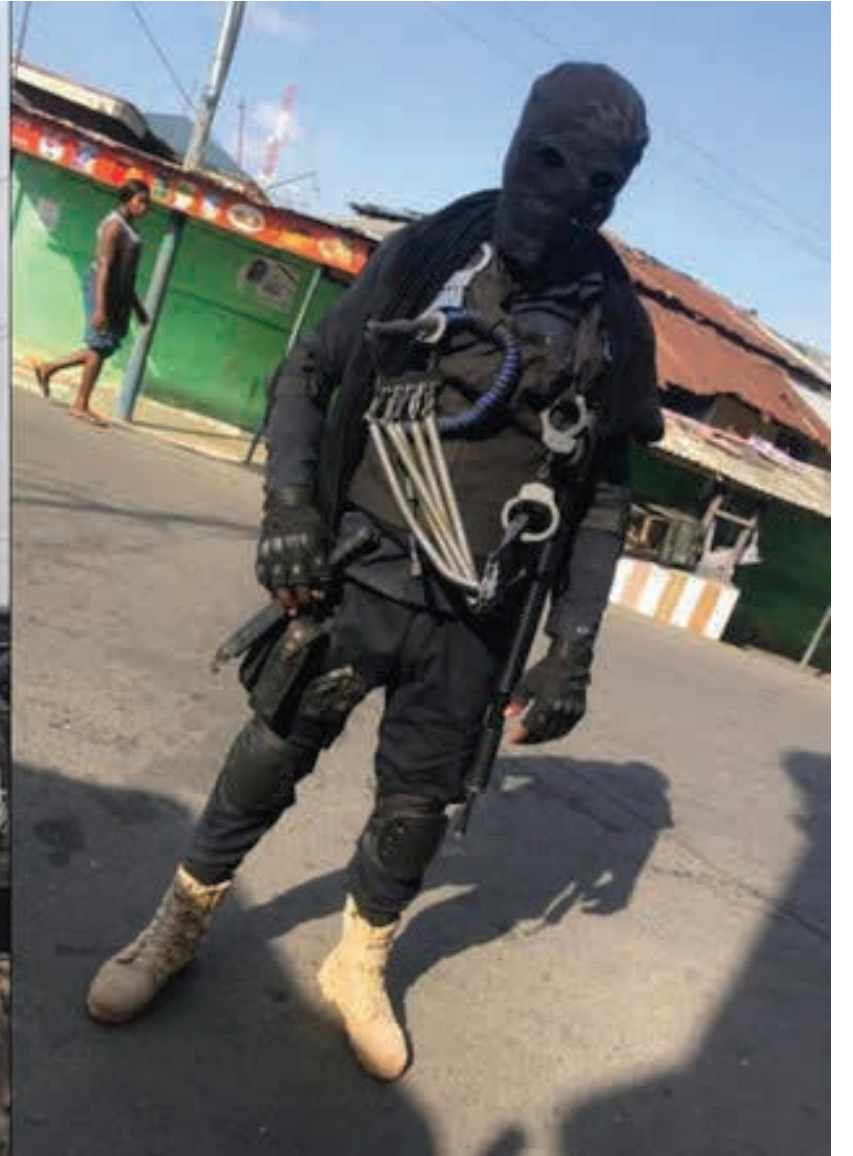




## 'VIOLENCE IN VOLTA NOT BY US' -WESTERN TOGOLAND SEPARATISTS

**-Secret NPP Vigilantes Fingered**



Intelligence picked up by Whatsup News points to a possible hijacking by militarised political vigilantes of the Western Togoland separatist group to unleash mayhem in the Volta Region.

Since last week Friday, the supposed separatist rebels attacked two police stations in the Volta Region, raided

the armoury of these police stations and fired indiscriminately at terrified officers on duty. Later, roadblocks were mounted by the group, allegedly to prevent vehicles from breaching their territory.

However, Whatsup News has gathered that the entire operation is a cover-up for a more sinister military-styled operations by agents

and highly trained political vigilantes of the Akufo Addo administration whose activities are being blamed on the infamous Western Togoland separatist group led by a feeble octogenarian, Charles Komi Kudzordzi, popularly known as Papavi Hobe-detor.

The separatist group today released a statement on its social me-

dia platform saying the latest attacks on the State Transport Company (STC) yard in the Volta Region was in no way their handiwork.

"We the frontline defenders of the Rights of the citizens of Western Togoland, the HSGF, and all its various chapters and branches had

**Cont. to Page 2**





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## Cont. From Page 1

no hands in the burning of vehicles of the STC in Ho last night. We wish to draw the attention of the general public that the sudden spark of violence in our land is seriously against our working documents.”

We are beginning to have the feeling that some elements probably in the political landscape and looking at the periods in which we are, might be perpetrating violence to smear our peaceful campaign,” the group said.

Indeed, Whatsup News gathered from reliable sources that the ageing Papavi Hobedeter, a teacher by profession, may not be in optimal health and in no way has the military capacity know-how to organise such well-coordinated attacks in the past days in the Volta Region.

