

CHEREPONI DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Office of the District Chief Executive

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REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Post Office Box CP 1
Chereponi, NE/R.
Dig. Add: NC-0000-2997
Tel: 0372094452
chereponida1@gmail.com

Date: 1st June, 2022.

STATEMENT ON JOY NEWS DOCUMENTARY ON THE ILLEGAL EXPORT OF GRAINS THROUGH CHERPONI

For Immediate Release

The Chereponi District Authority has taken note of a documentary aired on Joy News, snippets of which have been shared on social media, which focuses on the export of grains to neighbouring countries in contravention of the express directives of the Government.

While we appreciate the need to shine a spotlight on matter of both local and critical national importance, we'd like to offer some clarification and context on the issues raised in the report. We believe this is important to inform discourse on the issue.

The Authority is well aware of the state of the roads in the district. Indeed, the Authority has been actively pressing the case with the relevant authorities and we are confident that in due course, necessary action will be taken to bring relief to citizens and businessmen who rely on it. Unfortunately, this has given cover to miscreants who seek to take advantage of challenges to line their own pockets. We have therefore seen some people, in breach of government's directives, attempt to illegally send grain across our borders.

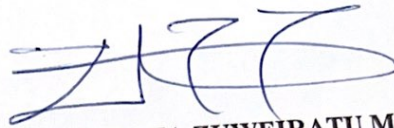
In response, the Authority, led by the District Chief Executive, engaged with the security agencies in the district, chief among them the leadership of the Ghana Revenue Authority and the Ghana Police Service. We are happy to note that their efforts have achieved some success and attempted exports are intercepted daily.

Further to this, the Authority is constituting a sub-committee under the District Security Council to directly oversee the effort to eradicate this problem and ensure that our grains are kept at home to shore up food security. We hope also to engage the Ministry of Defence to assess the possibility of assistance from the military battalion currently deployed in the district for peace keeping.

The Authority wishes to assure the general public that it is fully committed to ensuring the security of the district and that it will not renege on its role in protecting the food security of the country.

We will also continue to, in collaboration with the central government, work actively to disincentivise such activities in the district. We would appreciate the cooperation and support of all stakeholders, including the media and the public as we take on this task.

Wednesday, 1st June, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and lines.

HON. HAJIA ZUWEIRATU MADA NASHIRU
(DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVE)

TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES