



Speaker of Parliament Alban Bagbin

‘Stop rewarding only bitter tongues’ – Bagbin tells political parties

Read More: [Page 03](#)

‘Gambia defeat doesn’t make me a loser’ – Carlos Queiroz



Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz

Read More: [Page 08](#)

‘Speaker Bagbin got it wrong by rejecting our narcotics inquiry motion’ - Afenyo Markin



Minority addressing the press

Read More: [Page 06](#)

‘We have cut cost of capital by more than half since Mahama took office’ – Ato Forson



Read More: [Page 04](#)

Shamima Muslim defends constitutional rights of women facing court over hate speech



Deputy Presidential Spokesperson, Shamima Muslim

Read More: [Page 02](#)

NPA reaffirms regulatory support as Puma Energy Ghana deepens investment in LPG, CRM



Group photograph

Read More: [Page 03](#)



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Shamima Muslim defends constitutional rights of women facing court over hate speech

Deputy Presidential Spokesperson, Shamima Muslim has called for the constitutional rights of women facing legal proceedings to be respected, citing the case of senior nursing officer Salomey Awiti Bafoh, who is standing trial over her alleged connection to TikTok personality Barbara Asantewaa Kodua, popularly known as Ghana Jollof.

Speaking on Good Morning Ghana, Shamima said a woman’s involvement in a legal process should not deprive her of the protections guaranteed under the 1992 Constitution.

“As a woman, any woman that finds herself at the wrong side of the law who is going through a certain process, I can empathise with that situation, as is the right thing for every woman to do,” she said.

Salomey Bafoh is facing a charge of abetment of crime, to wit, publication of false news, in connection with allegations surrounding the circulation of

content associated with Ghana Jollof. She has pleaded not guilty.

Shamima stressed that being accused of an offence did not remove an individual’s constitutional protections, while acknowledging that everyone remained subject to the law.

“Everybody deserves the protection of the Constitution. But no one is above the law. But everyone deserves the protection of the 1992 Constitution, including those women who have found themselves at the wrong side of the law,” she said.

The NDC communicator also weighed in on the controversy surrounding the arrest of Baffour Awuah and the involvement of a female Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) officer who was assigned to carry out the arrest.

She questioned suggestions that the female officer may have been deliberately chosen because her presence could provoke Mr Awuah into assaulting her.

“Is the MP prone to assaulting women that you now feel that if they sent the woman to test this MP so that the MP would assault the woman?” she asked.

According to Shamima, the officer should be viewed

as an experienced security professional carrying out an official duty rather than being defined primarily by her gender.

“This woman is not me. It is not a Kay woman. It is an over 15-year-experienced woman in the security service. They sent a woman to come and arrest me,” she said.

She maintained that concerns about the manner in which an arrest is conducted could be discussed without questioning the professionalism of the officer involved.

“Whether or not you agree with the mode of operation, a genuine conversation we must have to sanitise our system,” she said.

Shamima further argued that women involved in legal proceedings should be allowed to pursue their cases through the appropriate judicial processes and seek redress where necessary.

“It is the same arena of the judiciary that they would seek their redress from court,” she said.



Deputy Presidential Spokesperson, Shamima Muslim

Stop renting your certificates to unqualified persons – Ghana Standards Authority warns certified electricians

The Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) has cautioned certified electricians against renting or lending their professional certificates to uncertified persons to undertake electrical wiring work.

The Ashanti Regional Manager of the Ghana Standards Authority, Mr. Isaac Kusi Appiah, issued the warning at the 25th Electrical Wiring Awards Ceremony held in Kumasi.

Mr. Kusi Appiah said certified electricians who allow uncertified persons to use their certificates do so at their own risk, warning that those caught engaging in the practice would not be spared.

He urged certified electricians to protect their professional credentials and ensure that their certificates were not used to facilitate electrical work by persons who had not obtained the required certification.

GSA to Certify Cable Dealers

Mr. Kusi Appiah also announced that the GSA would begin the certification of all cable dealers in the Ashanti Region from October 2026.

He explained that the Authority would test the cables being supplied by dealers

and certify companies whose products meet the approved standards.

He stressed that the certification exercise would be conducted in the region, meaning dealers would not need to travel to Accra for the process.

According to him, some companies in the region have already been certified because they deal in approved electrical cables.

Push Against Substandard Cables

The Ashanti Regional Manager said the GSA was intensifying efforts to rid the regional market of substandard electrical cables.

He expressed the hope that by the end of October, significant progress would have been made in removing cables that do not meet the required standards from the market.

Mr. Kusi Appiah warned dealers that if the Authority discovered that their cables did not meet the approved standards, they would have no

excuse.

He also urged certified electricians to ensure that they work only with approved cables and maintain ethical standards in their professional practice.

