2 million to the state.

Mr Boateng told the court on Thursday, 28 July 2022 that Cocobod's position was that the "Lithovit foliar fertiliser is a very good, efficient and efficacious product that holds the potential to assist farmers to increase their yield and subsequently their finances".

He explained that "the report that I compiled and forwarded to Ghana Cocobod through my director carried information about the efficiency of the Lithovit liquid fertiliser, as was observed by all the teams that went to all the cocoa regions, as well as the praises that the farmers sang on the efficacy of the Lithovit liquid fertiliser after application, was accepted in full

and the recommendation about the product was implemented, so, the position [of Cocobod] was that the product is good".

On prosecution witness Dr Yaw Adu-Ampomah's testimony that the fertiliser was ineffective based on a bad report about it by the Chemistry Department of the University of Ghana, Mr Boateng said: "My Lord, the University of Ghana is my alma mater and I know it's a place of academic excellence. But with respect to the Lithovit liquid fertiliser, what I personally observed from the application of Lithovit liquid fertiliser in the farmers' farms and what the farmers said about the efficacy of the product, I know that the product is very efficient and, therefore, my Lord, I don't think that the product that the Chemistry Department of the University of Ghana [tested] was the same product that the farmers applied on their farms".

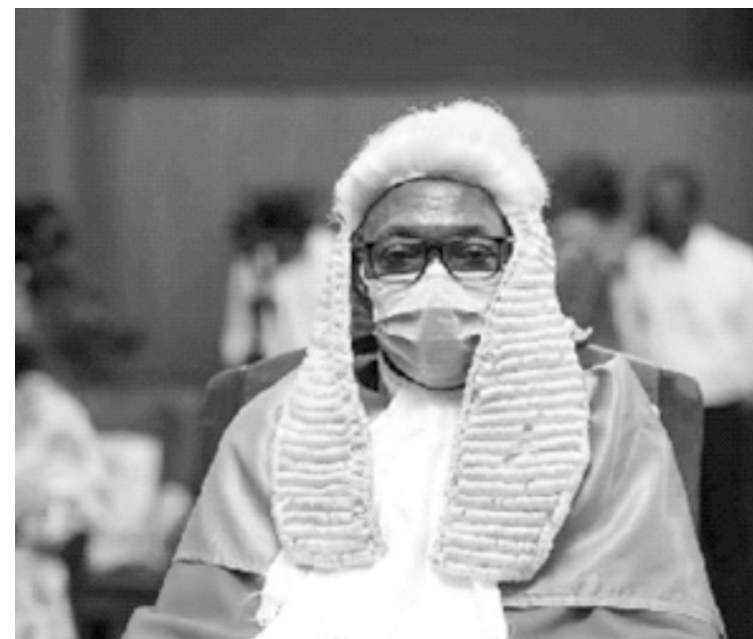
Secondly, he said "every Cocobod policy or agrochemical is used by the farmer, so, it is the farmer that always confirms the workability of a policy or the efficiency of any product that is given to them because, my Lord, cocoa farmers are the end-users of every policy or every agrochemical that is released by Cocobod. Therefore, I maintain that the chemical that was tested

was not the one used by the cocoa farmers and the one which gave massive yield to the cocoa farmers".

Mr Boateng also refuted claims by the prosecution team that despite Cocobod using \$65.2 million to purchase the Lithovit liquid fertiliser for farmers between 2014 and 2016, the agrochemical had "no significant increase in cocoa yield".

"My Lord, this can't be true because there is evidence in the field from the farmers and from my own observation that the Lhovit liquid fertiliser that was purchased with the amount quoted was utilised by the cocoa farmers and all the farmers who used it testified to the fact that they had massive increase in yield that contributed to national production. I want to say that in every year, we apply different types of fertiliser, so, in the year in question, it wasn't only Lithovit liquid fertiliser that was applied. Lithovit liquid fertiliser contributed its part, and the part that it played was very massive. And, therefore, if national production was not significant, then it cannot be attributed to the Lithovit liquid fertiliser".

"My Lord, I want to emphasize that in this case, if the Lithovit liquid fertiliser had not been there, and applied, then the situation would



**Justice Clemence Honyenuga, Judge**

have been worse".

