



**NATIONAL
COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY**

NEWSLETTER

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**A NEW CHAPTER
BEGINS: MEET THE
CURRENT VISIONARIES
STEERING THE AFFAIRS
OF THE NATIONAL
COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY**

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A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS: MEET THE CURRENT VISIONARIES STEERING THE AFFAIRS OF THE NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

In a momentous wave of change following the assumption of office by His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, the National Communications Authority (NCA) welcomed a new executive leadership team poised to drive innovation, digital transformation, and regulatory excellence.

This unprecedented transition not only signals a refreshed strategic direction but also marks a historic milestone for the Authority especially with the appointment of its first internally elevated Director General.

The new leadership comprises:

- Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko – Acting Director General
- Mr. Suleman Salifu – Acting Deputy Director General, Technical Operations
- Mrs. Etta Mosore – Acting Deputy Director General, Managerial Operations

Here is a closer look at the individuals driving this bold new direction:

Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko – Acting Director General

For the first time in the NCA's history, a homegrown leader has ascended to the helm. Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, an electronic communications engineer has been appointed as the Acting Director General (Ag. DG).

From a National Service Person in 2004 to Director of the Engineering Division and now DG, his rise is a testament to the NCA's culture of excellence and growth.

With over two decades of regulatory, technical, and leadership experience including his current service on the ITU's global Radio Regulations Board, Rev. Ing. Fianko is poised to steer the Authority into a new era of policy innovation, stakeholder engagement, and global relevance.



**Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko
– Acting Director General**

Mr. Suleman Salifu – Acting Deputy Director General, Technical Operations

Appointed in February 2025, Mr. Suleman Salifu brings a deep knowledge of technical and project management expertise to his new role as Deputy Director General, Technical Operations.

With academic roots in Telecommunication Engineering and Engineering Project Management, along with specialised trainings in cybersecurity and renewable energy systems, Mr. Salifu is well-equipped to strengthen the NCA's technical foundation.

His hands-on experience executing mission-critical projects across Africa and the Middle East adds a unique, solutions-driven perspective to the Authority's regulatory and infrastructure strategies.



Mr. Suleman Salifu – Deputy Director General, Technical Operations

Mrs. Etta Mosore – Acting Deputy Director General, Managerial Operations

Mrs. Etta Mosore, a legal and regulatory expert, joined the NCA its executive team as Deputy Director General for Managerial Operations. A dual-qualified barrister with vast experience in telecommunications law, dispute resolution, and corporate governance, Mrs. Mosore offers a balanced blend of legal precision and strategic foresight.

Her career spans key roles in public institutions like CHRAJ and the Attorney General's Department, as well as academia and private sector consultancy. As DDG-MO, she will lead initiatives to enhance regulatory compliance, service delivery, and organizational excellence in line with Act 769 and constitutional governance principles.



Mrs. Etta Mosore – Deputy Director General, Managerial Operations

Forging Ahead

This trio of visionary leaders is set to reimagine the NCA's mission in a rapidly evolving digital ecosystem. With a blend of technical depth, legal acumen, and strategic leadership, the new executive team is committed to ensuring

that Ghana's communications sector remains resilient, inclusive, and globally competitive.

Stay tuned as the NCA embarks on this transformative journey toward a smarter and more connected Ghana.

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATION, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATIONS (MOCDTI) PAYS WORKING VISIT TO NCA



The Minister for Communications, Digital Technology and Innovations, Hon. Sam Nartey George, addressing staff of NCA

On 13th March, 2025, the Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations (MOCDTI), Hon. Sam Nartey George, paid a working visit to the National Communications Authority (NCA) to engage with staff, assess ongoing operations, and discuss the Authority's role in advancing Ghana's digital transformation agenda.

Addressing staff, the Hon. Minister expressed his excitement about visiting the NCA, describing it as a premier institution within the sector agencies. He underscored the need for a complete reset in operations, emphasising that things will not remain the same as Ghana moves toward a digitally inclusive economy.



Acting Director General of the NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Fianko, welcoming the Minister and staff of the NCA

"This is a new dawn; it is possible to reset the industry," he stated, urging NCA staff not to be complacent with assured revenue but to step out of their comfort zones by exploring new innovations and revenue growth strategies.

He highlighted that the future of the communications sector extends beyond traditional regulatory functions, calling on the NCA to focus on value-added services, the Internet of Things (IoT), agritech, fintech, and the expansion of digital frontiers. Additionally, he emphasised the importance of leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data, stressing that Ghana must position itself as a leader in AI and digital transformation.

The Minister further reaffirmed his commitment to supporting young professionals at the NCA, advocating for the creation of more opportunities for youth participation in the digital economy.

He also urged staff to work diligently and uphold professionalism, stating that their work should remain independent of partisan politics to ensure fairness and efficiency in the sector.

During the visit, Hon. Sam Nartey George announced the appointment of Mrs. Etta Mosore as the Acting Deputy Director General in charge of Managerial Operations (DDG-MO) and Mrs. Golda Adjei Sowah as Secretary to the NCA Board.

Welcoming the Minister, the Acting Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Fianko, pledged the Authority's support in pursuing the government's reset agenda. He emphasised that as part of efforts to ensure revenue assurance, the NCA is reviewing its fees and charges, with a dedicated committee working towards a structured revision to enhance financial sustainability and operational efficiency.



A cross-section of staff at the meeting

STRENGTHENING SYNERGIES:

STAKEHOLDERS RALLY BEHIND NCA'S NEW LEADERSHIP

Following the appointment of Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko as Acting Director General of the National Communications Authority (NCA), several key stakeholders and institutions paid courtesy visits to the Authority.

These engagements served not only to extend congratulations but also to reaffirm collaboration and discuss strategic industry matters aimed at enhancing Ghana's digital ecosystem while signalling the industry's readiness to align with his vision for enhanced stakeholder engagement, innovation, and regulatory excellence.

RPI Engages NCA on Radiation Awareness and Collaboration

On 7th April, 2025, the Radiation Protection Institute (RPI), led by Director Dr. Eric Tetteh Glover, visited the NCA to explore joint efforts in public education and radiation safety. The team engaged with Rev. Ing. Fianko on the significance of augmenting public education on radiation to the general public and proposed deeper collaboration in monitoring mobile base stations. Both institutions agreed to demystify radiation issues through targeted awareness, reinforcing their shared mandate to protect public health.

The RPI team included Prof. Stephen Inkoom,



The Acting Director General, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, welcoming the delegation



A section of the delegation

Deputy Director of the Institute; Dr. Samuel Osei, Head of the Non-Ionizing Radiation Unit;

and Dr. Philip Deatanyah, Manager at RPI.



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

GISPA Reaffirms Support for Telecom Development



The Acting Director General, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, welcoming the delegation



A cross-section of the delegation

The Ghana Internet Service Providers Association (GISPA), on 7th April, 2025, visited the NCA to discuss strategic infrastructure needs, including local internet exchanges and reduced equipment tariffs. They advocated for connecting critical services to the Ghana Internet Exchange to enhance resilience. Rev. Ing. Fianko expressed appreciation for the visit and acknowledged

GISPA's significant contributions to the industry. He further welcomed the proposals and emphasised deepened stakeholder collaboration. The delegation comprised Michael Komla Nfodzo (President of GISPA), Emmanuel Kwarteng and Peter David Kotoko (Board Members), and Irene Darko (Administrative Manager at GISPA).



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

ATC Africa Commends NCA and Reaffirms Commitment to Ghana's Telecom Infrastructure



The Acting Director General, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, welcoming the delegation

On 4th April, 2025, ATC Africa CEO, Marek Busfy, led a delegation to congratulate the Director General of the NCA and commend the Authority for its continued objective regulatory approach.

The team raised concerns about site rental costs and shared plans for cost-efficient, multi-tenant towers. Rev. Ing. Fianko acknowledged the company's challenges and reaffirmed the NCA's commitment to ensuring strengthened



A section of the delegation

collaboration with all stakeholders in the telecoms industry.

The delegation also included Ashtutosh Singh (ATC Ghana CEO), Nasreen Sooliman (African

Chief of Staff), Deean Fontaine (Senior Director, Public Affairs and Regulatory Africa), Enid Kanor (Head of Legal, Ghana) and Akua Twumasi (Manager Public Affairs, Ghana).



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

Radio Gold Pledges Support for Public Engagement Initiatives

Radio Gold's management, during their visit on 24th March, 2025, expressed support for the NCA's efforts to increase public awareness. Rev. Ing. Fianko welcomed their pledge to partner on campaigns, emphasizing media collaboration as a key driver in the Authority's strategic outreach.

The delegation from Radio Gold comprised Ransford Boakye, Eric Boateng, Albert Wotorgloui, Nancy Obimpeh, and Sena Nombo.



Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation



Rev. Ing. Fianko in a discussion with the delegation

Rohde & Schwarz Reaffirms Technical Support and Academic Investment

On 14th March, 2025, Rohde & Schwarz paid a courtesy call on the Rev. Ing. Edund Yirenkyi Fianko to congratulate him on his appointment and discuss future collaboration. The institution's expertise in test and measurement as well as technology systems, which the NCA has also utilised in carrying out its mandate was acknowledged, and the NCA expressed interest in exploring more capacity-building and technology support initiatives.



Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation



A section of the delegation



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

EY Ghana Highlights Digital Solutions and Strategic Support

Ernst and Young (EY) Ghana's partners visited the NCA on 12th March, 2025, to introduce the firm and discuss issues of operational digitisation. Rev. Ing. Fianko highlighted NCA's focus on service automation and flexible online payments.