The measures, he said, form part of broader efforts to strengthen compliance with electrical standards and promote safer electrical installations in the Ashanti Region.



‘Stop rewarding only bitter tongues’ – Bagbin tells political parties

Speaker of Parliament Alban Bagbin has called on the leadership of Ghana’s political parties to reconsider the practice of elevating politicians who attract attention through abusive and inflammatory language.

According to Mr Bagbin, rewarding individuals for provocative rhetoric risks encouraging others within the political space to adopt similar tactics in the hope of gaining recognition.

He made the remarks during Parliament’s emergency sitting on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, where he urged political leaders to promote a healthier standard of political engagement.

“I add this to both political parties’ leaders. Don’t reward only bitter tongues,” Mr Bagbin said. “That is what I have observed up to date. That encourages others to copy that because that is how they will be recognised.”

The Speaker said political parties had an important role to play in shaping the tone of public discourse and should ensure that recognition and opportunities were not based solely on a politician’s ability to provoke opponents.

He stressed that disagreements in politics were inevitable but should be expressed in ways that did not undermine public confidence or deepen divisions.

Mr Bagbin also challenged Parliament to demonstrate the standards of conduct it expects from the wider public, saying political leaders must lead by example.

“Leadership in this matter cannot simply consist of asking citizens to moderate their language,” Mr Bagbin said. “It requires those who occupy positions of public trust to demonstrate by their own conduct that political disagreements can be vigorous without becoming destructive.”

He said Ghana’s democratic development depended on more than elections, Parliament and

the courts, arguing that the country also needed a political culture in which opposing views could be expressed without turning political opponents into enemies.

The Speaker warned that the continued use of inflammatory language and personal attacks could contribute to growing divisions and weaken the quality of democratic participation.

“Our democracy is too valuable

to be endangered by a political culture in which insults replace arguments, abuse replaces persuasion, and opponents are treated as enemies,” he said.

He therefore urged political party leaders and other public figures to promote discipline, decency and substantive debate as part of efforts to strengthen Ghana’s democratic culture.



Speaker of Parliament Alban Bagbin

NPA reaffirms regulatory support as Puma Energy Ghana deepens investment in LPG, CRM

The National Petroleum Authority (NPA) has reaffirmed its commitment to providing responsive, efficient and transparent regulatory support to investors as Puma Energy, a key player in Ghana’s Cylinder Recirculation Model (CRM), deepens its investment in the LPG sector.

The commitment was expressed when a delegation from Pumagas, led by the General Manager for Puma Energy, Mr. Lanzeni Coulibaly, paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Executive of the NPA, Mr. Godwin Kudzo Tameklo, Esq. on Monday.

The engagement provided an opportunity for Puma Energy to formally introduce Pumagasa subsidiary, and some of its key distributors and dealers to the Chief Executive of the NPA.

The new branded cylinders, which represent a further step in Pumagas’ efforts to strengthen its participation in the CRM ecosystem, were presented to Mr. Tameklo.

The Pumagas delegation expressed its appreciation for the leadership and support provided by the CE in advancing the initiative and reaffirmed the company’s commitment to sustained investment in the CRM and the broader LPG sector. Presenting the company’s strategy, Pumagas indicated that it intends to adopt a deliberate policy to separate

production and distribution activities as part of its efforts to accelerate market adoption, expand its distribution network and contribute to the achievement of Ghana’s CRM targets.

The strategy is expected to support greater efficiency within the LPG value chain while strengthening the availability and accessibility of CRM cylinders to consumers.

In his remarks, Mr. Tameklo reaffirmed the Authority’s commitment to providing continuous regulatory support to legitimate industry players and create the enabling environment for sustainable investment in Ghana’s downstream petroleum sector.

He stressed the importance of fairness, mutual respect, trust and responsiveness in the relationship between the regulator and industry players.

The NPA Boss said regulation should facilitate the growth and development of businesses while safeguarding public interest, rather than becoming an unnecessary impediment to investment.

He emphasised the need for regulation to be efficient and expeditious, noting that regulatory processes must respond to the realities and timelines of businesses operating in a competitive investment environment.

He noted that Ghana’s downstream

petroleum sector continues to attract investors partly because of a favourable regulatory environment which promotes fairness.

The NPA Chief Executive underscored the importance of building and maintaining trust between regulators and industry players, and assured Pumagas and other stakeholders of the Authority’s full support in facilitating legitimate investments and resolving regulatory issues in a timely and constructive manner.

He, however, cautioned that actions or behaviours that could undermine Ghana’s reputation as an attractive destination for investment would not be entertained.

“Maintaining investor confidence is a shared responsibility involving

both regulators and industry participants,” he said.

The engagement highlighted the importance of collaboration between the regulator and private-sector participants in achieving the objectives of the CRM.