A few months ago, CITI TV reported a swoop on a secret military training ground in the heart of the Volta Region where a group the government

claimed were associated with Homeland Study Group Foundation (HSGF) or the Western Togoland separatist group turned out to be false, as the 20 young men and women arrested said they had no clue of the HSGF but were secretly recruited to train for an alleged plan to enrol them in the security agencies.

The trainees believed to be associated with the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) claim they were charged some fees to undergo the training.

Already, Whatsup News and other independent-minded media organisations have reported massive secret training of NPP vigilantes all across the country, including the secret filming of De Eye Group of the NPP training at the former Presidential Palace at the Christiansburg Castle in Osu-Accra.

The Akufo Addo government has vehemently denied these secret training, however, in December 31, 2018, a group of NPP party thugs recruited into

the National Security by Bryan Acheampong, the then Minister of State for National Security unleashed lethal attacks on unarmed voters as the NDC contested the NPP for the vacant parliamentary seat at the Ayawaso West-Wuogon Constituency.

The blatant violence forced the government to institute a commission of enquiry led by Justice Emile Short. However, the recommendations of the Short Commission was mostly ignored by the Akufo Addo administration.

For instance, it recommended the disbanding of the thugs absorbed into the National Security and to reprimand key security officers and authorities for their complicity in the violence.

Meanwhile, several sceptics suspect the violence in the Volta Region is either to distract from the monumental mess created by the Electoral Commission (EC) on the new voters' register or an attempt to cause insecurity in

the Volta Region to prevent voters from freely participating in the December general elections because the Volta Region is the main political stronghold of the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC).

Policy think-tank Alliance for Social Equity and Public Accountability (ASEPA). In a statement released today, ASEPA says it smells foul play, saying it is “almost impossible to dissociate the complicity of the ruling NPP Government from what is happening in Volta today.”

The NDC has also made similar accusations against the governing party.

Curiously, Whatsup News gathered that some of the supposed separatists were actually mercenaries from Togo. Residents in the Volta Region-in areas under the catchment of Western Togoland have pointed out the Togo/Benin Ewe accent of the recently arrested individuals reportedly involved in Friday's mayhem.



## PC APPIAH OFORI REVEALS MAHAMA IS INCORRUPTIBLE COMPARED TO AKUFO-ADDO

**A**nti-corruption crusader Paul Collins Appiah Ofori, has contrasted President Akufo-Addo with former President John Mahama in an interview, revealing that from his point of view Mr. Mahama is comparatively better than President Akufo-Addo in the dodgy matters of corruption.

The interview which was with Accra-based TV3 captures the former New Patriotic Party MP for Asikuma Odoben Brakwa revealing that former President Mahama had personally invited him to serve in his administration in an anti-corruption watchdog role that he turned down purely on partisan grounds.

However, since the coming into office of his own party, he has constantly been evaded by President Akufo-Addo after he requested to serve in the same anti-corruption role that he had turned down from President Mahama.

According to the respected anti-corruption crusader, he has regretted not serving in the Mahama government simply because he put partisan interest above the national one, only falling short of



saying Nana Akufo-Addo is a betrayal.

"As a nation, as a country, for the benefit of Ghana, I think if I had not banked on the NPP and I had placed Ghana's interest above partisan interest, I had gone to take that position, I think I would have been able to set the Thames on fire, I would have been able to, all those engaged in corrupt practices I would have been able to get them prosecuted and so on. So for that, I have regretted."

A fierce anti-corruption crusader during his days in Parliament, Mr. Appiah-Ofori implied in the interview that he thought himself well-positioned to serve in an anti-corruption capacity in the Akufo-Addo government and has pe-



tioned the President for a position on the Board of the Office of the Special Prosecutor.

Thinking that because he had personally championed the cause of Akufo-Addo for so many years before Akufo-Addo finally became President in 2017, the President who had been touted as incorruptible while in opposition would want to work with a transparent person like him.

However, to his shock, immediately he petitioned the President for a place on the SPO Board, the President stonewalled him.

"Going by the way I championed Akufo-Addo and put him up from 2007 up till the time he became President in 2016, am

not happy about abandonment, am not happy about the way Akufo-Addo doesn't know me again," he lamented.

In contrast, he makes the point that when John Mahama became President in 2012, the NDC leader specially invited him to his (Mahama's) house and offered him the very position that Akufo-Addo has refused him.

"John Mahama himself called me to his house to tell me that he wanted me to go and play that role in his administration...and I told him that John no, you know me, if even you yourself you engage in corruption, I will expose you, do you know I will do that? He said: 'Yes PC, that's why I want you to come and be a check on me and all my Ministers.'"

"I told him that if I should join the NDC Administration, it would mean that I have abandoned NPP and I have abandoned Akufo-Addo so I told him that "oh John, you have done well, I won't take the position. But any corrupt practices that will take place in his administration that will come to my notice, I will draw his attention," an unhappy PC he said.





## MULTICHOICE TALENT FACTORY LAUNCHES THE IN FOCUS MASTERCLASS SERIES HOSTED BY AWARD-WINNING INDUSTRY EXPERT KEN KAPLAN

The MultiChoice Talent Factory (MTF) is excited to launch the In Focus Masterclass Series hosted by South Africa-based film and TV veteran Ken Kaplan! The Series comprises of pre-recorded conversations now available on the MTF Portal.

