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WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS IN GHANA CALL ON ACCRA MAYOR AHEAD OF MAKOLA FINANCIAL LITERACY EXERCISE



The Association of Women Accountants, Ghana, has paid a courtesy call on the Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey ahead of a financial literacy outreach for traders at the Makola Market.

The delegation, led by the Association President, Ms Efua Bonsu, said the visit was to formally engage the Mayor and brief him on the group's planned programme to equip market women with basic financial management skills.

Ms Bonsu said the Association chose Makola Market for the outreach because of the important role women traders played in the local economy and the need to strengthen their capacity to manage and sustain their businesses.

She explained that the exercise would focus on practical financial literacy, including proper bookkeeping, insurance for goods and businesses, financial planning, and measures to ensure business continuity.

According to her, the Association also wanted to help traders understand how sound financial management could enable them to grow their businesses, remain profitable, and create employment opportunities for others.

Ms Bonsu said the delegation considered it important to first call on the Mayor before proceeding to the market, describing the visit as a mark of respect and an opportunity to seek the Assembly's support for the initiative.

She thanked the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) for its cooperation and for facilitating the Association's activities within the metropolis.

Welcoming the group, the Mayor commended the Association for extending financial education to market women, describing women as indispensable to the social and economic development of the city.

He said women formed a significant proportion of traders and business operators in Accra and therefore needed the necessary knowledge and support to protect their investments and expand their businesses.

The Mayor assured the Association that the doors of the Assembly remained open to organisations whose activities contributed to the welfare and development of residents, particularly women and small-scale traders.

He urged the Association to incorporate education on the payment of approved market tolls, business operating permits, and other legitimate Assembly revenues into its engagements with traders.

He pointed out that compliance with approved revenue obligations was necessary to enable the Assembly to provide sanitation services, maintain markets and public infrastructure, and undertake other development interventions that directly benefited residents and businesses.

The Mayor later assured the association and market women of the AMA's continued support, saying the Assembly was ready to work with women's groups and traders to address challenges affecting their businesses and livelihoods.

GOVERNMENT PUTS AGBOGBLOSHIE 24-HOUR MARKET PROJECT ON HOLD FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS



The government has put on hold the proposed redevelopment exercise for the Agbogbloshie 24-Hour Economy Market to allow for further consultations with the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), market leadership and other stakeholders on an appropriate redevelopment plan for the area.

The Minister for Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Mahama Ayariga, announced the decision on Wednesday, 23rd September, 2026 when he joined the Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, and the Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey, to engage the leadership and traders of the Yam Market at Agbogbloshie.

According to him, a temporary hold would enable the government and the Assembly to assess conditions on the ground, review the proposed development and agree with stakeholders on a practical arrangement that would accommodate existing market operators while improving the area.

Hon. Ayariga said the government's objective was to improve market infrastructure across

the country under the 24-Hour Economy Market initiative and not simply construct new facilities without taking account of existing commercial activities.

He explained that the government had directed Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to develop improved market infrastructure, adding that the latest engagement was intended to allow all the relevant parties to jointly examine the proposed development and determine the most appropriate approach for Accra.

He said constructing a new market in a way that merely displaced an existing market would not provide a complete solution, stressing that the redevelopment should, as far as possible, accommodate those already operating within the enclave.

The Minister stressed that the standard design developed for the 24-Hour Economy Market programme could be modified to suit the peculiar circumstances of Accra adding that the consultations would consider the scope of the project, its cost and funding required to implement an agreed design.

He stated that if necessary, the design could be reconfigured or the scope of the project expanded to accommodate more traders, adding that additional funding could also be considered to support a larger redevelopment.

The Minister cited Kumasi, where, according to him, the intervention was being adapted to improve and complete an existing market rather than strictly applying the standard 24-Hour Economy Market design.

He said Accra similarly required an approach that reflected conditions on the ground instead of automatically adopting the same design being used in other districts.

A representative of the market welcomed the decision to continue consultations and said the traders supported development that would improve conditions within the enclave.

He assured that the market leadership was prepared to work with the AMA and the relevant ministries to agree on a redevelopment approach that would benefit existing operators and modernise the area.