EY outlined its capabilities and expressed readiness to support the Authority's transformation agenda. The EY Ghana delegation which included Dr. Pamela des Bordes (Partner, Assurance),



Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation

Michael Sackey (Partner, Consulting) and Alice Osei Okrah (Partner, Strategy and Transactions) presented their range of services, and indicated

their preparedness to work with the NCA.



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

NPRA Leadership Pays Courtesy Call on NCA Acting Director General



A section of the delegation



Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation

On 12th March, 2025, a delegation from the National Pensions Regulatory Authority (NPRA), led by Mr. Chris Boadi-Mensah, Acting CEO paid a courtesy call on the Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, to foster collaboration between the NPRA

and the NCA, providing an opportunity for both institutions to engage on key industry issues.

The NPRA delegation included Victor Azumah Majida (Acting Deputy CEO), Madam Joyce B.

Laryea, Mr. G.A. Dagabu, Mr. A.K. Nkrumah, Mr. Hayford Amankwah, Mr. Philemon Laar and

Mr. Christopher T. Amoako.



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

Afriwave Telecom Discusses Revenue and Tariff Strategies



The Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation

The Leadership of Afriwave Telecom paid a courtesy call on 11th March, 2025, with CEO Francis Poku highlighting the need for tariff reviews and efficient revenue mobilisation.

Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirekyi Fianko expressed optimism about effective solutions under his leadership and welcomed continued dialogue to ensure sectoral sustainability.

The Afriwave delegation was led by Francis Poku (CEO) accompanied by Delali Blekpe (Chief Operating Officer), Sulley Abdulai (Legal and Regulatory Manager), Henry Searyoh (Commercial Director), Thomas Gyabaah (Chief Financial Officer), and Kwame Anokye (Chief Technology Officer).



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

Digital Realty Outlines Data Centre Capabilities



The Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Fianko, welcoming the delegation

On 11th March, 2025, the management of Digital Realty Ghana visited the NCA to introduce its global data centre operations to the NCA. The lead, Mr. Joseph Koranteng, Managing Director of the company, pledged support for Ghana's data infrastructure development.



Mr. Joseph Koranteng, Managing Director of Digital Realty Ghana, speaking at the meeting

Rev. Ing. Fianko welcomed their value proposition and affirmed the NCA's readiness to collaborate with key industry players to drive

innovation, strengthen cybersecurity measures, and improve telecom services across the country.



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

ASCOG Visits to Extend Congratulations to NCA Acting DG



A picture of the Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, with the delegation from ASCOG

A four-member delegation from the Association of Submarine Cable Operators of Ghana (ASCOG), led by its Chairman, Mr. Emmanuel Kwarteng, paid a courtesy call on 28th February,

2025 to congratulate Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko.

The visit also provided an opportunity to discuss



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

key challenges related to undersea cable systems and technical cooperation.
and explore ways of strengthening regulatory

Vobiss Solutions Ltd Pledges Support

A delegation from Vobiss Solutions, led by the Co-Founder and Country Director, Kingsley Asah, visited Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenskyi Fianko on 28th February, 2025 to offer congratulations and discuss developments in the telecom space. The team reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the Authority's work and contributing to the growth of Ghana's digital sector.

Mr. Kingsley Asah, was accompanied by Mr. Emmanuel Aidoo (Chief Technology Officer) and Mr. Foster Teteve (Chief Commercial & Strategy



A picture of the Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenskyi Fianko, with the delegation from Vobiss Solutions

Officer). The delegation opened the meeting by recognising the significant progress Vobiss has made in the telecom sector, and reassured the NCA of their steadfast support for the industry.



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

MTN Ghana Congratulates Ag. Director General

The Management of Scancom PLC (MTN Ghana), led by CEO Mr. Stephen Blewett, paid a courtesy call on Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko to congratulate him on his appointment as Acting

Director General of the NCA. The delegation reaffirmed MTN's support for the Authority and expressed readiness to collaborate under the new leadership to further the industry's growth.



A picture of the Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, with the delegation from MTN Ghana



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

GBC Explores Collaboration with NCA



Prof. Amin Alhassan giving his remarks on behalf of the delegation

On 27th February, 2025, a three-member delegation from Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), led by the Director General, Prof. Amin Alhassan, visited Rev. Ing. Edmund Fianko to discuss collaboration between the two institutions and congratulate him on his appointment. Both parties agreed on the need to enhance consumer education and strengthen cooperation between the broadcast and telecom



Rev. Ing. Fianko welcoming the delegation

sectors for the benefit of the public.

Accompanying Prof. Alhassan were Ing. Augustus Yawson (Deputy Director General) and Ing. Eric Odonkor (Acting Director for Engineering), who reiterated GBC's readiness to support the NCA in key initiatives related to digital transformation, spectrum management, and media policy advocacy.



The delegation in a group photo with the NCA's Ag. Director General

Next Gen Infracore Engages on 5G Infrastructure



Senior management from Next Gen Infracore (NGIC), Ghana's 5G wholesale infrastructure provider, visited the NCA on 25th February, 2025 to congratulate Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko. Discussions focused on the deployment of 5G technology and fostering a robust collaboration to support national broadband objectives.