The masterclass series will see Kaplan in virtual conversation with some of the most formidable creative technical professionals in Africa's film and TV industry. Kaplan has had over 25 years' experience in film and TV and has worked on various local and international features as a producer, director, creative executive, and distribution, among others.

Masterclasses have been a crucial feature of the MTF shared-value initiative since its establishment in 2018, and have been held in various African countries in line with one of MultiChoice Africa's strategy of technical and creative knowledge sharing as a means of empowering emerging and professional creatives.

"Investing in the next generation of storytellers on a technical and creative level is something that has been at the heart of the MTF initiative. We're



excited to launch MTF In Focus, a series of in-depth virtual conversations with leading filmmakers from across the continent," says Reatile Tekateka, Group Executive Head Corporate Affairs: MultiChoice Africa.

The first set of conversations includes Kenyan producer Appie Matere, South African editor and director Vuyani Sondlo, Nigerian director, writer and producer Akin Omotoso, South African documentary filmmaker Michael Cross and cinematographer Kabelo "KB" Thathe. Each week a new conversation with one of the creatives mentioned, will be available for viewing.

The MTF Masterclasses is an important training platform alongside the MTF Academies, a 12-month regional fully funded training programme aimed at upskilling the next generation of passionate young film

creatives.

The academy is also the first touchpoint of the MTF shared-value initiative, with a one-of-a-kind curriculum that MultiChoice Africa has tailored alongside its partner Mnet channels as well as its curriculum support partners including the Henley Business School Africa, Pan-Atlantic University in Lagos, Kenyatta University in Nairobi, and the University of Zambia in Lusaka, among others.

The first conversation of In Focus Masterclass series with Kenyan producer, Appie Matere is now available on <https://multichoiceafricatalentfactory.com/> for all registered users to access. If you're not yet registered on the portal, [click here to register!](#)

Running order and description for each masterclass:

1. In this MTF "In Focus" Masterclass, Ken

Kaplan is in conversation with Appie Matere, leading Kenyan producer based in Nairobi with an impressive list of film and TV credits to her name.

2. Vuyani Sondlo is a South African editor with notable feature films and TV credits to his name.

In this MTF "In Focus" Masterclass, Ken Kaplan discusses Vuyani's works on the feature film VAYA (2016), directed by Akin Omotoso, and explores his technique in editing this multi-layered drama.

3. Kabelo "KB" Thathe has steadily made a name for himself as cinematographer in South Africa. In this MTF "In Focus" Masterclass, Ken Kaplan dissects KB's work and his collaboration with director Akin Omotoso on the movie VAYA (2016).

4. In this MTF "In Focus" Masterclass, Ken Kaplan is in conversation with director Akin Omotoso to talk about his early work, his method, his inspirations and his collaboration with other filmmakers and artists.

5. In this MTF "In Focus" Masterclass, Ken Kaplan is in conversation with Michael Cross, a prolific documentary filmmaker, to talk about his process and his approach to his work.

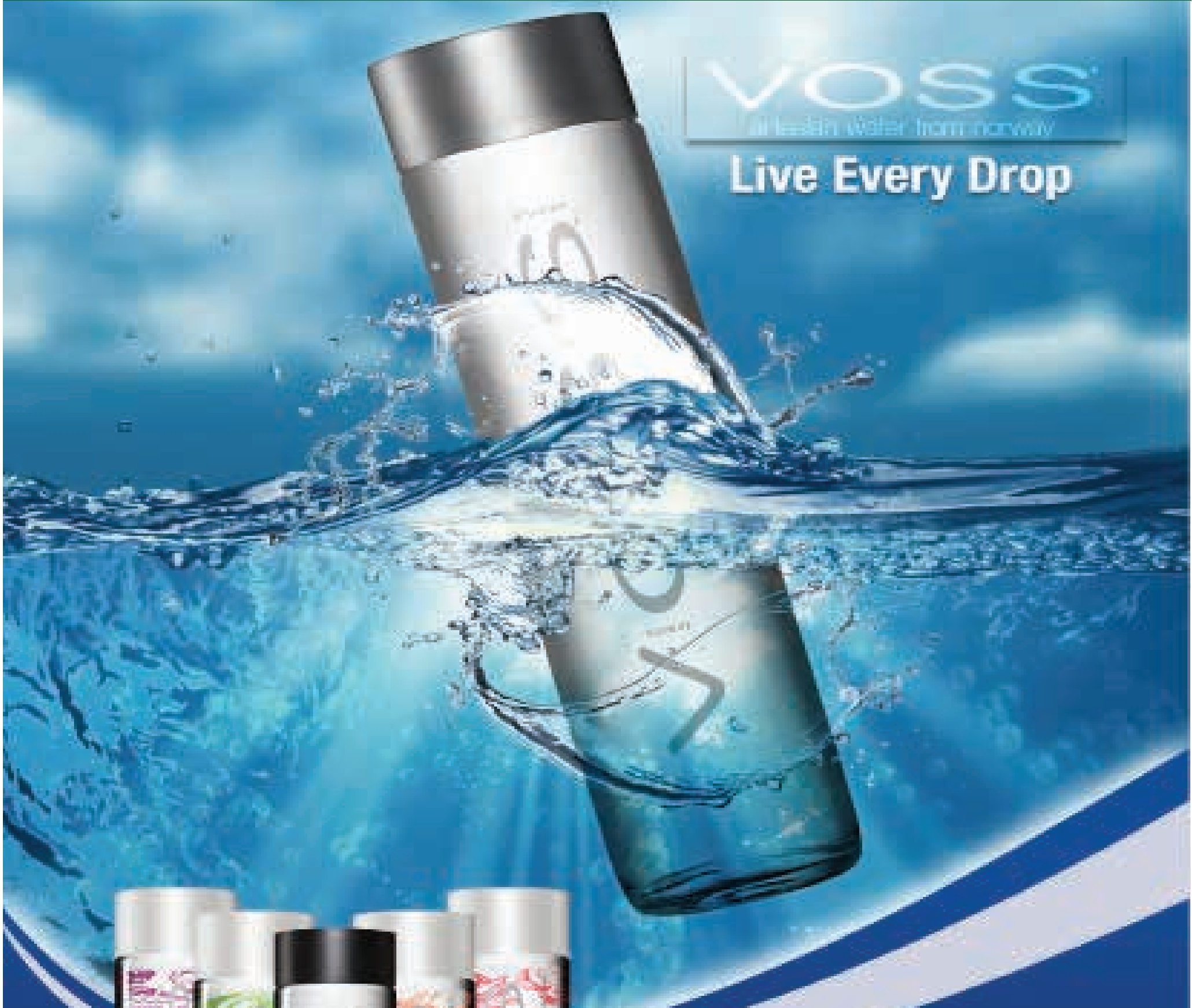


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## WOES OF GCNET DEEPENS AFTER OSAFO MARFO'S COUP



The Ghana Community Network Services (GCNet) company has been told that it must pay staff who are being retrenched because of the government's abrogation of the company's Port Management contract with the State.

GCNet was told by the National Labor Commission that its petition for a review of an arbitration ruling that compels it to pay its retrenched staff redundancy packages cannot be granted and therefore the company must pay the workers that have become redundant because of the vandalism of its contract by

the Akufo-Addo government.

Interestingly, when the NLC was dismissing a GCNet petition that had been filed through the company's Labor Consultant, Austin Gamey of Gamey and Gamey Associates, the Akufo-Addo government had not paid the GCNet the compensation that it ought to pay it for abrogating its contract and awarding it to a Korean company and its local collaborator.

Senior Minister Yaw Osafo Marfo is reported to be the main hatchet man in cancelling GCNET's valid contract.

According to reports,

the government may have to cough up a whopping US\$120million in judgment debt for GCNet for abrogating the port services contract that ought to have run till 2023 and giving it to the Customs UNIPAS International Agency (CUPIA) of the Korea Customs Services (KCS).

The money has not been paid but workers of the company who have been rendered redundant because of the abrogation of contract are demanding that they be paid their redundancy packages.

GCNet has argued that per company Human Resource policy, redun-

dancy packages are supposed to be paid under collective agreement, but the Staff Association was not a registered labour union and hence per the Labour Act, 2003, it could not enter into a collective agreement with the company.

Besides, the company pointed out that after abrogating its contract, the Akufo-Addo government has refused to pay the necessary compensation putting it in a difficult financial situation.

GCNet, therefore, asked for a renegotiation of the redundancy package. However, the workers refused, leading to a dispute and arbitration with the NLC. The NLC ruled that the GCNet had no choice but to pay the workers the redundancy packages as prescribed in their HR policy.

It was against this arbitration award that the GCNet, through Gamey and Gamey had petitioned the NLC to review, but the NLC replied that it did not have the power to review an arbitration award and so GCNet must pay.



## NATIONAL SECURITY, VOLTA REGIONAL MINISTER, RUN FROM MEETING WITH ASOGLI TRADITIONAL COUNCIL OVER VOLTA SECESSIONISTS

A high-ranking member of the Asogli Traditional Council of the Asogli State in the Volta Region, Togbe Kasa, has

attend the meeting with flimsy excuses.

While the National Security Minister said he would be busy because the President

by the Minister, a deputy a Minister of State, a National Security Coordinator and a National Security Advisor.

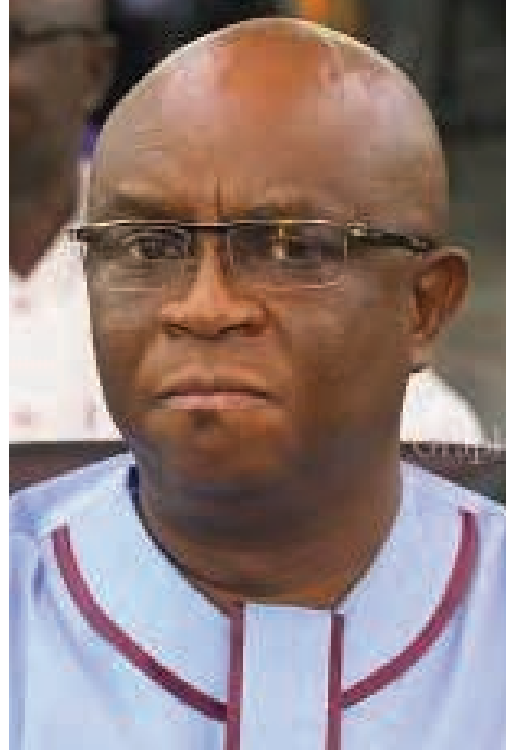
Archibald Letsa has

heads has denied the Minister's involvement but the group has dared Dr. Letsa to come out himself and deny them, saying they would provide material evidence to show that he is their comrade.