The NPA welcomed Pumagas’ continued commitment to investing in the LPG sector and its efforts to strengthen its distribution and market-development strategy. The meeting concluded with both parties reaffirming the importance of continued engagement, collaboration and mutual respect in supporting the growth of Ghana’s LPG industry and the successful implementation of the CRM.

Source: NPA



Group photograph

We have cut cost of capital by more than half since Mahama took office – Ato Forson

Finance Minister Dr Cassiel Ato Forson says the cost of capital for businesses in Ghana has fallen by more than half since President John Dramani Mahama took office.

He said the reduction forms part of government’s efforts to make it easier for businesses to access bank financing and expand their operations.

“Since President Mahama took office, we have deliberately brought down the cost of capital,” Dr Ato Forson said in a video.

“Cost of capital, prior to his coming, was averaging 30%. Today, it has been cut by more than half,” he added.

Businesses Can Now Borrow at 9% to 13%

According to the Finance Minister, businesses can now borrow from banks at rates of between 9% and 13%.

“You’ll be able to borrow from banks at 13% to 9%. But that is not where we want to go,” he said.

Government Targets Single-Digit Borrowing Costs

Dr Ato Forson said government wants borrowing costs to fall further into single digits to make financing more accessible to businesses.

“We want to see cost of capital single-digit. So that businesses like yourself can borrow from our banks and expand,” he said.

Access to Credit Equally Important

The Finance Minister stressed

that lower borrowing costs must go hand in hand with greater access to credit.

“Not only the cost of capital, but availability is also very important,” he said.

Banks Not Lending Enough to Private Sector

Dr Ato Forson expressed concern that banks are still not lending enough to the private sector.

“We see our banks not lending so much to the private sector. That should not be the case,” he said.



1992 Constitution review: Prof. Atsu Ayee and Dr Osae-Kwapong explain why Constituent Assembly not necessary

Two leading political scientists, Professor Joseph Atsu Ayee and Dr John Osae-Kwapong, have opposed calls for a Constituent Assembly to deliberate on proposed reforms to Ghana’s 1992 Constitution.

They argue that the Constitution Review Committee (CRC), chaired by Professor H. Kwasi Prempeh, already consulted Ghanaians thoroughly by engaging citizens, professional bodies, past presidents and other key stakeholders.

NPP Wants Constituent Assembly Before Referendum

The two academics were responding to the New Patriotic Party (NPP), which has urged the government to set up a Constituent Assembly to deliberate on the proposed amendments before they are put to a referendum.

According to the NPP, the move is needed to build broad national consensus on the reforms and to resolve differences between the government and the CRC.

The party proposes that the assembly should bring together representatives of political parties, organised labour, professional bodies, the National House of Chiefs, religious organisations, women’s groups, persons with disabilities, students and the youth, the private sector, civil society and the regions.

Prof Ayee: “We Are Not Writing

a New Constitution”

Prof. Ayee said Ghana did not need a Constituent Assembly “because we are not writing a new constitution as we had in the past.”

He explained that the Constitution already sets out the amendment procedure. “The amendment of the entrenched and non-entrenched provisions will need a national referendum and parliamentary process respectively, as indicated by the Constitution,” he said.

He stressed that keeping to timelines was important to ensure the process stays on course. He also noted that a few contentious recommendations appear not to have been addressed, including the president’s term of office, which some have proposed extending to five years, and the president’s extensive appointing powers.

Constitution Alone Cannot Make Ghana Great

Prof. Ayee said the ultimate test of any constitutional reform was whether it improves the quality and standard of living of all Ghanaians.

“For the Constitution to work and improve living standards, both leaders and citizens need behavioural and attitudinal changes,” he stated.

This, he said, means building and strengthening values such as promoting the public interest,

patriotism, hard work, honesty, transparency and accountability.

“The revised Constitution will be operated by men who must possess positive values to make it work. We should not live under the illusion that the amended Constitution has the magic wand to make Ghana great and strong,” he cautioned.

He described transformative leadership as key. He also called for a proper balance between the non-partisan role of the president as head of state and the partisan role as head of government.

Dr Osae-Kwapong: Current Process Provides Enough Consultation

Dr Osae-Kwapong acknowledged that concerns raised about Ghana’s constitutional reform process were legitimate. However, he said he did not support the call for a Constituent Assembly.