The delegation from NGIC expressed their full support for the NCA's leadership under Rev.

Ing. Fianko. Both parties recognised the need for continued collaboration in advancing Ghana's digital transformation considering that 5G technology plays a critical role in bridging the digital divide and driving economic growth.

The meeting was attended by Tenu Awoonor (Chief Executive Officer), Harkirit Singh (Executive Director and Advisor – Technology and Strategy) as well as George Andah, Michael Kwablah, Kwame Mintah, and Georgia Webb.



Accra Internet Exchange and PAIX Data Centres Pay Courtesy Call

On 14th February, 2025, a delegation from the Accra Internet Exchange (Accra-IX) and PAIX Data Centres visited Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko to express their congratulations.

Addressing local participation in the internet exchange, Mr. Tawiah highlighted the remarkable growth of Accra-IX, which has evolved from zero traffic to an active membership. Rev. Ing. Fianko

also reaffirmed the NCA's commitment to a fair, inclusive, and innovation-friendly regulatory environment and emphasised the Authority's support for technological advancement and operator growth.

Mr. Tawiah was accompanied by Mr. Daniel Duah and Mr. Silas Peprah, both Advisory Board Members of Accra-IX.



AT Pays Courtesy Call on NCA's Ag. Director General



The Acting Director General at the National Communications Authority (NCA), Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, received a delegation from AT on 14th February, 2025, at the NCA Tower. The visit aimed to extend congratulations on his appointment and discuss key issues within the telecommunications industry.

Heading the delegation, AT's CEO, Leo Skarlatos, conveyed his enthusiasm for Rev. Ing. Fianko's appointment, describing it as a strong vote of confidence in the industry, given his extensive knowledge and experience.

AT Ghana Commends New Leadership

A delegation from AT Ghana, led by CEO Mr. Leo Skarlatos, visited the NCA to congratulate Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko on 20th February. Mr. Skarlatos noted that the appointment reflects industry confidence in Rev. Fianko's leadership and experience. Discussions centred on sectoral collaboration and aligning regulatory priorities with industry realities.

The delegation consisted of Mr. Emmanuel Adjei (Chief Legal and Regulatory Officer), Madam Cynthia Degbor Akafia (Director Legal and Regulatory), Madam Ethel Anamo (Chief Business Officer) and Mr. Emmanuel Owusu (Chief Technical Officer).



Ghana National Fire Service Pays Courtesy Visit to Congratulate Ag. Director General

The Ghana National Fire Service (GNFS), led by DOII Desmond Ackah, paid a courtesy call on 4th February, 2025 to congratulate Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko and discuss emergency communication protocols.

Rev. Ing. Fianko acknowledged the crucial role the Authority plays in the dissemination of information during emergencies and affirmed that the Authority remains fully prepared to provide the necessary support and resources to enhance this effort.

The meeting reaffirmed the importance of inter-agency collaboration in information dissemination and disaster response support.



Telecel Ghana Pays Courtesy Visit

Telecel Ghana paid a courtesy visit on 31st January, 2025 to extend congratulations to Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko.

Rev. Ing. Fianko highlighted the need for closer engagement between Operators and the Regulator to ensure that decisions made reflect mutual interests. He encouraged Telecel to participate more actively in consultative processes to shape industry development.



A picture of the Ag. Director General of NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, and Chairman & Co-founder of the Telecel Group, Nicolas Bour



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

Helios Towers Introduces New MD, Congratulates NCA Ag. DG

On 4th February, 2025, Helios Towers Ghana paid a courtesy call on Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko, congratulating him and introducing their new Managing Director, Mr. Kwaku Frimpong.

Mr. Kwaku Frimpong expressed enthusiasm about the prospects of aligning strategies with the NCA to effectively address industry challenges and emphasised Helios Towers' commitment to advancing the goals of the Regulator through continued investments in modern infrastructure

and adherence to best practices in their service



Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko giving his remarks



Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko (middle) with Mr. Salifu Suleman (right) and Mr. Kwaku Frimpong (left) in a picture



A group photograph of some Management Staff of NCA and the delegation from Helios Towers Ghana

delivery.

Rev. Ing. Edmund Yirenkyi Fianko acknowledged that the courtesy call signifies a pivotal moment in fostering closer ties between Helios Towers and the NCA.

The meeting featured fruitful discussions on regulatory frameworks, infrastructure investment, and aligning strategies for sustained sector growth.



National Communications Authority

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ARTICLE

GHANA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE ECOWAS FREE ROAMING INITIATIVE: WHAT IT IS, AND THE BENEFITS TO OUR PEOPLE

Today's digital environment is reliant on telecommunications to facilitate unhindered communication and information sharing. Governments across the globe are forming agreements and implementing policies on trade restrictions, tariffs and regulations that will help reduce barriers between nations to create a more unified and interconnected region.

