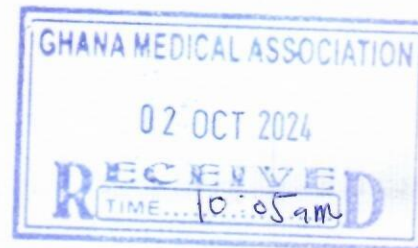


THE PRESIDENT
GHANA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
ACCRA



Dear Sir,

**PETITION FOR GHANA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (GMA) TO SUMMON DR(MED)
NANA AYEWE AFRIYIE BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OF THE
ASSOCIATION**

I am DR(MED) Samuel Ayeh a member of the association in good standing as provided for by article 4 of the GMA's constitution .

I respectfully write to petition the association regarding the public conduct of one of its members, requesting that the association summons him before the disciplinary committee . The facts giving rise to this petition are as follows;

1. On Saturday, September 28 2024, Dr(med) Nana Ayew Afriyie speaking at a public function made statements that suggests that he vehemently supports the illicit activities of galamsay which has become a bane in the safety of our environment (video attached)
2. This statement as captured in a viral video (as attached to this petition) has filtered through both traditional and social media receiving massive public backlash and opprobrium ridiculing him for his reckless comments
3. These words are in sharp contradiction to the GMA's position in a press release on 6th September, 2024 by GMA and other allied health organizations , where the association bemoaned the health hazards of illegal mining, condemning the menace in all its forms and calling on government to ban all small scale mining
4. Illegal and unsafe mining popularly known as 'galamsay' is characterized by the use of crude environmentally dangerous methods of acquiring gold . It involves the use of

teratogenic and carcinogenic chemicals such as mercury and cyanide in water bodies which are major sources of drinking water for many households in Ghana . It is instructive to note that there have been several reports of a number of cases of skin and respiratory illnesses in galamsay endemic areas associated with these chemicals . Not long ago the Ghana water company shut down their machines in Capecoast , Elmina and Kyebi as the Pra and Birim rivers which are their primary sources of water have been heavily polluted hence destroying their machines . This has brought untold hardships unto Ghanaians living in these areas of supply , the last thing the people expect is a medical doctor who has every knowledge of the effects of this activity to make such retrogressive irresponsible comments

5. In my considered opinion and in the opinion of many other reasonable concerned Ghanaians these comments represent the highest form of insensitivity and misconduct coming from , a Medical Doctor of 24 years practice
6. My fear is that his comments may be mistaken by the overwhelming unsuspecting populace as the official position of the over ten thousand(10,000) noble medical doctors in Ghana .
7. His comments has brought the name of the association into grave disrepute and if leadership does not act , the image of the association will suffer irreparable damage going forward
8. I am therefore invoking the executive council's power under article 24 of the association's constitution for the council to summon him before the disciplinary committee for questions and apply appropriate sanctions which may include suspension from the association as provided for by the constitution
9. This I believe will send the strongest of signals about the association's commitment to the fight against illegal mining. It will also most importantly signal to all members of the association the need to maintain high ethical standards befitting of medical practitioners in Ghana
10. Finally, Ghana stands on the brink of a collapse of our environment, together with its forests, water bodies and ecological zones and a move such as this will represent the association's highest commitment to the good people of Ghana in ensuring that its members exhibit the highest level of professional standards as we collectively battle this menace



Dr (Med) Samuel Ayeh

+233(0) 508526222

Ayehsamuel156@gmail.com

University Of Ghana Hospital.

Cc

The Executive Council, GMA