Meanwhile, there is widespread suspicion that the secessionists are hirelings of the Akufo-Addo government recruited to destabilize the Volta Region which is the traditional political stronghold of the NDC.

Following the outing of Dr. Letsa as a financier of the terrorists, the Volta Regional Minister is now suspected to have been the point man between the Akufo-Addo government and the terror group.

Togbe Kasa, in today's interview, dismissed the so-called secessionists as pursuing the cause of the Volta Region, pointing out that some of them do not even speak the Ewe language.



revealed that National Security Minister, Albert Kan Dapaah, and Volta Regional Minister, Dr. Archibald Letsa, have refused to have a meeting over the Volta secessionists who supposedly attacked Police Stations in the Region recently.

In an interview on a radio station in Ho, Togbe Kasa reveals that both Kan Dapaah and Archibald Letsa explained their refusal to

would be visiting Kumas, the Volta Regional Minister said he was unavailable.

Togbe Kasa reportedly wondered if the two Ministers did not also have deputies that they delegate for a meeting with the Council over a matter as important as the terrorism that the activities of secessionists is impinging on national peace.

The National Security Ministry is manned

a deputy. Interestingly, this is the same Archibald Letsa who has been named by the members of the Homeland Study Group Foundation (HSGF) the political wing of the Western Togoland movement demanding the secession of the Volta Region from Ghana, as a long-time bankroller of the group's activities.

The PRO of the Volta regional Coordination Council which Dr. Letsa





## EC RECORDS 'MIRACLE' INCREASE IN VOTER REGISTER

### -Despite THOUSANDS COMPLAINING OF MISSING NAMES

The Electoral Commission's recent antics have further raised serious questions about its credibility as it claims the total number on the register is has miraculously increased from the official numbers stated when the registration exercise was wrapped up some weeks ago.

The Electoral Commission (EC) had claimed it registered 16.9 million, however, on Monday, amidst curious assurances that she was a Christian and hence cannot rig the general elections, the EC Chairperson, Jean Mensah, said the total numbers on the register is now 17,007,726.

The state-owned Daily Graphic reported the number as 17,007,726, while other media outlets are reporting 17,700,726. If the latter figure is true, that will mean a whopping jump of almost 1 million additional names on the register.

If the number of 17,007,726 rings true, however, that will be a



curious jump of 44,420 additional voters, in any case, both increases have raised questions about where these numbers are coming from, particularly at a time when the voters' register has come under serious scrutiny with over 60,000 names of duly registered voters reported missing from the register.

The EC had admitted this the omissions and had scheduled October 1, 2020, to organise another round of voters' registration to allegedly incorporate the omitted names.

These inexplicable discrepancies are confirming widely-held suspicions that the Electoral Commission was secretly

padding the register to allegedly rig the elections for the governing NPP.

According to the EC boss, the new register encountered some faults when transmission of the data from the USB sticks to the central register after the general registration exercise became impossible.

"In some instances in the process of exportation of data from the USB sticks to the central register, we experienced some faulty transmissions and this led to the shortfall of data in some of the areas. It is important to highlight that although the registration process is IT-driven, there is a significant amount of

human involvement that may result in errors in every step of the way from the registration to exhibition," she said at the press conference on Monday, September 28, 2020.

The EC has been accused of deliberately omitting names of people in strongholds of the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC), while strangely, numbers at the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) strongholds show significantly more than was officially registered.

Critics say the development is a classic blueprint for election rigging in the December 7, presidential and parliamentary elections.





## HOW DID WESTERN TOGOLAND SECESSIONISTS MOUNT THEIR FLAG ON VOLTA REGIONAL MINISTER'S OFFICE BUILDING?

### ...Volta Chiefs ask

Chiefs in the Volta Region are asking very searching questions after National Security Minister and the Minister for Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs swerved a meeting that the Volta Regional House of Chiefs had had invited them to for discussion of the activities of the Western Togoland secessionist group.

Among the raft of questions asked included one that concerned the mounting of a flag belonging to the Western Togoland secessionist group at the Volta Regional Coordination Council where the Volta Regional Minister, Dr. Archibald Letsa works.

"More intriguing, was the ability of the culprits to hoist a flag of the "Western Togoland Group" at the Volta Region Coordinating Council, the office of the Regional Minister, this also going unnoticed by the night security," the Council noted in a statement issued after their meeting.

This question was the second of seven questions that the chiefs had posed in their statement. It really dangles a huge question mark on Dr. Letsa, who has already been outed as along time financier of the activities of the group which appears to have mutated into a terror organization.

Last week, the group



members attacked Police Stations in Mepeand Aveyime in the Volta Region, overpowered Police, freed cells inmate and carted weapons away from armories.