As a vital prerequisite in regional integration, telecommunications is essential for enhancing connectivity, enabling efficient communication and fostering cooperation among countries. Over the years, efforts are being made by neighbouring countries to collaborate to establish a seamless communication environment where barriers related to mobile usage including roaming fees are minimised or eliminated.

What is Roaming?

According to the Telecommunications Standardization Sector (ITU-T) of the

International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations body that oversees global telecommunications, International Mobile Roaming (IMR), simply called Roaming, is a service that a subscriber to postpaid or prepaid mobile services purchases from a mobile operator in their home country, that is, from the 'home operator'. It allows the subscriber to continue to use their mobile phone and phone number to access voice and the short message service (SMS) while visiting another country by accessing a mobile operator's network in the visited country, that is, the network of the 'visited operator'. Furthermore, there are IMR services that allow a subscriber to continue to use their mobile devices, such as mobile phone, to access data services while in another country by accessing a visited operator's network.

The most well-known form of roaming is International Roaming. This is facilitated by agreements between Mobile Network Operators

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Togo and Benin

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Logos: NCA, Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Togo, MTN, telecel

(MNOs) in different countries and regions which enables users to use a foreign network while being charged by their home network provider.

In almost all jurisdictions, International Roaming is often expensive due to several factors including network agreements, infrastructure costs, consumer demand, limited competition, regulatory factors and other complexities involved in providing service across borders.

The Importance of Roaming

People embark on travels outside their home countries for various reasons such as business, education, and vacations. During these times, and as consumers of telecommunication services, access to connect becomes important especially when there is no access or need to change SIMs. Roaming, when activated on a device, allows you to use the same device and SIM card you use in your home country without having to purchase a new SIM.

What is ECOWAS Free Roaming Initiative?

In 2013, the then Director of the ITU Telecommunications Development Bureau, Mr. Brahima Sanou started a series of dialogues that culminated in the launch of a global initiative in 2015 called “Let’s Roam the World”. The initiative was hinged on an ITU-T recommendation as the principles for lowering IMR rates. The ITU-T recommendation proposes measures that empower consumers to benefit from effective regulation and efficient competition so that they have the information and transparency of international roaming charges as well as measures to improve the way that the international telecommunications market works and proposals for regulatory actions, which may include measures to lower rates (<https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-D.98-201209-I/en>).

In 2016, based on the “Let’s Roam the World” initiative, ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Telecommunications and ICTs adopted the “ECOWAS Free Roaming” at a meeting in Niamey, Niger. The Initiative aims to eliminate expensive international roaming fees for mobile phone users traveling between participating

West African countries, allowing subscribers to make and receive calls at local rates.

In 2017, ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Telecommunications and ICT adopted the ECOWAS Roaming Regulation with the consensus of MNOs. This Regulation aims to facilitate seamless communication, reduce roaming costs, and promote regional integration by setting roaming tariff caps for voice, SMS, and data services within the ECOWAS region. To accelerate implementation, a Phased Approach was recommended at the 18th meeting of ECOWAS Ministers in April 2022. The phased approach has proven effective in executing the 2017 regulations. A guiding framework was developed to provide a roadmap for the project. Key components include a One Area Network for West Africa, treating member states as a single mobile network zone, eliminating roaming fees and surcharges, and allowing reciprocity among eligible member states.

Implementation of ECOWAS Free Roaming Initiative

Since the introduction of the Regulation, Ghana, as an ECOWAS member, has taken steps to implement the Free Roaming Initiative. The National Communications Authority (NCA), with policy direction from the Ministry of Communications and Digitalisation (MoCD), is leading the project.

Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) in Ghana and other participating ECOWAS countries are key stakeholders, crucial for enabling seamless cross-border communication by optimizing networks, updating systems for smooth handovers, restructuring pricing models, and providing customer support. All three MNOs in Ghana—AT, MTN, and Telecel—are involved in the initiative.

Despite implementation challenges, Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire became the first ECOWAS countries to implement the Free Roaming Initiative in June 2023. After the successful implementation and lessons learned, the NCA and Togo’s Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications

(ARCEP) signed an MoU in November 2023 to facilitate further cooperation. In March 2024, the NCA and Benin's ARCEP BENIN signed a similar MoU to continue the initiative.

Ghana's Implementation Status of ECOWAS Roaming

Countries	Implementation Status
Ghana – Cote d'Ivoire	Launched in June 2023
Ghana – Benin	Launched in October 2024
Ghana – Togo	Launched in October 2024
Ghana – The Gambia	MoU signed in November 2024
Ghana – Liberia	Discussions ongoing

How does the Roaming Service work?

Most modern wireless devices can operate on various network technologies and frequency bands, but each device has specific spectrum bands and technologies it supports, which can vary for overseas travel. To roam successfully, your device must be compatible with the network technologies and frequencies of the visited network.

