



Press Release

THE GAMBIA BENCHMARKS GHANA ON ECOWAS ROAMING

Accra, 4th October 2023: The National Communications Authority (NCA), on Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023 started hosting a delegation from The Gambia on a four-day benchmark visit at the NCA Tower. The thirteen-member delegation consists of representatives from the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, and five (5) Service Providers based in The Gambia.

The visit marks the commencement of discussions between the two nations regarding the implementation of ECOWAS Roaming. It also serves as an opportunity to gain insights into Ghana's achievements in this regard, as well as the potential challenges.



***Prof. Ezer Osei Yeboah-Boateng, Deputy Director-General for
Technical Operations, NCA giving his remarks***

Welcoming the delegation, Prof. Ezer Osei Yeboah-Boateng, Deputy Director-General for Technical Operations at the NCA, emphasised the NCA's commitment to knowledge sharing within Africa and beyond. He highlighted the significance of the ECOWAS roaming initiative in the telecommunications sector, which holds great potential for the African economy. Prof. Yeboah-Boateng noted that the initiation of bilateral roaming services between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire is a crucial step toward reducing roaming costs and promoting seamless cross-

border communication between the two nations. He urged all ECOWAS member states to actively support and work towards the full realisation of this initiative. He stated that the NCA is happy to share its experiences with sister regulators from the continent in a bid to improve the telecommunications sector across the continent.



Deputy Director General for PURA, Mr. Solo Sima speaking at the opening ceremony

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Solo Sima, Deputy Director-General for PURA, expressed gratitude on behalf of the delegation for the ongoing collaboration and support from the NCA. He emphasised the value of the relationship between the two countries, highlighting the NCA's expertise in spectrum management, which has benefited The Gambia. Mr. Solo Sima also underscored that this visit represents the first occasion in the sub-region to study the success of ECOWAS roaming after its implementation between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, with the aim of further enhancement.

The four-day benchmark visit will center on various aspects, including the implementation of the ECOWAS roaming agreement, MNOs interoperability in ECOWAS Roaming agreements, fraud management, and international termination rates among other topics.



A group photograph of participants with some Management staff and subject matter experts of the NCA

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Date: 4th October, 2023

About NCA

The National Communications Authority, (NCA), was established by an Act of Parliament, Act 524 in December 1996, which has been repealed and replaced by the National Communications Authority Act, 2008 (Act 769). The Authority is the statutory body mandated to license and to regulate electronic communication activities and services in the country.