Members of the public have long suspected that the group are hirelings under remote control from Jubilee House to destabilize the Volta Region, the main stronghold of the opposition National Democratic Congress.

Last week, a leader of one of the terror cells of the group TogbeYesu Kwabla Edudzi II, declared the cessation of political activities in the Volta Region after the Mepe and Aveyime attacks. The government responded by deploying military and police to the region who arrested 31 people, who are said to have turned out to be innocent bystanders who had been attracted to the crime scenes that the terrorist left behind, after among other things, burning down an STC bus.

three (3) at Battor. One of those shot dead at Juapong was reported to be a known nearby coconut seller," the statement said.

While condemning the attacks by the Western Togoland Group and dissociating the Volta Region from them, the Volta Regional House of Chiefs also said it had taken note of uncomplimentary political statements and disrespect th

"The statement, a few years ago, by Hon. Kennedy Agyapong, MP for Assin Central, urging the killing of the Voltarians and Gas;

"The recent statement by K. T. Hammond, recorded on video, that the people of the Volta Region are not Ghanaians, but Togolese;

"The recent, "mistaken" exclusion of the Region's roads from the national budget; and,

"The disrespect shown to the Chiefs during visits by political leaders to the region.

"The video circulated by one Kevin Taylor, supposedly based in the United States of America, in which he alleged that the government was planning to send vigilantes to foment trouble in the Region, ahead of the elections, with a view to disrupting same," the statement said.

at politicians, including NPP leading members have been hurling towards Voltarians and Volta Chiefs.

Meanwhile, the Volta Regional House of Chiefs also wondered how the group has managed to grow strong in the country without National Security detecting and clamping it down. "The inability of National Security to pick up any intelligence on these activities in order to prevent them or arrest the conspirators, allowing these despicable acts to be committed."

It also expressed perplexity over, "the failure of the Regional Minister, who is the head of the Regional Security Council (REGSEC), to call or brief any of our Chiefs on the issue."

The statement wondered why innocent bystanders observing what had happened were arrested by National Security indicating that the arrestees included traders from Dzemeni who had arrived at an illegal road block mounted by the Western Togoland group.

"The identity of two (2) people who were shot dead at Juapong and another



## 'DIRECTOR OF NON EXISTENT KETA PORT HAS HELPED US TO SEARCH FOR CONSULTANTS'

### ..GPHA fouls up badly

The Ghana Ports and Harbors Authority (GPHA) has saddle itself with pure mockery after its attempt to justify the appointment of a Director for a future probable Port for Keta in the Volta Region led it to release a very infantile statement.

Among others, the GPHA claimed in a statement that Dr. Alexander Yaw Adusei Jnr whose designation is Director of the yet to be built Keta Port, has been indispensable because he helped the GPHA hunt for a Consultant for the project.

The statement which is signed by Esther Gyebi Donkor, General Manager in charge of Marketing and Corporate Affairs also said the appointment of the man who is receiving salaries as Director of a Port that has not yet been built is justified because among other things, he is helping with feasibility studies for the project.

Feasibility studies, are background checks and analyses that experts make to see if a given project would be suitable for a particular place or not.

"A national strategic project of this magnitude requires Preliminary activities before physical construction. This includes conceptualization, needs and visibility assessment, stakeholder engagements, cost-benefit analysis,



among others which usually spans a very long period. Invariably, such activities are best led by astute professionals with requisite legal skills and knowledge in contract negotiation, international law and project management.

"The immeasurable need for effective negotiations when it comes to Port infrastructure development and concession requires experienced negotiators with solid legal background to ensure value for money at all stages of the development process and such expertise could not fall under any less capacity below the level of directorship within the Port Authority. As such, Director of the Port of Keta Port, Dr, Alexander Yaw Adusei Jr. was appointed as the project lead to liaise with the requisite teams to facilitate the background activities toward implementation of the Keta project," Esther Gyebi wrote.

According to this woman since Dr. Adusei Jnr. Was pointed in March last year,

he has led GPHA, "to negotiate and select a consultant to commence the feasibility study of the Keta Port which was signed on Monday, 15th June, 2020 and field feasibility has already taken off. An inception report has been submitted and discussed and GPHA is expecting a final report from the consultants in a couple of months."

It is not clear what will become of the Director of the yet to be built Keta Port, if the final report comes and the Consultants decide that the Keta Port is not viable.

Many have seen the appointment of a Director for a Port which is not yet in existence by President Akufo-Addo as very strange indeed, with the Minority in Parliament calling for the appointment to be reversed.

Ordinary Ghanaians have also expressed consternation over the Akufo-Addo government's hurry to appoint a Port Director for a nonexistent project, a thing that has led to many expressing disbelief

over the strange development.

It was in response to these concerns that the GPHA came out with a statement today trying to justify the appointment of a Director for a non-existent Port by claiming that the Director of the non-existent port has been indispensable because he has among other things been prospecting for consultants to do feasibility studies to see if the Port idea is doable.

Many are asking if the GPHA as an Authority of State does not even have the expertise to just invite Consultants to make presentations and therefore President Akufo-Addo had to appoint a Director for the nonexistent Port just so that he can among other things invite Consultants for the project.