He explained that amending

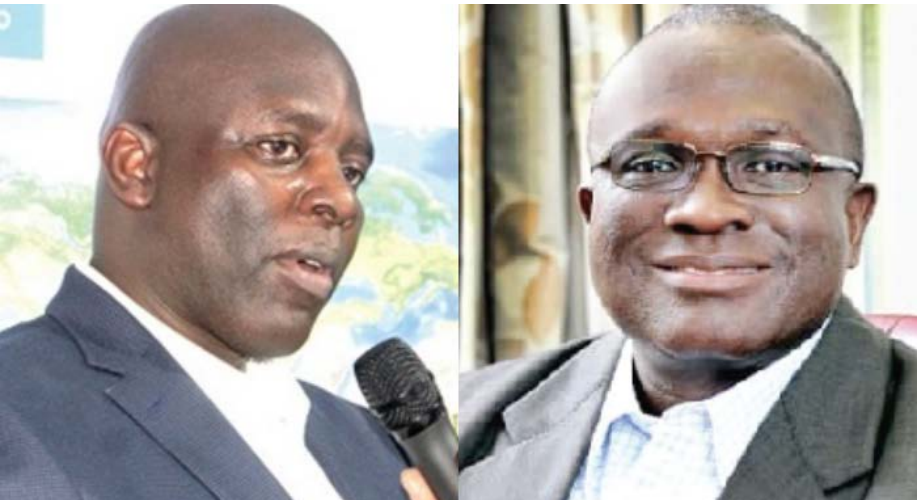
the 1992 Constitution means changing the core architecture of the country’s system of governance. He added that a durable constitution is one that citizens recognise as their own. “With that principle in mind, I believe the current process already provides, and can continue to provide, the consultation the reforms require,” he said.

He pointed out that the CRC engaged citizens across several regions and met professional bodies, past presidents and other key stakeholders.

Referendum Gives Citizens the Final Say

Dr Osae-Kwapong further noted that changes to entrenched provisions of the Constitution will require a referendum, giving citizens the final say.

He added that the referendum will also allow different groups to weigh in again, by mobilising for or against the amendments and making their case directly to the public.



Mahama explains why Ghana rejected ‘humiliating’ US health compact

President John Dramani Mahama has disclosed the concerns that led Ghana’s Cabinet to reject a proposed health compact from the United States intended to replace some health funding previously provided through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Speaking at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in New York on Friday, September 25, 2026, President Mahama said the Ministry of Health first reviewed the proposed agreement before submitting a Cabinet Information Paper for consideration.

According to the President, several provisions in the proposed compact were flagged during the Cabinet review, including requirements relating to Ghana’s health data, counterpart funding and the regulatory authority of the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA).

He said one of the provisions required Ghana to provide the United States with its pathogen

profile, which he explained would cover diseases endemic to the country. “It states that we shall give the United States our pathogen profile. It also says we should give our medical records. I mean, who takes another country’s medical records?” he said.

Mr Mahama said the proposed agreement also required Ghana to commit a specified amount of its own resources to the health programme.

Another provision he highlighted concerned the inspection of medicines and other medical products supplied under the arrangement. According to the President, the proposal would have prevented Ghana’s Food and Drugs Authority from inspecting such products.

The President described the terms as unacceptable and said Cabinet rejected the proposal shortly after it was presented.

“It was humiliating, and so it was the compact that was thrown out in record time in our Cabinet,” Mahama said during his address at the CFR.

“I’ve never seen anything thrown out as fast as that. And

so, of course, we rejected it,” he stressed.

He said the Health Minister was subsequently directed to inform the US Ambassador that Ghana would not accept the proposed arrangement and would instead manage its health needs through its own systems and other partnerships.

The proposed compact was discussed in the context of the withdrawal of USAID funding and Ghana’s efforts to strengthen domestic capacity in

healthcare. President Mahama said the loss of US health support had contributed to discussions around greater health sovereignty and increased domestic capacity to produce medicines and vaccines.

The President’s explanation at the CFR provides details of the specific concerns that Ghana raised during its review of the proposed US health agreement.



President John Dramani Mahama

‘Building a congregation of 20,000 will kill you’ – Duncan-Williams tells young pastor

The General Overseer of Action Chapel International, Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams has warned a young pastor against rushing to build a church for 20,000 worshippers, telling him to start smaller and grow his congregation gradually.

Duncan-Williams said the pastor had approached him with plans for a massive church building because he had the financial resources to undertake the project.

But the archbishop questioned the reason behind the ambitious plan and asked the young preacher what he hoped to achieve by having a congregation of 20,000.

“I said, ‘Why do you want to build a congregation of 20,000?’ He didn’t know why. He just had the money,” Duncan-Williams recounted during a church service. He said he challenged the pastor’s thinking and told him that having the resources to undertake a huge project was not enough reason to do so.

“Your motive is wrong,” he told the young preacher. Duncan-Williams said the pastor needed to understand the demands that come with leading a very large congregation before attempting to build one.

“20,000 congregation. Do you know what it means? It will kill you,” he recalled telling him. He also warned the young pastor about the pressure associated with operating a mega church, urging him not to assume that the visible size of an established ministry tells the full story.

“Do you know the stress and the pressure?” he asked.