Subscribers do not need to activate the Free Roaming Service in ECOWAS countries with bilateral agreements with Ghana. Roaming charges are automatically waived.

Subscribers in ECOWAS countries implementing the service can receive free calls for up to 30 consecutive days. After 30 days, they must return home for at least 7 days before being charged international rates. While roaming, subscribers are notified of the duration and cost of services used.

It is important to note that all operators in the respective countries were part of the planning and implementation and their billing systems have been adjusted accordingly.

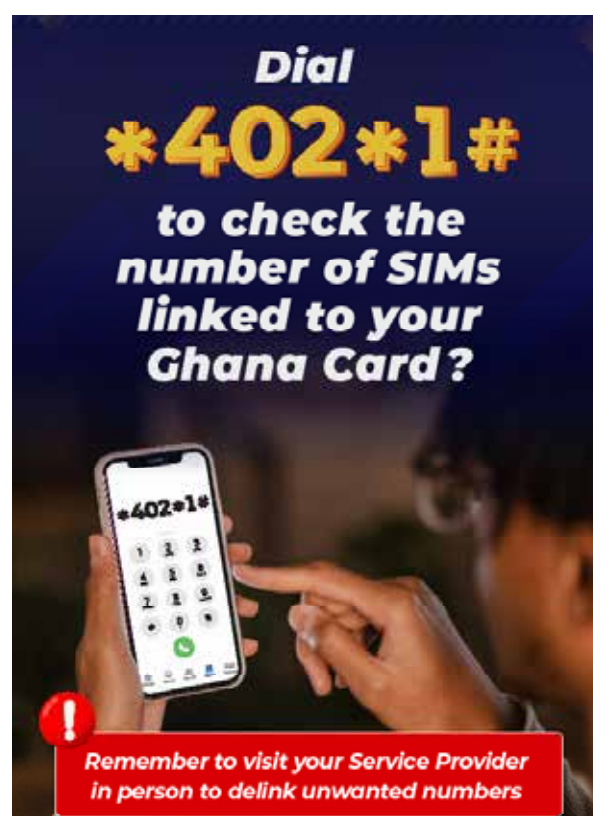
Benefits of Free Roaming to the Consumer

All postpaid and prepaid subscribers who travel within ECOWAS countries who have implemented the Free Roaming Initiative with

Ghana will receive calls without paying roaming charges and will pay the local rates of the visited Country when they initiate a call to Ghana while in the visited country. Again, subscribers travelling between the ECOWAS countries can use their mobile devices without the need to multi-SIM or change their SIM(s).

A seamless cross-border communication will allow our citizens to communicate easily while travelling within the ECOWAS region, without the need for multiple SIM cards or incurring high roaming fees. By eliminating these additional fees, we are able to offer substantial cost savings to our citizens, thereby encouraging more travel, cross-border trade, and economic activity within the ECOWAS region. This initiative symbolises our dedication to advancing and strengthening regional integration within the ECOWAS community. It also reinforces the ECOWAS treaty's ideals and demonstrates the effectiveness of collaboration.

The NCA is hopeful of a seamless experience by roaming subscribers in Cote d'Ivoire, Benin and Togo and indeed the whole of the ECOWAS sub region.



REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND EDUCATIONAL VISIT

As part of NCA's commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and knowledge exchange, the Authority hosted sister regulators and institutions across Africa on benchmark between February and April 2025.

These visits, focused on areas including Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT), Broadcast Monitoring, Revenue Assurance, and the strategic use of Big Data, served as platforms for technical engagement, mutual learning, and the exchange of regulatory best practices.

Gambia Bureau of Statistics Engages Ghana on Mobile Phone Data

A delegation from the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS) and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), accompanied by officials from the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), visited the NCA to learn about Ghana's integration of Mobile Phone Data and Big Data in the production of official statistics.

The visit formed part of a broader study tour to understand how cross-sector collaboration can unlock the potential of non-traditional data sources for policymaking and national development. The NCA's Deputy Director General, Mr. Suleman Salifu, emphasised the Authority's role in promoting data access while safeguarding user privacy and public trust.



Mr. Suleman Salifu giving his welcome remarks



Mr. Solo Sima giving some remarks on behalf of the delegation



A group photo of GBoS, PURA, GSS officials and some Management Staff of the NCA

He also noted that engagements of this kind contribute to a regional culture of cooperation, transparency, and innovation.

Discussions at the meeting focused on governance

models for data access, privacy frameworks, data anonymisation standards, and mechanisms for coordinating between regulators, service providers, and national statistics offices.

NCA Hosts National College of Defence Studies for Study Visit on SMART Governance and Sustainable Development



Acting Director General of the NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Y. Fianko, welcoming the delegation



Dr. John Akopari, Dean of the NCDS and Brig. Gen. E.K. Boa-Amponsem speaking at the meeting

Participants of the National College of Defence Studies (NCDS) were hosted on a study visit on 9th April, 2025. The objective of the visit was to explore the linkage between SMART governance and sustainable development as part of the NCDS' national study tour.