Interestingly, before the appointment of Dr. Adusei Jnr. the GPHA already had five Port Directors, making Dr. Adusei, the Director of the nonexistent Port, the 6th.

According to the GPHA statement, Dr. Adusei has the expertise and exceptional legal background in Port Management and is therefore richly qualified for the job and yet the same Dr. Adusei, had to invite Consultants to come and do feasibility studies.

Many have said the appointment is very corrupt and wasteful, with the Minority in Parliament demanding a reversal.





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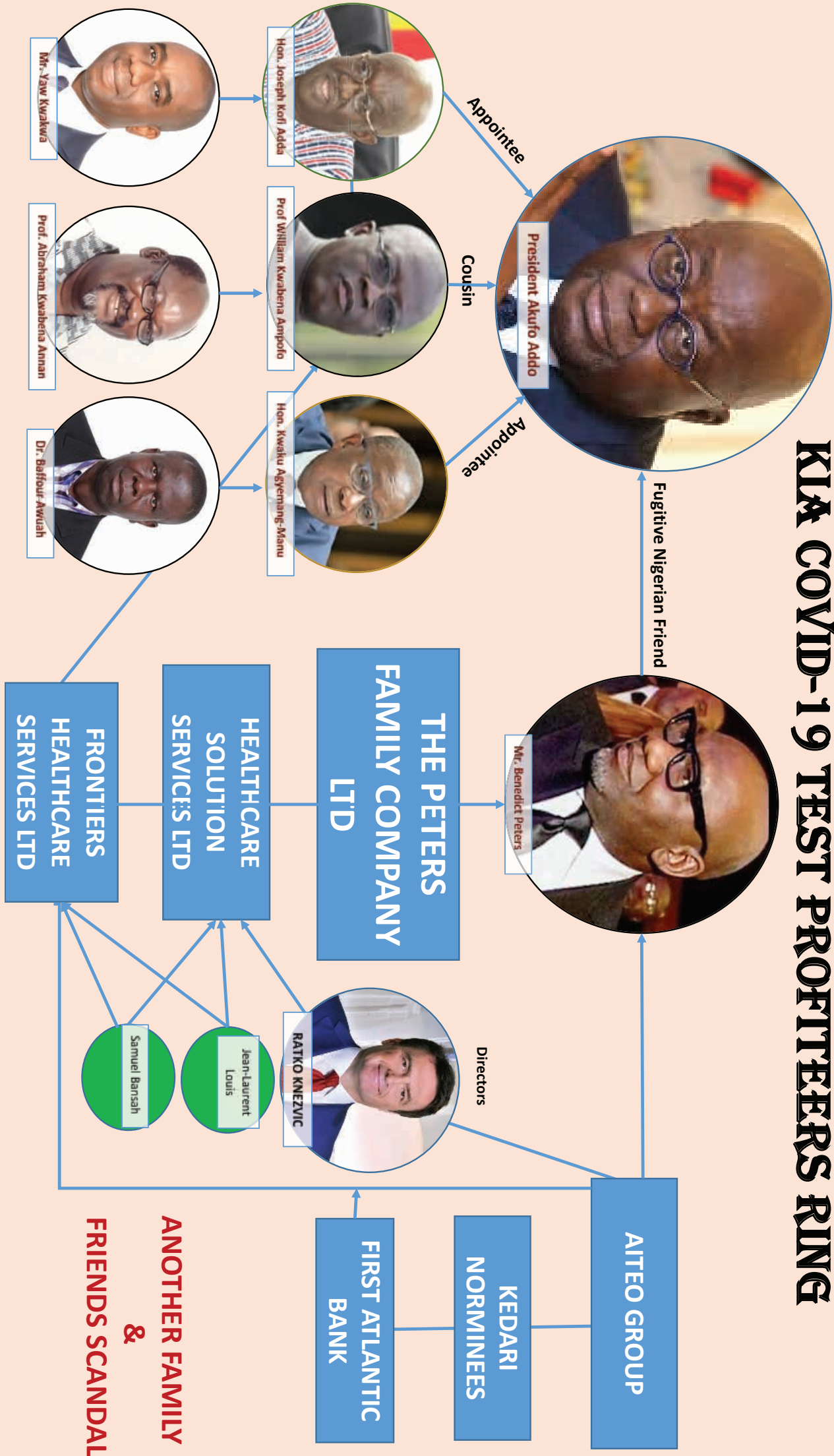
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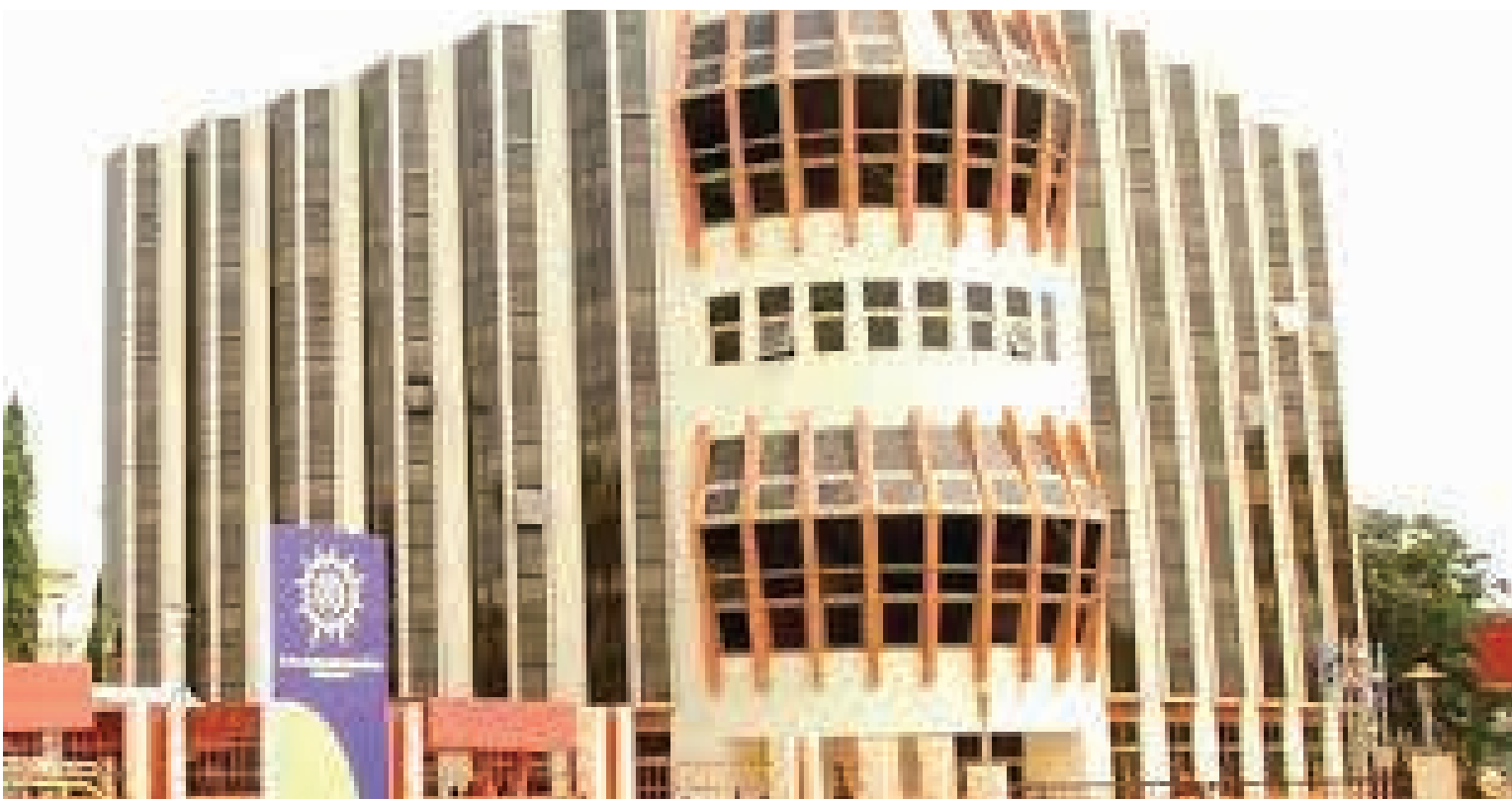
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## KIA COVID-19 TEST PROFITTEERS RING