Duncan-Williams subsequently advised the preacher to set a more realistic target based on the size of his existing congregation. He said the pastor’s congregation was about 1,000 people and advised him to build a church for 2,000 worshippers instead.

“Build a church of 2,000. And take your time,” he said in a video captured a recent sermon. The archbishop also cautioned the young pastor against trying to replicate his own ministry

without understanding the demands that came with it.

“You want to be like me. Can you drink the cup I drink?” he asked. Duncan-Williams said his advice was intended to help younger pastors avoid difficulties he had experienced in his own journey.

“Somebody has to tell you young pastor some of these things because you see, I don’t want

you to go through what I went through. I want you to avoid it,” he said.

He added that younger pastors did not need to repeat his experiences and should instead learn from the lessons he had gathered over the years. “I want you to be better than me,” Duncan-Williams said.



The General Overseer of Action Chapel International, Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams

Speaker Bagbin got it wrong by rejecting our narcotics inquiry motion - Afenyo Markin



Minority addressing the press

Minority Leader Alexander Afenyo-Markin has criticised Speaker Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin’s decision to dismiss a Private Member’s Motion seeking a parliamentary inquiry into a series of narcotics seizures linked to Ghana.

According to the Effutu MP, the ruling improperly restricted Parliament’s constitutional mandate to scrutinise the administration and effectiveness of public institutions connected to the incidents.

Speaking to the press after the Speaker’s ruling during Parliament’s emergency sitting on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, Mr Afenyo-Markin described the development as “a sad day for democracy and parliamentary oversight”.

He also accused the Majority Caucus of relying on its numerical strength, with the support of the Speaker, to limit Parliament’s ability to exercise its oversight responsibilities.

“Mr Speaker tells us that there are certain matters before the court but he does not explain to us how these matters oust the constitutional jurisdiction of Parliament to enquire into the conduct, administration and effectiveness of public institutions involved in the matter.

“The Majority are resisting scrutiny and they quickly welcomed the Speaker’s decision and moved to adjourn the sitting,” he said.

Parliament’s oversight mandate Mr Afenyo-Markin maintained that the motion submitted by

the Minority was not intended to interfere with criminal proceedings or determine the guilt or innocence of anyone facing prosecution.

Rather, he said, the proposed inquiry was aimed at determining whether public institutions responsible for preventing and combating narcotics trafficking had effectively performed their duties.

He cited Articles 93(2) and 103 of the 1992 Constitution as the basis for Parliament’s legislative and oversight functions, pointing specifically to Article 103(3), which empowers parliamentary committees to investigate and inquire into the activities and administration of ministries, departments and agencies.

He also referred to Article 103(6), which gives parliamentary committees powers, rights and privileges similar to those of the High Court for purposes including compelling witnesses to appear, examining them and requiring documents to be produced.

“These provisions we submit are important because the motion we filed before the House does not seek to try any accused person.

“It does not ask Parliament to determine criminal liability, pronounce upon the guilt or innocence of any person, assess the credibility of prosecution witnesses or decide upon evidence that is properly before a court. The import of our motion is institutional oversight,” he said.

What the inquiry would have examined The Minority Leader said the proposed committee would have investigated the operations of institutions responsible for

narcotics control, customs administration, port and airport security, intelligence gathering, maritime surveillance and border protection.

He said the inquiry was particularly necessary in light of a series of major narcotics incidents recorded since January 2025.

Mr Afenyo-Markin acknowledged that Parliament and the courts have different constitutional responsibilities, arguing that the existence of criminal cases should not automatically prevent Parliament from examining the performance of public institutions.

“We submit that as far as we know, the courts are concerned with the criminal liability of particular accused persons but Parliament is concerned with the performance, administration and accountability of public institutions,” he said.

“These are separate constitutional functions even where they arise from some of the same underlying factors,” he said.

He further challenged the interpretation of the subjudice principle applied in rejecting the motion.

According to him, the relevant consideration should not simply be whether a matter is before a court, but whether the proposed parliamentary investigation could prejudice the outcome of those proceedings.

“The proper question is not simply whether there is a case in court; the proper question is whether the particular parliamentary enquiry would prejudice a determination of that

case,” he said.

The Minority Leader argued that Parliament could have established safeguards to ensure that the proposed committee did not investigate the guilt or otherwise of accused persons, comment on evidence before the courts or disclose information capable of prejudicing ongoing proceedings.

He added that the committee could also have conducted its proceedings in camera where issues involving national security or ongoing investigations arose.

Mr Afenyo-Markin said such measures would have enabled Parliament to carry out its oversight mandate while respecting the authority and independence of the courts.

