



PRESS RELEASE

2nd December 2025

Ghana Chamber of Mines Condemns Threats Against AngloGold Ashanti; Calls for Respect for Rule of Law and Security Of National Assets

The Ghana Chamber of Mines (the "Chamber") has noted with deep concern a press statement and subsequent media reports about a one-week ultimatum issued by the Artisanal Small-Scale Miners Association (ASSMA) in Obuasi to the Government and AngloGold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited ("AGAG").

The Chamber views any threat to "advise themselves" outside of established legal frameworks as a threat to the peace and stability of the mining industry and the Obuasi municipality. We wish to correct misinformation regarding the security status and land tenure at the Obuasi Mine to de-escalate tensions.

1. Security Operations are a National Security Mandate

The Chamber acknowledges the tragic loss of life following the incident on 18 January 2025 and expresses its sympathies to the bereaved families.

However, it is imperative to correct the narrative about security operations in Obuasi. The military personnel deployed to the Obuasi mine are not private security agents acting on the operational orders of AGAG management; they are State security officials deployed under National Security Council's mandate. Their objective is to protect a strategic national asset and enforce the Minerals and Mining Act, 2006 (Act 703). The narrative that mine management is unilaterally directing security operations against citizens is factually incorrect and misrepresents the role of the State in protecting national investments.

2. AGAG Has Relinquished 60% of its Concession

The core justification used by the ASSMA for these agitations, an allegation that AGAG has refused to release land for small-scale mining, is not supported by the facts. Records available to the Chamber confirm that AGAG has voluntarily relinquished approximately 60% of its original concession area to the Government of Ghana. This unprecedented release of land was explicitly intended to facilitate community development and provide designated areas for regulated, responsible small-scale mining. Continued unauthorised incursions into the remaining fenced, active operational areas undermine the orderly development of the community mining sector.

3. Socio-Economic Contribution & Community Engagement

The Obuasi mine remains a critical contributor to the local and national economy. Through its 10-Year Socio-Economic Development Plan ("SEDP") and the Obuasi Community Trust Fund, the mine continues to invest significantly in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. A stable, secure environment is a prerequisite for these community investments to continue.

4. Ongoing Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

Contrary to allegations of a lack of communication, the Chamber is aware that AGAG is actively engaged in tripartite discussions with Government, the National and Obuasi leadership of the Ghana National Association of Small-Scale Miners ("GNASSM").

These discussions are guided by a signed Framework of Understanding, which serves as the Obuasi roadmap towards the Government's Responsible Cooperative Mining and Skills Development Programme (RCOMSDEP). Bypassing these established structures to issue ultimatums through the media is counterproductive to peaceful coexistence.

Call to Action

Ghana's reputation as a safe destination for investment relies on the State's unwavering commitment to uphold the rule of law and resolve disputes through dialogue, fostering trust among all stakeholders rather than coercion.

The Chamber calls upon:

- The Government to treat the ultimatum as a credible security matter and take all lawful measures necessary to maintain public order and protect lives and property in Obuasi.
- The Leadership of ASSMA should utilize the standing Joint Working Group and the GNASSM national platform for constructive dialogue, rather than resorting to threats. This approach fosters peaceful resolution and aligns with the Chamber's goal of promoting dialogue.
- The Media must verify claims about land ownership and security mandates to avoid inflaming tensions.

The Ghana Chamber of Mines stands with AngloGold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited and reaffirms that responsible mining can only thrive in an environment of law and order.

— END —

Issued by:

The Ghana Chamber of Mines

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

The Ghana Chamber of Mines is the main mining industry association in Ghana. The Chamber represents the collective interests of companies involved in Ghana's mineral exploration, production, and processing.

Contact:

Albert Amekudzi

External Relations and Sustainability Officer

 aamekudzi@ghanachamberofmines.org

 0302 516170