Asked for his comments about the prosecution's case that Dr Opuni conspired with Mr Agongo and the latter's company, Agricult, to defraud the state of \$65.2 million, Mr Boateng said: "My Lord, I don't actually know the basis of the defrauding, so, it can't be true. Because there is every evidence that the money was used to procure Lithovit liquid fertiliser. Also, there is every evidence that the Lithovit liquid fertiliser was supplied to cocoa farmers for application. And there is every evidence that after applying the Lithovit liquid fertiliser, the farmers saw high yield, which increased their income. So, the money was efficiently used.

Therefore, there cannot be any defrauding in this issue".

Meanwhile, the court said: "In pursuant to Article 112(2) of the Constitution, 1992, the Chief Justice has granted me a limited time to conclude this case. In the circumstances, this court shall, in addition, sit on Tuesdays at 11 am for early disposal of this four-year-old case. In view of the pending vacation, the case is adjourned to October 3, 2022, at 10 am for continuation".

Source: [classfmonline.com](https://www.classfmonline.com)

## ECG Shuts Down Power To Yilo, Lower Manya Krobo Again

Residents and business owners in the Yilo and Lower Manya Krobo Municipalities of the Eastern Region are bracing themselves up for uncertain days ahead in the face of what appears to be an indefinite power shutdown in the area. The Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) has for the second time in seven months shut down its operations in the Krobo area after months of hostilities occasioned by the deployment of prepaid meters to the area. The area has therefore been without power since 10:30pm last Wednesday, 27th July, 2022. The current outage has been necessitated by what the company describes as tampering with its properties by unscrupulous people which has affected its network system. Prior to the total shutdown, some parts of Lower Manya Krobo including

Agomanya Ablotsi, Agormanor, Agbom, Yohe, Yokuenor, Abanse, Saisi, Nuaso Old Town and parts of Kpongunor, had since Wednesday, July 20, been without power. That outage, according to the power distributors, was caused by saboteurs who cut ECG fiber cables and tampered with its service lines. Days later, the Company said its efforts to fix the problem were being thwarted by threats on the lives of its personnel who responded to the situation. As part of efforts to address that problem, Konor of the Manya Krobo Traditional Area, Nene Sakite II on Tuesday invited personnel of the Electricity Company of Ghana to his Palace where he encouraged them to return to work to repair all faulty transformers which had plunged some parts of the Municipal into darkness. Frustrated residents in the suburbs of

Kpongunor and Nuaso who could not endure the prolonged outage, allegedly restored supply by tampering with the service lines. Frustrated customers of the ECG accused the power company of deliberately putting off the power to punish its customers in the face of the brouhaha over the ongoing prepaid metering exercise. Though the Company is encountering resistance in some communities over the installation of the meters, the exercise has been successfully undertaken in Kpong and many areas in Somanya. Things however came to a head on the evening of Wednesday, July 27, when residents of Nuaso confronted a team of ECG and military personnel who reportedly went to work on a transformer in the area.

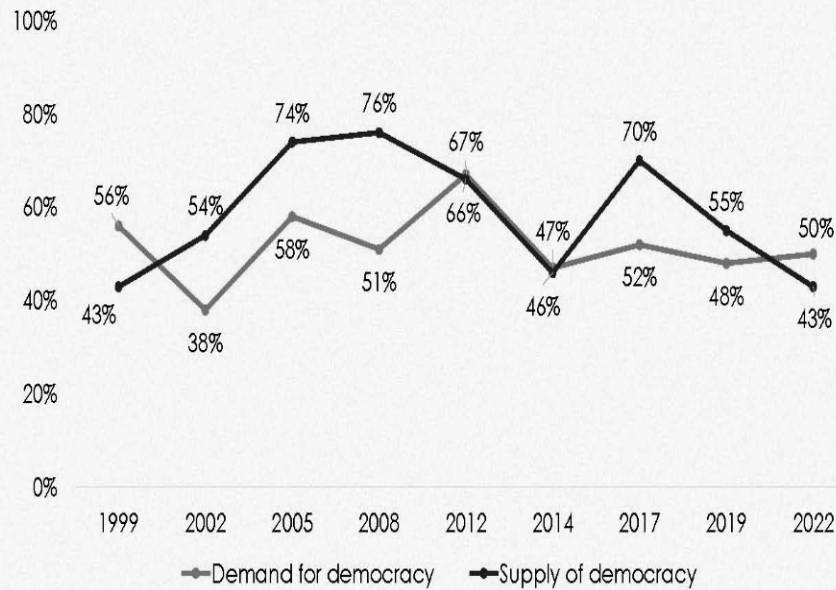
The transformer in question, it was gathered was one of the damaged equipment that resulted in the disruption in power supply to the area and is said to have been fixed by residents. The presence of the team, therefore, heightened suspicions that they were there to cut the power again. This infuriated residents of the area who massed up in anger and confronted them with the ECG and the military withdrawing in the process. At Nuaso and nearby Kpongunor, the residents burnt tyres around transformers and on roads leading to the facilities deep into the night. Two hours after the clash, power was shut down in the entire Krobo area. Many therefore believe the