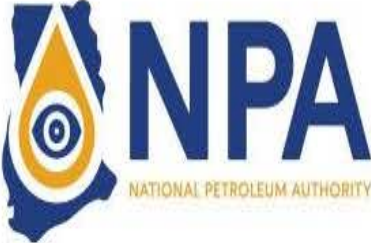
He said the inquiry could instead have concentrated on “container scanning procedures, customs control, port access systems, cargo inspection, intelligence sharing, institutional coordination, freight forwarding regulation, export controls, warehouse security, maritime supervision” and the ability of state institutions to identify financiers and organisers of large-scale narcotics networks.

“None of those institutional systems is an accused person before a court. The scanning regime at our port is not on trial. The effectiveness of customs risk profiling is not on trial,” he said.

“The inter-agency intelligence sharing is not on trial. The adequacy of narcotics institutional capacity is not on trial. The integrity of our export control system is not on trial.”

PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

(As of 25th September, 2026)

 NPA NATIONAL PETROLEUM AUTHORITY	AVERAGE FOB PRICES FOR THE PERIOD 16TH SEPTEMBER 2026 (27TH AUGUST - 11TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AVERAGES) WINDOW	AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 1ST OCTOBER 2026 (12TH - 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AVERAGES)	% CHANGE
FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)	11,4849	11.6321	-1.27%
Crude Oil (USD/BBL)	104.01	124.20	19.42%
Petrol (USD/MT)	1,275.43	1,306.38	2.43%
Gasoil (USD/MT)	1,418.07	1,516.05	6.91%
LPG (USD/MT)	717.59	778.98	8.55%
Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)	1,453.11	1,596.35	9.86%
Fuel Oil (USD/MT)	578.18	620.98	7.40%
Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)			

Note: "Oil prices fell about 2% on mounting hopes for a truce between the US and Iran and talk about a possible US ban on diesel exports, even as traders worried that increasing attacks against Saudi Arabia by Houthi fighters could disrupt supply from the Middle Eastern producer." - Reuters

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Queiroz rejects calls to resign after Black Stars collapse against Gambia

Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz has dismissed calls for his resignation following Ghana's disappointing 4-2 defeat to The Gambia in the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier.

Ghana surrendered a two-goal advantage at the Accra Sports Stadium on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, as The Gambia produced a second-half comeback to secure all three points.

Despite the result, Queiroz said stepping down would not address the broader challenges confronting Ghanaian football, insisting that the defeat should instead provide lessons for the team and his technical staff.

“When we have one result like this, and the option is to resign, it is the easiest solution,” he said. “If you believe that with the coach resigning, you can change the situation of football in Ghana, I’ll be the first one to resign. I don’t have that belief.” The Portuguese coach said any decision regarding his position ultimately rests with the Ghana Football Association and would depend on an assessment of the team’s results and performance.

“That is a decision that should be for the board of the federation to analyse and decide with me. The future of one coach is always in the hands of God and the results,” he said.

Queiroz also rejected suggestions that the heavy defeat should define his record as a coach. “And this defeat doesn’t make me a loser,” he said. “This defeat makes me more alert to the lessons that we take from the games and what we have to do in the future, with me or without me.”

He urged the team to use the setback as an opportunity to identify and correct its weaknesses rather than dwell on the outcome. “You win, or you learn,” Queiroz said. The Black Stars appeared firmly in control during the opening half after Ernest Nuamah and Felix Afena-Gyan scored to give Ghana a 2-0 lead. However, The Gambia turned the game around after the break, scoring four goals to complete a remarkable comeback.

Queiroz said Ghana had performed well during the first half but lost control of the match after errors allowed the visitors

to gain momentum.

“In the first half we did it much better. We led the game, we controlled the game. We scored two goals when it was the belief of the staff, the players and even the fans that we go for three or four,” he said.

With Ghana’s remaining

qualifiers still ahead, the coach said the team must use the defeat to improve its preparation and organisation.

“As a result, we cannot take a step back. But what we can do is to be better prepared, better organised for the next games and win the next games. This is what we have,” he said.



Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz

Gambia defeat doesn’t make me a loser – Carlos Queiroz

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Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz



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AFCON qualifier: Ghana suffer humiliating 4-2 defeat to Gambia

Ghana's Black Stars suffered a 4-2 defeat to The Gambia in their 2027 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier at the Accra Sports Stadium on Tuesday, September 29.

The defeat leaves Ghana without a win after their opening two Group C matches, following a 2-0 loss to Côte d'Ivoire in Bouaké.

Ghana started brightly and took the lead in the 27th minute after Ernest Nuamah converted from the penalty spot.

Felix Afena-Gyan doubled the advantage six minutes later, curling a free-kick into the net to put the Black Stars 2-0 ahead.

The Gambia responded after being awarded a penalty

following a foul inside Ghana's box, with Colley converting to reduce the deficit.

The visitors then completed the comeback before half-time, scoring again to level the game at 2-2.