Dr. John Akopari, Dean of the NCDS, emphasised that SMART governance aims to create more efficient, ethical, and effective government structures capable of addressing complex

societal challenges while fostering trust between governments and their citizens.

Speaking on the NCA's commitment to SMART governance and sustainable development, the Acting Director General of the NCA, Rev. Ing. Edmund Y. Fianko, referenced the NCA Act (Act 769 of 2008), specifically Section 5, which mandates the Authority to carry out its functions in a manner that prioritizes transparency, accountability, and the protection



A cross-section of the delegation

of consumer interest. He cited examples such as the publication of statistics and information on the industry, gazetting of guidelines, schedules of fees, all of which, he stated, reflects the Authority's open and responsive approach.

The delegation comprised high-ranking officials of the Ghana Armed Forces and senior officials

of the College. Also present were representatives from the Ministry of Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations (MoCDTI), who elaborated that the principles of accountability and responsiveness are not only central to the SMART governance framework but are also mandated by law.

Digital Gambia Limited Benchmarks Ghana's DTT and Broadcast Monitoring Model

The NCA welcomed a delegation from Digital Gambia Limited (DGL) on 8th April, 2025 as part of a benchmark visit aimed at learning from Ghana's experience in the implementation of Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and the operation of the Broadcast Monitoring Centre (BMC).

The delegation was particularly interested in the BMC's ability to monitor 13 satellites, track Free-to-Air (FTA) services, and record up to 100 video channels for review and compliance purposes. Discussions also touched on the legal, technical,



Head of Broadcasting at the Engineering Division, Mr. Kwabena Ameyaw-Badu, welcoming the delegation



A cross-section of the delegation

and operational requirements for establishing a similar centre in The Gambia, with both sides exploring areas for future cooperation and support.

The visit reaffirmed NCA's position as a regional reference point in broadcast monitoring and digital migration, offering valuable insights to DGL as it leads The Gambia's transition to digital broadcasting.



A group photograph of the delegation with some staff of the NCA

NCA Shares Expertise on Revenue Assurance with Communications Authority of Kenya

From 18th to 20th March, 2025, an eight-member delegation from the Communications Authority of Kenya and the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) embarked on a three-day working visit to the NCA to study Ghana's model for telecom revenue assurance and diversification.

aspects of the model to improve telecom revenue collection and compliance in Kenya. In-depth sessions were held with both the GRA and Bank of Ghana, providing a comprehensive perspective on the operational and financial underpinnings of the revenue assurance ecosystem.

Welcoming the delegation, NCA's Deputy Director General for Technical Operations, Mr. Suleman Salifu, highlighted the Authority's strides in regulatory innovation, particularly its integration of revenue assurance mechanisms in partnership with the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA). He emphasized the importance of real-time data in monitoring and securing revenues from the telecom sector.

The Kenyan delegation, led by Mr. Peter Martin Ikumilu, praised Ghana's robust frameworks and shared their intent to replicate



A cross-section of the delegation



Mr. Suleman Salifu (middle), DDG-TO, addressing the delegation

MACRA Benchmarks Ghana's BMC to Combat Misinformation

The NCA hosted an eleven-member delegation from the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA), led by Mr. Daud Suleman, Director General of MACRA, on a benchmarking visit on 19th February, 2025. The delegation's visit was focused on the technical framework of the NCA's Broadcasting Monitoring Centre

(BMC) as they work towards establishing a similar facility in Malawi.

The team sought to understand how Ghana's BMC could serve as a blueprint in combatting misinformation and disinformation, challenges that are increasingly impacting the credibility of information in the digital age. The visit



A group photograph of the delegation with some Management staff of the NCA

DIGITAL AUDIO BROADCASTING

*Service is ongoing in
Accra and Kumasi*





also included interactive sessions on content compliance, monitoring technologies, and stakeholder engagement approaches.

MACRA expressed strong interest in adopting similar systems to enhance transparency and accountability in Malawi's broadcasting sector.

University of Energy and Natural Resources Students Visits NCA for Industry Insights

On 7th March, 2025, ninety (90) Level 200 Information Technology (IT) students from the University of Energy and Natural Resources visited the NCA on an educational visit. The visit was part of an educational tour aimed at acquainting themselves on how the IT industry operates and gaining insights into on-the-job experiences.

The students, led by their lecturer, Dr. Michael Opoku, were taken through series of presentations to abreast themselves with the mandate and operations of the NCA. They also had the opportunity of touring some of the Authority's installations such as the



The students being taken through the operations of the NCA CERT

Broadcasting Monitoring Centre, the NCA CERT and the Common Platform.