Company is being unfair to punish the entire area when they did not face resistance in other communities where it successfully carried out the exercise. To safeguard the lives of its staff, the Company has temporarily suspended the prepaid metering exercise. PRO of the ECG, Tema Region, Miss Sakyiwa Mensah when contacted said the Company would respond to the current outage "in due time." The ECG in December, 2021 similarly shut down its Bulk Supply Point (BSP) at Kpong for a week, denying power supply to the area over similar issues.

# Full Text Of Findings From Afrobarometer Round 9 Survey In Ghana

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## Demand for vs. supply of democracy | Ghana | 1999-2022



**Demand for democracy:** % of respondent who both prefer democracy and reject one-party rule, military rule, and one-man rule

**Supply of democracy:** % of respondents who both consider Ghana "a full democracy" or "a democracy with minor problems" and say they are "fairly satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the way democracy works in Ghana

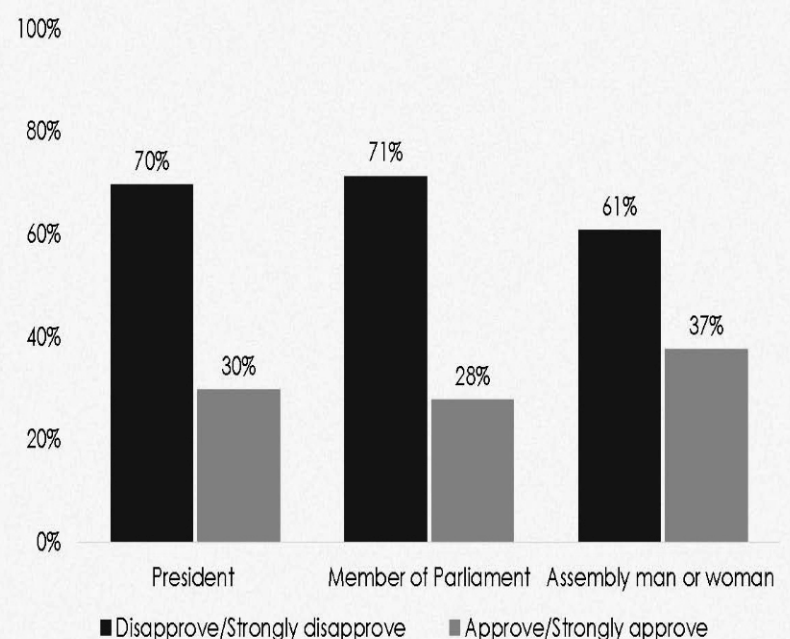
## Performance of elected leaders



## Key findings

- While the demand for democracy and the perceived supply of democracy in Ghana have fluctuated over the years, satisfaction with the country's democracy has been on a downward trajectory since 2017.
- Assessments of Ghana as "a full democracy" or "a democracy with minor problems" have declined by 21 percentage points since 2017, while satisfaction with how democracy works has decreased by 29 points.
- Large majorities say that people have to be careful about what they say about politics and that political party competition often/always leads to violent conflicts, that people are treated unequally under the law, and that officials who commit crimes often/always go unpunished.
- Most Ghanaians say their assembly members and MPs "never" or "only sometimes" listen to what people have to say.

## Rating leaders' performance | Ghana | 2022



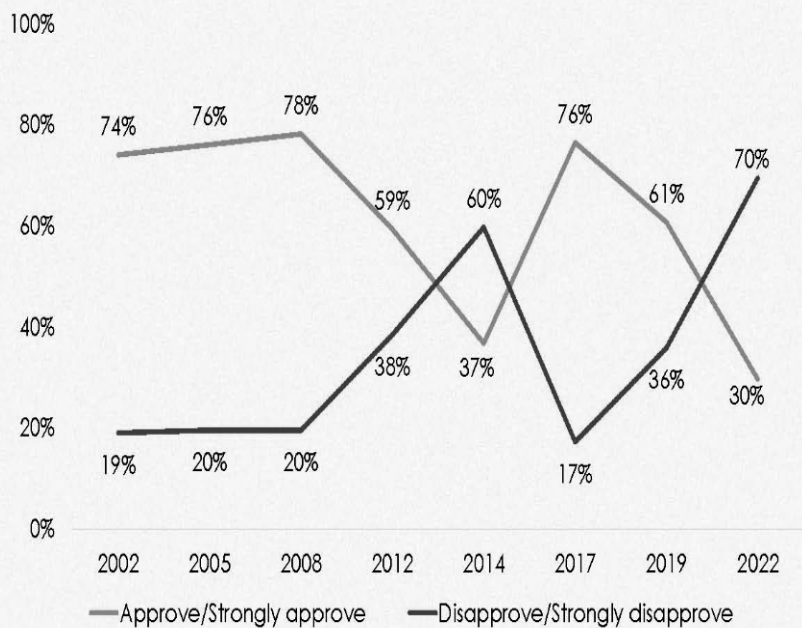
**Respondents were asked:** Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the following people have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

# Full Text Of Findings From Afrobarometer Round 9 Survey In Ghana

from page 9

## Evaluation of the president's performance

| Ghana | 2002-2022



**Respondents were asked:** Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the following people have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The president?

**AFROBAROMETER**  
Let the people have a say

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## Expectations and assessment of the 8<sup>th</sup> Parliament ('hung' Parliament)

## Key findings

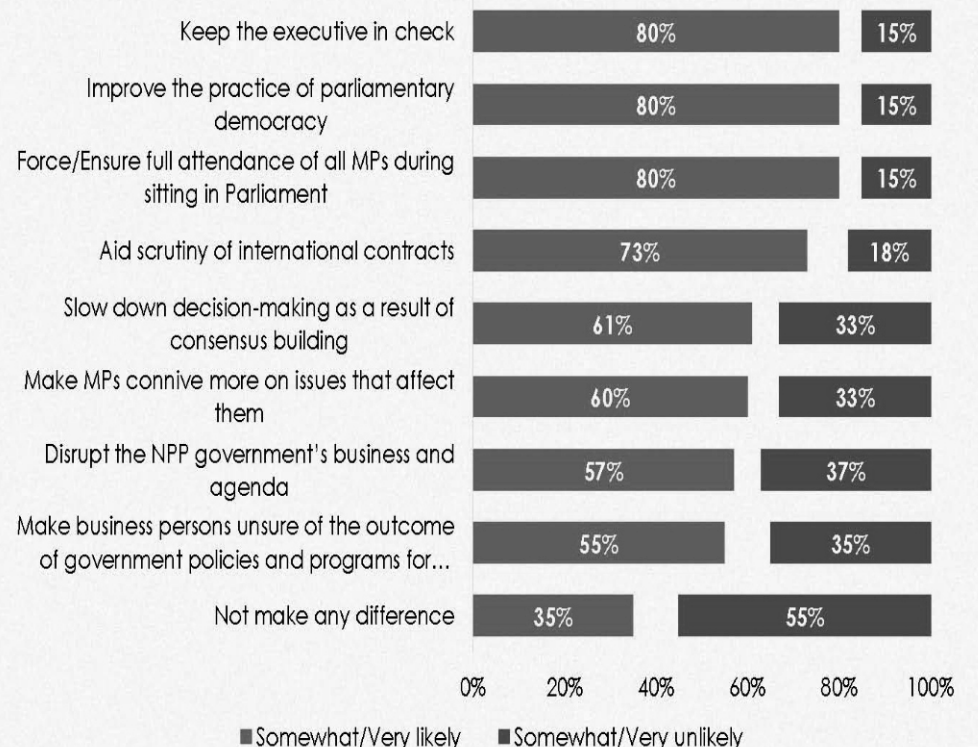
- Majorities of Ghanaians rate the performance of the president, their MP, and their Assembly Members as "fairly bad" or "very bad."
- Positive ratings of the president's performance have declined by 31 percentage points between 2019 and 2022, from 61% to 30%.



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## Expected impact of "hung" Parliament

| Ghana post election survey | 2021



TO BE CONT.