The Gambia carried their momentum into the second half, adding two more goals to seal a 4-2 victory over the Black Stars.

The result leaves Ghana without a point from their first two qualification matches and piles pressure on Carlos Queiroz's side as they seek to secure one of the two qualification places available from Group C.

The 2027 AFCON finals will be jointly hosted by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.



ENTERTAINMENT

Veteran musician Sly Collins calls for end to hate speech, backs Mahama's vision for Africa

Veteran musician Sly Collins has thrown his support behind calls for an end to hate speech and divisive rhetoric, urging Africans to promote peace, unity and ideas that can contribute to the continent's growth and development.

In a message titled "Blessed Africa," the musician described Africa as a blessed continent and called on its people to protect its peace while working collectively towards development.

"Africa is blessed by the special grace of the Most High God. Africa is the best place for us all. Why the blindfolding? Live and let us live. Stop destroying Africa, because it is the land of peace," Collins wrote.

He also appealed to African leaders to unite and pursue initiatives that would improve the lives of people across the continent.

"Enough is enough," he stated, while expressing his support for what he described as President John Dramani Mahama's ideology for the growth of Africa.

Collins further called for peace in Ghana, across

Africa and throughout the world, stressing that unity remains essential to achieving sustainable development.

"Africa + Peace, Ghana + Peace & The World + Peace. Asomdwe Nkoa... Peace & Unity. We need my people," he wrote.

His message comes amid renewed calls for responsible public communication and an end to hate speech, with the veteran musician advocating peaceful coexistence and greater unity among Africans.

He also encouraged the public to listen to the patriotic songs of Obiba, linking music and patriotism to his broader call for peace, national unity and development.

For Collins, Africa's progress depends on its people rejecting divisive communication, embracing peaceful coexistence and supporting ideas that can contribute to the continent's development.



Veteran musician Sly Collins

Shatta Wale calls for balanced legal framework to tackle social media abuse

Ghanaian musician and entrepreneur Charles Nii Armah Mensah Jr., popularly known as Shatta Wale, has appealed to President John Dramani Mahama to support the development of a balanced legal framework to address defamation, harassment and abuse on social media.

In an open letter dated September 28, 2026, addressed to President Mahama and copied to key state institutions, the musician said efforts to tackle abusive online conduct must be pursued without undermining freedom of expression.

His appeal follows President Mahama’s recent comments at a town hall meeting with the Ghanaian community in New York, where the President raised concerns about misinformation, insults and other forms of abusive communication on TikTok and other digital platforms.

Shatta Wale argued that public ridicule and the spread of unverified allegations did not begin with social media. He said similar conduct had previously been associated with sections of entertainment commentary before the rapid growth of digital platforms expanded its reach. He noted that social media

now allows individuals to disseminate information instantly to large audiences, exposing traditional leaders, businesspeople, journalists, public officials and ordinary citizens to various forms of online abuse.

While acknowledging the constitutional protection of freedom of speech and media freedom, Shatta Wale said those rights should not be used to justify threats, harassment or the deliberate circulation of harmful false information.

He called for Parliament, the Judiciary, security agencies, media organisations and civil society groups to collaborate on a clearly defined legal framework to deal with serious and proven cases of online misconduct.

He also advocated independent judicial oversight and strict adherence to due process whenever sanctions are imposed.

At the same time, the musician urged policymakers to ensure that legitimate criticism, journalism, satire and political expression remain protected. “No citizen should be punished for criticising a President, public official or public figure,” he said in the letter.

Shatta Wale further proposed engagement with social media companies operating in Ghana

on issues including account verification and cooperation with lawful, court-approved requests to identify accounts involved in proven cases of harassment or defamation. However, he cautioned against making anonymity a condition that citizens must surrender before participating in public discourse. On possible sanctions, he suggested that Parliament could consider proportionate penalties if certain forms of online misconduct are eventually classified as criminal offences.

Among his proposals were short custodial sentences of no more than one month, although he stressed that the primary purpose of any sanction should be deterrence and correction rather than punishment for its own sake.

Shatta Wale also referred to Ghana’s repeal of criminal libel in 2001, urging

policymakers to ensure that any new legislation does not effectively recreate criminal libel through another legal mechanism. He called for greater public education on responsible social media use and urged the government to involve stakeholders in the creative industry at an early stage of any discussions on legal reforms. “The goal is not to silence citizens, but to restore responsibility to our public conversation while preserving the freedoms on which our democracy stands,” he said. Shatta Wale concluded by expressing his readiness to contribute to the national discussion on finding a balance between protecting citizens from online abuse and safeguarding fundamental freedoms.



