

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Clarion Call to Support TVET: Disregard Misguided Proposals to the Contrary

The Ghana TVET Service (GTVET) Division of the Public Services Workers Union (PSWU) of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) Ghana extends its warmest regards to all members and stakeholders in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) space and wishes to address recent comments by the Executive Secretary of CLOGSAG, calling for the scrapping of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Service as reported by some media outlets. We strongly believe that this proposition is not only misinformed but demonstrates a lack of understanding of TVET's pivotal role in Ghana's development.

TVET: The Backbone of Industrialization and Economic Growth

In today's rapidly evolving global economy, TVET stands as the foundation of youth empowerment, industrialization and economic growth. The real economy which possess the greatest transformative ability for our country can only be obtained through the necessary investments in our skill base. To this end, the Pre-Tertiary Education Act, 2020 (Act 1049), spearheads TVET reforms through emphasis on modern, competency-based system with the following objectives:

1. Equip youth with employable skills through Competency-Based Training (CBT).

2. Standardize education nationwide through a harmonized curriculum.

3. Support industrial growth by providing the skilled workforce needed to drive industrialization and self-reliance.

4. Promote inclusivity and equity by offering opportunities for marginalized groups.

The Vision of the Reformers

The efforts towards reforms in TVET is not new. In 2004, the Prof. J. Anamuah-Mensah Committee proposed the creation of a unified regulatory frameworks to address the fragmented nature of technical education in Ghana.



This recommendation birthed the TVET reform, creating a solid foundation for equipping Ghanaian youth with globally competitive skills. Various actions have followed, culminating in the current Policy Framework which needs supporting.

Response to CLOGSAG's Call to Scrap TVET

The recent call by the Executive Secretary of CLOGSAG's Mr. Isaac Bampoe Addo to scrap TVET is misguided and undermines national skills delivery. Such a call reveals a lack of understanding of the long-term benefits of a robust TVET system to the national development potential of Ghana. Accordingly, scrapping TVET would reverse years of progress, dismantle efforts to reduce youth unemployment, and undermine confidence among international development partners supporting Ghana's TVET agenda.

Appeal to His Excellency, President John Dramani Mahama

We respectfully urge His Excellency, President John Dramani Mahama, to disregard CLOSAG's misguided call to scrap TVET. Instead, we appeal for his continued support of TVET as a strategic driver of economic growth and national development. While we call for support and improvement in TVET delivery, we believe that the provision of the necessary financial, human and logistical support to TVET conforms with Government's own priorities in strengthening skills-based education.

Conclusion

As we strive for a brighter future, we must recognize the critical role TVET plays in empowering Ghanaian youth. We encourage all stakeholders to remain committed to the TVET Agenda and urge detractors to seek constructive engagement rather than propagate misinformation. We also reiterate the commitment of the workers of Ghana TVET Service to building a skilled, inclusive, and sustainable future for all.

Signed

SETH BOTCHWAY DIVISIONAL SECRETARY, GTVET-PSWU