MAYOR COMMENDS THE Or FOUNDATION FOR JUNE 4TH CANAL RESTORATION

The Mayor of Accra, Hon Michael Kpakpo Allotey, has pledged the Accra Metropolitan Assembly's (AMA) support for ongoing community-led waste management and environmental restoration efforts around the June 4th Market area at Agbogbloshie, describing the intervention as a practical model that could help transform the city.

The Mayor made the commitment on Thursday, September 24, 2026, during a visit to the area, where he inspected work being undertaken by The Or Foundation and community volunteers to clear waste from a canal that feeds into the Korle Lagoon.

He said the AMA was interested in building a regular waste management arrangement around the intervention and working with the Foundation to sustain the gains made so far.

According to him, the initiative's success showed that similar interventions could be replicated in other parts of Accra, particularly where communities, civil society organisations and local authorities worked together.



He commended the Foundation for taking on what he described as a difficult but important responsibility, noting that the work went beyond serving a few individuals and was instead improving conditions for an entire community.

He assured the team that the AMA was prepared to work closely with them, adding that the Assembly would provide the necessary institutional support despite its own financial constraints and competing demands.

The Mayor said the Assembly and the Foundation could learn from each other as the partnership developed, stressing that collaboration would be essential if Accra was to achieve lasting improvements in sanitation and environmental management.

The Head of Environmental Justice at The Or Foundation, Katia Osei, said the intervention began after the organisation studied the canal system, community conditions, aerial images and historical patterns around the June 4th Market and the Korle Lagoon.

She disclosed that about 300 metres of the canal had so far been cleared, while erosion barriers and movable plastic barriers had been installed to help control waste movement and protect the canal during heavy rainfall.

The Environmental Field Operations Lead, Mr. David Kwabena Akpablie, said participation in the clean-up effort had continued to grow, with the initial core team expanding and more than 60 community volunteers now supporting activities.

Mr. Akpablie said the intervention was designed as a wider waste management system rather than a one-off clean-up exercise, with waste segregation being undertaken to separate textiles, plastics and other materials recovered from the canal.

The Foundation said its long-term goal was not only to keep the canal clean but also to reclaim and green sections of the surrounding land, while developing systems that could support recycling and a circular economy.



**AMA REMINDS DRIVERS
OF YELLOW-PLATED
VEHICLES TO OBTAIN
COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S
LICENCES FROM
ASSEMBLY**

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) has reminded persons driving commercial vehicles with yellow registration plates within its jurisdiction to obtain commercial driver's licences from the Assembly in accordance with its by-laws regulating commercial transport operations.

The requirement, contained in the AMA (Operation of Commercial Vehicles) By-laws, 2017, forms part of measures to regulate commercial transport services and ensure that drivers operating within the metropolis comply with the Assembly's licensing requirements.

Head of Public Affairs at the AMA, Mr. Gilbert Nii Ankrah who gave the reminder, said the clarification had become necessary following persistent misunderstandings among motorists and enforcement personnel regarding the distinction between commercial driver's licences and vehicle stickers.

He disclosed that the commercial driver's licence, issued in the form of a card, costs GH¢60 for new applicants and GH¢23 for annual renewal, unlike the vehicle sticker, which is displayed on the windscreen.

He explained that drivers of commercially registered vehicles, identifiable by their yellow number plates, were required to obtain the AMA commercial driver's licence in addition to the appropriate driving licence issued by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA).

He stressed that the commercial driver's licence was issued to the individual driver rather than the vehicle and must be carried whenever the driver was engaged in commercial transport operations.

He said the distinction was important because privately registered vehicles with white number plates could also be subject to applicable vehicle sticker requirements,

particularly where they were used to convey goods or undertake activities covered by the Assembly's permit arrangements.

He emphasised that obtaining a vehicle sticker did not automatically mean that a motorist was required to acquire a commercial driver's licence.

Under the by-laws, authorised enforcement officers may request commercial drivers to produce their Assembly-issued licences for inspection, while the Assembly's transport enforcement task force was empowered to inspect vehicle stickers and commercial driver's licences, he said.

He urged commercial drivers operating within the Assembly's jurisdiction to obtain and maintain valid AMA commercial driver's licences and was hopeful that improved public awareness and consistent enforcement would minimise misunderstandings and strengthen compliance with the Assembly's commercial transport regulations.

