COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE (NTC) ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The National Tripartite Committee (NTC) held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, 21st April, 2020 to discuss guidelines for the fight against Coronavirus at all workplaces. The meeting was chaired by the Minister for Employment and Labour Relations, Hon. Ignatius Baffour Awuah (MP).

The Tripartite Partners comprising representatives from Government, Employers and Organised Labour agreed on the following workplace safety guidelines:

That:

- i. All employers should provide the requisite Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and related facilities for the safety and health of workers, in compliance with World Health Organisation (WHO) safety protocols and Ministry of Health (MoH) guidelines.
- Employers should constitute Safety Committees to deal with all issues related to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) at workplaces.
- iii. Employers should appoint Focal Persons to facilitate education of workers on the COVID-19. Such Focal Persons will also have the responsibility of liaising with health professionals in the event of an outbreak of the virus at the workplace.

- iv. Employers should create an enabling environment for social distancing at workplaces and encourage their staff who can work from home to do so.
- v. Unions should collaborate with employers to ensure that workers comply with and observe strictly the WHO and Ministry of Health enhanced hygiene and safety protocols; including wearing of face masks.
- vi. Local Unions should educate workers on the shared responsibility of promoting personal safety to avoid spread of the COVID-19 at the workplace by wearing face masks and ensuring personal and workplace hygiene at all times.
- vii. Employers and unions should collaborate and cooperate at the enterprise level through social dialogue to deal with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sustainability of their respective Enterprises.
- viii. The Labour Department (LD) and the Department of Factories Inspectorate (DFI) should monitor compliance with WHO and MoH COVID-19 safety protocols and guidelines in their workplace inspections.
- ix. Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) COVID-19 Committees should intensify public education in their respective communities and ensure strict compliance with WHO

protocols, Government and MoH guidelines on the COVID-19 pandemic.

x. The government policy on wearing of face masks at all public places must be strictly enforced by the relevant authorities.

HON. IGNATIUS BAFFOUR AWUAH (MP), MINISTER MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS FOR: GOVERNMENT

MR. DANIEL ACHEAMPONG, PRESIDENT

GHANA EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

FOR: EMPLOYERS

DR. ANTHONY YAW BAAH, SECRETARY GENERAL

TRADES UNION CONGRESS (GHANA)

FOR: ORGANISED LABOUR

DATED IN ACCRA THIS 28TH DAY OF APRIL, 2020