



The Ghanaian Community in Geneva *Newsletter*

May 2017 Edition

GHANAIS IN GENEVA WELCOME PRESIDENT NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO



GHANAIS IN GENEVA MEET PRESIDENT NANA ADDO



The Ghanaian Community in Geneva and Ghanaians from many other parts of Switzerland, including Lausanne, Bern and Zurich happily welcomed President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo to Geneva. The President and his entourage were in Geneva to attend the fifth edition of the Africa CEO's Forum scheduled for 20 – 21 March 2017.

Despite his busy schedule, President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo made time to interact with the Ghanaian Community. The meeting commenced with a brief welcome address by Ambassador Sammie Eddico, Ambassador of Ghana Permanent Mission to Geneva, followed by an opening prayer by Pastor Eddie Techie-Menson of Lighthouse Chapel. The President of the Ghanaian Community in Geneva, Mr Kofi Amekudzi, thanked President Nana Addo for making time to meet the Ghanaian Community in Geneva and Switzerland.

On behalf of the Community, Mr. Amekudzi congratulated President Nana Addo on his victory in the December 2016 elections and noted that Geneva is unique because it is home to many Ghanaians, with a considerable wealth of development experience, working with the United Nations and other International Organizations (in addition to those in the private sector), who could contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of Ghana.

President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo informed the gathering that his Government looked forward to moving Ghana forward. The President stated that the future of Ghana is one of limitless possibilities and we should work hard to achieve good results. He reminded Ghanaians that the New Patriotic Party (NPP) had a track record of fulfilling its promises to Ghanaians in the past and his Government will not be an exception. He stated that he has big plans for Ghana and outlined his policies for Ghanaians in the diaspora. Addressing concerns about the size of his Government, the President indicated that the size of his Government was proportional to the task ahead. The Minister for Employment and Labour Relations and the Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Investment Promotion Center also had opportunities to dialogue with the Community.

Members of the Community sought clarity on how the new Government intends to deal with the Galamsey menace facing the country. The President assured Ghanaians that his Government is committed to ending the Galamsey menace facing the country.

At the end of the event, Ambassador Sammie Eddico, thanked the Ghanaian community and President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo shook hands with Ghanaians as he left the event.



GHANAIS IN GENEVA MEET PRESIDENT NANA ADDO



All pictures are available on the GCG facebook page and would be available on the GCG website to be launched on 1st July 2017

GHANA@60 INTER-DENOMINATIONAL SERVICE



The Ghanaian Community in Geneva marked 60 years of independence with an Inter-denominational Church service. The theme was Righteousness exalts a nation (Proverbs 14:34). Speaking at the service, Pastor Frank Adu-Gyamfi reminded Ghanaians that through righteousness, Ghana will be exalted. He defined righteousness as the quality of being morally right and urged all Ghanaians to aspire to do the right thing. He stated that sin is inevitable but one does not have to remain in sin.

In his conclusion, Pastor Adu-Gyamfi encouraged all Ghanaians to renew their minds and do the right thing and contribute towards making Ghana a much better place.



All pictures are available on the GCG facebook page and would be available on the GCG website to be launched on 1st July 2017

GHANA@60 RECEPTION & PARTY



**Ambassador Sammie Eddico
delivering his message**



**His Excellency Ambassador Jean
Marie Ehoussou—Guest of Honour**



Mr Jude Osei—MC

A reception was held soon after the Ghana@60 Inter-denominational Church service to celebrate 60 years of Independence. It was attended by Ghanaians in Geneva and its environs, friends of Ghana and members of the diplomatic corps. The reception offered Ghanaians an opportunity to listen to short inspiring messages on Ghana, enjoy Ghanaian dishes (food), dance to Ghanaian cultural music and be entertained by the African choir. The Guest of Honour at the reception was His Excellency Jean Marie Ehoussou, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Africa Union (AU) Observer Mission in Geneva.

The MC for the event, Mr Jude Osei introduced the Ambassador and Permanent Mission Representative of Ghana, Ambassador Sammie Eddico who, after the welcome address by Dr Gayi, narrated the history of Ghana since independence 60 years ago and recounted the different political experiments the nation had been through. He thanked God for the progress made but reminded Ghanaians that there was still a lot more to do. He outlined the policies and programmes of the new Government and emphasized the diaspora engagement agenda. He informed Ghanaians of the Diaspora Homecoming Summit scheduled for 5th – 8th July 2017 in Accra and encouraged as many Ghanaians as possible to attend. In his concluding remarks, Ambassador Sammie Eddico informed Ghanaians that his tenure as Ambassador was over and he would be leaving Geneva soon.

Dr Mercy Ahun spoke on the theme “reflections on Ghana” and argued that the celebration presented Ghanaians with an opportunity to reset the button on our socio-economic development. She noted that President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo in his Ghana@60 speech stated that “let us mobilize for a happy and prosperous Ghana of tomorrow in which all of us have equal opportunities to realize our potential and build lives of dignity”

She concluded by urging Ghanaians to continue persevering to make our nation a better place.



Cutting of the Ghana@60 Anniversary Cake



GHANA@60 RECEPTION & PARTY



CULTURAL DRUMMING & DANCING



THE AFRICAN CHOIR



THE RED CARPET



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES

The Ghanaian Community is encouraging all members of the Community to kindly settle their dues of CHF100 for the year 2017. This is the only way the Community can continue to organize events for Ghanaians in Geneva and its environs. The bank details are provided below:

GCG - ACCOUNT DETAILS CHF

BANK: POSTFINANCE

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 89-176288-5

IBAN: CH90 0900 0000 8917 6288 5

BIC: POFICHBEXXX

If you prefer to pay your dues in cash, kindly call the number 079 371 39 02 or 0788 420 155 or reach out to your focal point

MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

At the first General Meeting of the Ghanaian Community in Geneva, three individuals were nominated to serve as members of the Electoral Committee after being vetted by the vetting committee which was constituted at the meeting. The vetting committee has completed its task and the Executive Committee is pleased to inform you that the members of the Electoral Committee are:

Ms Marianne Wilson

Mr George Davis

Mr Lord Dartey

GHANA@60 REPUBLIC DAY GAMES

On Saturday 1st July 2017, the Ghanaian Community in Geneva and Convivial Stars will jointly organize the Republic Day “our day” games and bbq for all Ghanaians in Geneva and its environs. You cannot miss this exciting sporting event and bbq. Kindly save the date. We will share more information on the event in due course.

ELECTIONS

The ELECTIONS for the EXECUTIVE of the Ghanaian Community in Geneva will be held before the end of the year. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will provide you additional information in due course

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GHANA DIASPORA HOMECOMING SUMMIT



The Ghanaian Community in Geneva is invited to participate in the Diaspora Summit scheduled for 5—8 July 2017 in Ghana. The Summit will provide an opportunity for Ghanaians in the diaspora to identify existing opportunities in Ghana for investment.

Do not miss this event.

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO HE AMBASSADOR SAMMIE EDDICO



The Executive Committee of the Ghanaian Community in Geneva and Ghanaians in Geneva and its environs wish to thank His Excellency Ambassador Sammie Eddico for his outstanding contribution to the welfare of Ghanaians in Geneva and Switzerland during his tenure as Ambassador.

Through his leadership and guidance, the Ghanaian Community in Geneva (GCG) was born.

We very much appreciate his unwavering commitment to supporting Ghanaians in Switzerland.

It was a pleasure having him as our Ambassador and we wish him the very best in his new endeavours.

Thank You