MAYOR OF ACCRA TREATS EARLY-REPORTING STAFF TO FREE BREAKFAST TO PROMOTE PUNCTUALITY



Staff of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) who reported to work before the official 8 a.m. reporting time on Tuesday were treated to free breakfast by the Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey, to promote punctuality and strengthen workplace discipline.

The initiative saw the distribution of over 100 breakfast packs to staff who arrived at the Assembly's offices before 6:30 am, ahead of the normal reporting time.

The breakfast menu included traditional Ghanaian meals such as Hausa koko and koose, Tom Brown with bread, and Eku Egbeemi, among other breakfast options.

Speaking during the distribution, Mayor Allotey said the initiative was intended to recognise employees who demonstrated commitment to their responsibilities by reporting to work early before the reporting time.

He emphasised that punctuality was an important requirement for effective public service delivery, stressing that employees who arrived at work on time were better positioned to prepare adequately for their daily assignments.

He stressed that improving service delivery at the Assembly required not only the provision of adequate logistics and resources but also a disciplined and motivated staff committed to their responsibilities.

The Mayor said management was determined to create a working environment where dedication, punctuality and hard work were recognised and encouraged.

He noted that although employees were expected to comply with the Assembly's official reporting time, acknowledging those who made the additional effort to arrive early could inspire others to adopt similar habits.

Mayor Allotey said the initiative sought, among other things, to promote a culture of responsibility, time consciousness and professionalism among staff.

He reiterated his administration's commitment to improving staff welfare and strengthening internal administrative systems as part of the Reset agenda to transform the Assembly into a more responsive and efficient institution.



**GOVERNMENT UNVEILS
NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM, GIVES MMDCS
30-DAY DEADLINE FOR
TRANSFER STATION SITES**

The Government of Ghana has announced a major overhaul of Ghana's waste management system, including plans to provide households with separate waste bins, replace open-bucket waste tricycles and establish transfer stations across Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

The Minister for Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Mahama Ayariga, who announced the measures on Saturday, October 3, 2026, said the Accra Metropolitan Assembly and all sister Assemblies had been given 30 days to identify and submit one-acre sites for the construction of waste transfer stations.

He announced this at Rawlings Park in Accra during the National Sanitation Day exercise, held to commemorate World Cleanup Day 2026 under the global theme, "From Clean Plates to Clean Cities," and Ghana's complementary national theme, "National Sanitation Day: Local Actions Yielding National Impact."

Hon. Ayariga said the policy direction aligned with President John Dramani Mahama's directive to develop an effective and efficient waste management system starting at the household level.

According to Hon. Ayariga, the government was designing an integrated waste management system that would address deficiencies in the entire waste chain, from household collection through transfer stations to final disposal and recycling.

He said Metropolitan Chief Executives in Greater Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi-Takoradi and other regional capitals had particularly been directed to identify suitable sites, while assemblies in major urban areas were also expected to identify land for properly engineered landfill facilities.

He noted that people generally understood the need to dispose of waste properly but often resorted to inappropriate disposal when appropriate facilities were inaccessible or located too far from their homes and places of work.

Hon. Ayariga also disclosed measures by the government to make waste bins available to households as part of efforts to bring waste management services closer to residents, adding that under the proposed system, households would receive two bins: one for organic waste and another for other solid waste to encourage separation at source.

Hon. Ayariga also announced plans to replace the open-bucket tricycles, popularly known as Aboboyaa, currently used to transport refuse with self-loading and self-tipping waste vehicles, particularly for young people engaged in waste collection.

He said the government would have to commit substantial resources to the programme but maintained that investment in sanitation could generate wider benefits through reduced healthcare expenditure, cleaner communities and improved attractiveness of Ghana to visitors.

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey, urged traders to treat cleanliness as an everyday responsibility rather than an activity reserved for National Sanitation Day.

A representative of the Ga Mantse, King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, also called on residents and traders to take greater responsibility for maintaining cleanliness after organised clean-up exercises.



He said he had directed the National Director of Urban Roads and the Chief Executive Officer of the Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA) to submit a list of roads and streets in Accra to the Ministry by Monday.

Under the proposed arrangement, he explained, corporate organisations would be assigned selected streets and expected to contribute towards their cleaning, greening, lighting and general maintenance under the supervision of the relevant state institutions.