## WAEC SUED FOR USING COMPROMISED EXAMINERS



**A**frica Education Watch, an educational policy research and advocacy organization has sued the West African Examination Council (WAEC) over the Council's decision to go ahead with the services of its examiners whose details were leaked online during the exams, to mark the scripts of students.

The suit is aimed to force WAEC to retire the examiners who are suspected to have been compromised and use a fresh set of examiners whose identities are not known.

AEW has also secured

an injunction against the WAEC and the script marking process which WAEC has been preparing to start.

"We have therefore sued WAEC and further filed an injunction application on notice at an Accra High Court to compel WAEC not to use those examiners in marking. The return date for the hearing is next week Thursday, 8th October, 2020," a statement from AEW's Executive Director, Kofi Asare, said.

Traditionally, WAEC's examination integrity control has included the secreting of the identity of

its examiners so that they cannot be compromised in any way.

However, during this year's edition of the WAEC exams in August, the contact details of the some of the examiners and exam questions were leaked online. This means that people interested in bribing the examiners for favorable results for their wards, can easily contact them and haggle a bribe.

In a country where even judges accept goat meat to free armed robbers, suspicion has been rife that the leakage of the contacts may have been intentional, even though

WAEC has since been investigating and pursuing suspects.

"As you may have noted, on 17th August 2020, we reported WAEC's leakage of the contact details of WASSCE examiners on social media; an incident WAEC later confirmed.

"However, instead of changing these 1,520 examiners and replacing them with its (WAEC) acclaimed over 20,000 examiners, they went ahead yesterday 28th September 2020 to commence pre-marking formalities with these same examiners whose contacts have been leaked.

"We believe It is against International Standards (including WAEC's) to use examiners whose identity and contact details have been publicly disclosed, as markers in an international examination. This is likely to affect the integrity of Ghana's pre-tertiary assessment system and the credibility of the WASSCE 2020 Certificate," the statement from the AEW Executive Director to members said.