Ghanaian musician, Shatta Wale

You are a fool if you insult people under their posts on social media – Kwaw Kese

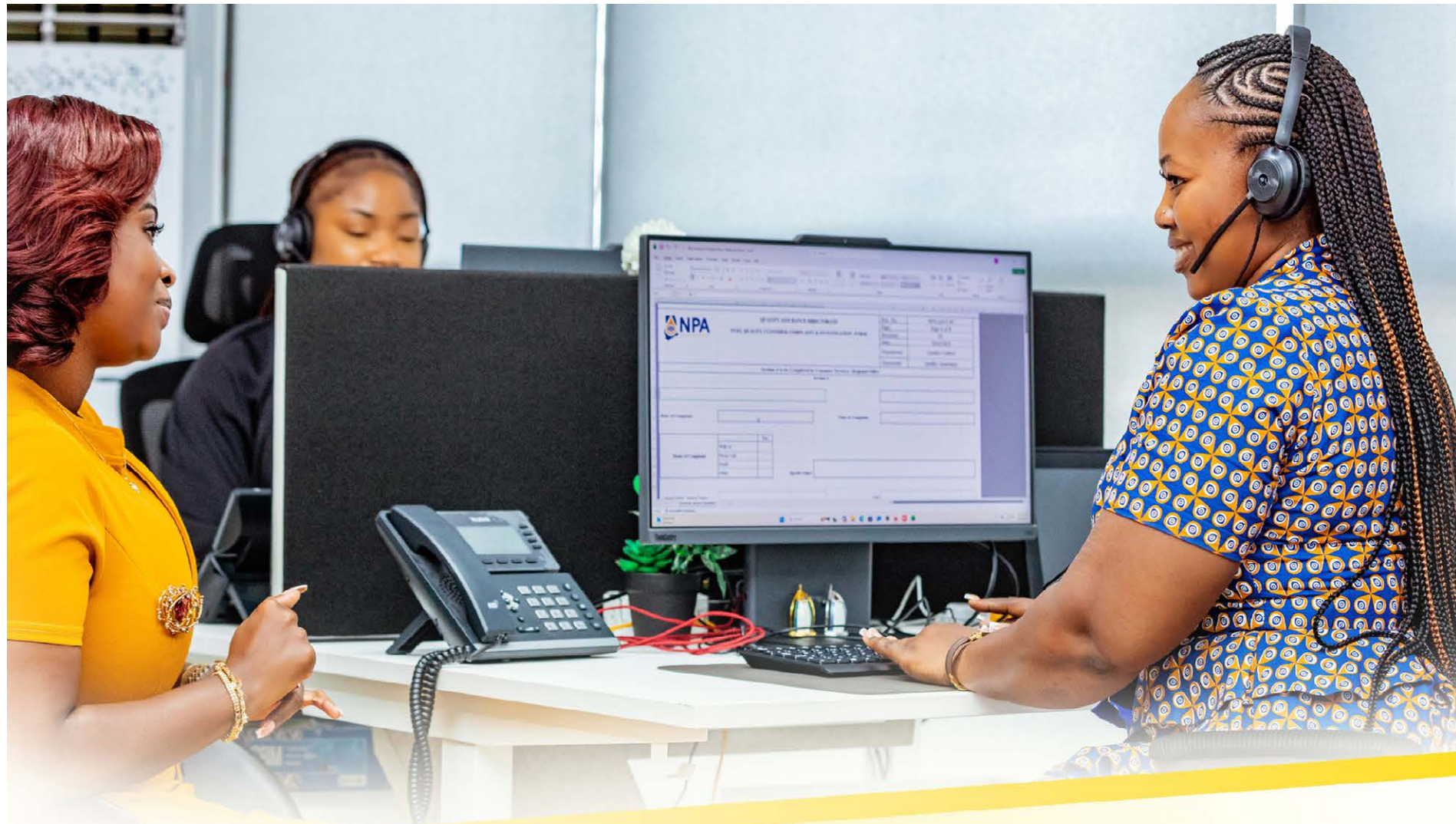
has urged social media users to separate disagreements over opinions from personal attacks, saying online conversations should allow room for constructive criticism and meaningful dialogue. The musician made the remarks in a post on X while expressing concern about the way some people respond when confronted with views they disagree with. According to Kwaw Kese, people should be able to challenge opinions, identify weaknesses in arguments and offer alternative perspectives without resorting to insults directed at the person expressing the view.

“If you can’t dialogue, constructively criticize or share your opinion without insulting someone under their post then you are a fool. I’m sorry but it is what it is,” he wrote. His comments have since reignited discussion about the tone of conversations on social media, particularly around controversial matters and issues involving public figures. While some users agreed with the rapper that online disagreements should be handled through reasoned discussion, others questioned the wording of his message. Critics noted that his description of people who insult others as “fools” appeared inconsistent

with his appeal for respectful engagement.



Ghanaian rapper Kwaw Kese



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