

**REMARKS BY CEO OF THE GHANA CHAMBER OF
MINES, MR. SULEMANU KONEY AT THE PRE-INDABA
COCKTAIL SESSION HELD ON 1ST FEBRUARY, 2023 AT
MARRIOTT HOTEL**



The Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Hon. Samuel Abu Jinapor

The Deputy Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Hon. George Mireku Duker

Your Excellences, I wish to place on record our deepest appreciation to Your Excellency G.J. Mason, the South African High Commissioner to Ghana for fast-tracking the issuance of visas for a number of Ghanaians including members of the Chamber to this year's Indaba. Going forward, we could adopt an arrangement that will make the issuance of visas to the mining Indaba more seamless.

Captains of the Mining Industry,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to be part of this pre-Mining Indaba cocktail session to herald our mission to Cape Town from 5th to 9th of February with the primary objective to position Ghana as the hub of mining in Africa.

At this time of global economic turbulence, it is imperative that government and private sector players continue to deepen collaboration to attract mining capital to our country to engender broad based socio-economic development.

Ladies and gentlemen, our participation at the annual Mining Indaba and other international conferences underscore the desire to showcase our mineral potentials and competitive mineral policy regime to the international investor community. Whilst this laudable initiative is certainly a key element of promotion, exhibitions by themselves are unable to market a country or product

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optimally. Other forms of promotions include “word of mouth communication” from mining investors already operating in a jurisdiction complement the exhibition efforts as that tends to inform potential investors of how conducive the business climate is. Given that the Chamber represents mining investors in the country, we deem it appropriate and are pleased with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources efforts to get the Chamber and its member companies to be a part of the Ghana delegation to the Indaba. In this regard, we wish to emphasize our desire to work hand in hand with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources and the Minerals Commission to realize our common objectives of participating in the 2023 Mining Indaba.

Ladies and gentlemen, given the importance of adopting a mix of these tools in a harmonious manner to ensure that the overarching objective of positioning Ghana as the hub of mining in Africa is realized, it is our desire that our Sector Ministry and Minerals Commission are fully engaged and thereby involve the Chamber on potential tweaks to fiscal policies that affect our industry. Whilst we appreciate that fiscal issues sit with the Ministry of Finance, as promoters of the sector, it would be preferable that our sector Ministry, and the Commission have a say in these fiscal changes in order not to have a resultant sub-optimal mix with undesirable outcomes on our promotion efforts.

Hon. Minister, Your Excellencies, South Africa is a major investment destination with more than a century of mining history. It shares this proud accolade with Ghana. As the emphasis on gold mining shifts from Southern Africa to West Africa, it provides opportunities for our two countries to collaborate given that we are obvious leaders in our respective regions. We see opportunities in the various facets of mining such as the deployment of technology as well as the

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harnessing of forward and backward linkages that will enable our respective countries to leverage mining as a catalyst for development.

Ladies and gentlemen, one of our greatest aspirations as a Chamber is to see a Ghana where we can boast of being the mining services hub in Africa with true local content as the anchor of our support for a domestic industrialization drive. We applaud the collaboration and cooperation we receive from our Sector Minister and his team. We on our part will continue to work with government and stakeholders to promote and entrench an integrated mining industry to create and retain value in our dear country.

With the support of government, we strongly believe that the mining sector can be positioned as the anchor of our industrialisation drive. Here, we propose that Ministries of Trade and Industry, Lands and Natural Resources and Finance synchronize policies for the realization of a mining industry that is fully integrated in the non-minerals economy.

After the Indaba, and the PDAC to be held in Toronto in March 2023, the next stop will be Accra. The Chamber will hold its biennial Mining and Energy Summit (GMES) and exhibition in June 2023 in Accra. This conference will bring together investors, players and stakeholders to discuss the interrelationships between mining and energy, especially clean energy and how these can spur sustainable development in our country. It is our expectation that we will all participate fully in the GMES.

Let us leverage the platform provided by the Mining Indaba to promote a common agenda of positioning Ghana as the mining destination of choice in Africa.

Thank you and see you all in Cape Town.