A group photo of the students with their lecturer

NCA PUBLISHES NATIONAL FREQUENCY ALLOCATION TABLE

The NCA published the National Frequency Allocation Table (NFAT) for wireless communications services in Ghana on 4th April, 2025. The NFAT is one of the most important tools for effective spectrum management; It details the uses of the various frequency bands for the numerous radio communication service categories in accordance with the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The objective of developing the NFAT is to maximise the efficient use of radio spectrum while assuring that spectrum is made available for new technologies and services. The table contains current uses of spectrum and those that may be used in future.

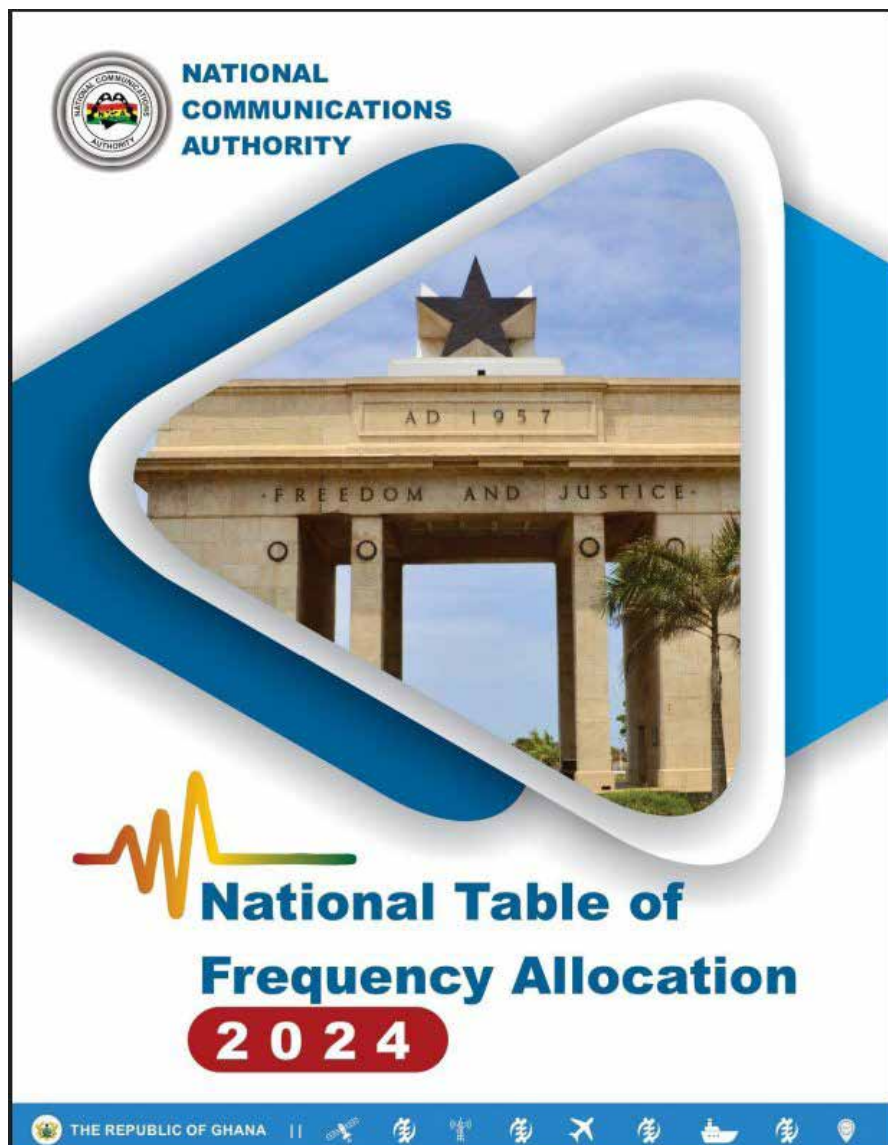
Below are the guidelines that were considered during the development of the table:

- International radio regulations and incorporated regional frequency allocation table
- future demands of different category of users
- spectrum utilisation reference of neighbour countries
- International and regional agreements
-

The NFAT may be amended as a result of changes in the NCA's Licensing decisions, or in accordance with changes to the Radio Regulations made by the World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRC) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) such that these affect the NFAT, or

in accordance with the application of any other national frequency decisions.

The NFAT does not infer any right for use of radio services or equipment without authorisation. According to Section 3 (n) of the NCA Act, Act 769 of 2008 and sections 66 and 67 of the Electronic Communications Act, Act 775, Manufacturers or their Authorised Agents require authorisation before producing or assembling, or selling/using any Electronic Communication Equipment (ECE) in Ghana.



Obtain an **Amateur Radio licence** to become an **Amateur Radio Operator**

Anyone who is **fourteen (14 years) and above can apply** for the Amateur Radio licence and sit for the Beginner's Amateur Radio Licence examination.

Commentaries for Development

National Communications Authority



Who are we?

The National Communications Authority (NCA) is the central body mandated to license and to regulate electronic communication activities and services in the country.

Communications for Development



National Communications Authority Ghana



@NCAGhana