He cited the Obasanjo Highway as an illustration, explaining that an existing street name could be paired with the name of a participating corporate organisation without necessarily erasing the name of the personality after whom the road was originally named.

Hon. Ayariga said the arrangement could also create employment opportunities for young people through the Department of Parks and Gardens while helping to improve greenery, pedestrian spaces and the general appearance of the capital.

He commended residents, traders, traditional leaders and other stakeholders for participating in the National Sanitation Day exercise and said clean-up days were useful for building public consciousness, but lasting cleanliness depended on functional systems that made responsible waste disposal easy.

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey, urged traders to treat cleanliness as an everyday responsibility rather than an activity reserved for National Sanitation Day.

Referencing the global theme, "From Clean Plates to Clean Cities," Hon. Allotey said the principle of cleanliness should extend beyond the home to public and commercial spaces, stressing that just as people wash their plates after eating, traders have a responsibility to clean their trading areas after conducting business.



LOCAL GOV'T MINISTER UNVEILS CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP TO MAINTAIN, BEAUTIFY ACCRA STREETS

The Government of Ghana has announced a new proposed programme to involve corporate organisations in the maintenance and beautification of major streets in Accra.

The Minister for Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Mahama Ayariga, announced the initiative at Rawlings Park in Accra on October 3, 2026 during the national flagship clean-up exercise to commemorate Ghana's World Cleanup Day 2026.

The Mayor said the objective of the Assembly was not to prevent people from trading but to create conditions in which traders could conduct their businesses in clean and healthy surroundings.

Hon. Allotey said traders should be able to sell, make profits, and take their earnings home rather than spend their income treating preventable illnesses associated with insanitary conditions

A representative of the Ga Mantse, King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, Captain Nii Kojo Nseni Mankattah IV also called on residents and traders to take greater responsibility for maintaining cleanliness after organised clean-up exercises.

Speaking on behalf of the Ga Mantse, he expressed concern that substantial resources were committed to sanitation exercises only for some cleaned areas to become littered again within hours.



MAYOR OF ACCRA URGES TRADERS TO MAKE CLEANLINESS A LIFESTYLE AS AMA HOSTS NATIONAL FLAGSHIP CLEAN-UP TO MARK WORLD CLEANUP DAY

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Michael Kpakpo Allotey has urged traders to treat cleanliness as an everyday responsibility rather than an activity reserved for National Sanitation Day (NSD).

According to him, just as people wash plates after eating, traders have a responsibility to clean the spaces from which they conduct their businesses.

The Mayor said this at the Rawlings Park in Accra on Saturday, October 3, 2026 during the NSD exercise held in commemoration of World Cleanup Day 2026 under the global theme, "From Clean Plates to Clean Cities," and Ghana's complementary national theme, "National Sanitation Day: Local Actions Yielding National Impact."

The Mayor noted that the objective of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) was not to prevent people from trading but to create conditions in which traders could conduct their businesses in clean and healthy surroundings.



Hon. Allotey said traders should be able to sell, make profits and take their earnings home rather than spend their income treating preventable illnesses associated with insanitary conditions.

He said he had observed improvements in the attitude of some traders, including instances where traders swept their surroundings during normal business hours, and encouraged them to sustain the practice.

The Minister for Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Mahama Ayariga disclosed plans to provide households with separate waste bins, replace open-bucket waste tricycles, and establish transfer stations across Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

Hon. Ayariga said that, under the policy direction aligned with President John Dramani Mahama's directive to develop an effective and efficient waste management system starting at the household level, all MMDAs had been given 30 days to identify and submit one-acre sites for the construction of waste transfer stations.

He said the government was designing an integrated waste management system that would address deficiencies in the entire waste chain, from household collection through transfer stations to final disposal and recycling.

Captain Nii Kojo Nseni Mankattah IV, Asafoatse Onukpa of the Ga State, on behalf of the Ga Mantse, King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, called on residents and traders to take greater responsibility for maintaining cleanliness after organised clean-up exercises.

He expressed concern that substantial resources were committed to sanitation exercises only for some cleaned areas to become littered again within hours and urged residents to discourage indiscriminate dumping and challenge people who littered

public spaces to pick up their waste and dispose of it appropriately.

The exercise brought together officials of the Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, the Accra Metropolitan Assembly, traditional authorities, market women, youth groups, sanitation workers and other stakeholders.

