



Ref:.....12TH MARCH, 2026.....

Date:.....

## PRESS STATEMENT

### URGENT SUBJECT: CALL FOR TRADE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PUBLICAN AI DISRUPTIONS

The Ghana Union of Traders' Associations (GUTA) expresses grave concern over the ongoing disruption to trade caused by the current implementation of the Publican AI system.

Following engagements with Government, it is evident that the critical concerns of the trading community remain unresolved. Traders across the country continue to face:

- Unpredictable and excessively high duty assessments
- Prolonged delays in cargo clearance
- Mounting demurrage and rent charges
- The near absence of an effective and accessible system for resolving valuation disputes

These conditions have created an unsustainable trading environment and pose a serious threat to business continuity.

In light of the above, GUTA hereby:

- Calls on all freight forwarders and clearing agents to **cease payment of duties and lay down their tools from Monday, 13<sup>TH</sup> April, 2026, to Friday, 17<sup>TH</sup> April, 2026 next week**
- Advises its members to **temporarily halt all importations** until clarity and predictability are restored

GUTA further calls for the **immediate suspension of the Publican AI system in its current form** and a comprehensive review of its application.

We urge the Government to act decisively to restore confidence, stability, and fairness within Ghana's trade regime.

**SIGNED**  
**MR. CLEMENT BOATENG**  
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