

COCOBOD NEWS

Board Issue 1, June 2017

# EXECUTIVE

### REASONS TO CONSUME GOGOA

- Provides the most powerful dietary antioxidants
- Reduces blood pressure.
- Delays physical signs of ageing.
- Minimizes discomfort/pain associated with menstrual periods.
- Minimizes worrisome changes that accompany menopause.
- Boosts sexual desire and performance (Aphrodisiac effect).
- Prevents stroke by improving blood circulation.
- Fights dental decay.
- Provides Energy.
- Fights stress.





### HON. AIDOO IS NEW COCOBOD CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Hon. Joseph Boahen Aidoo, a minister in the erstwhile Kufuor administration, is the new Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD).

Hon. Aidoo was appointed by President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo to turn the fortunes of the cocoa industry around at a time when the price of the commodity was at a record low on the international market.

Hon. Aidoo's 17 years experience in land use, land tenure and agricultural productivity in Ghana's cocoa growing Regions is just a fraction of the numerous credentials which industry players believe, should help him contribute immensely towards further growth and sustenance of the cocoa business.

Hon. Aidoo who holds an MPhil in Geography from the University of Ghana also served as a Member of Parliament for the Amenfi East Constituency for 12 years from January 2001 to January 2013. In addition to other committees, he served as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Lands and Forestry from 2006 to 2008 and member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food and Agriculture from 2005 to 2013.

During his first interaction with staff of COCOBOD upon assumption of office in January, 2017, Hon. Aidoo underscored the huge nature of the tasked ahead but was quick to add that with hard work and dedication from all players on the cocoa value chain, more successes could be chalked to help move the industry forward.

While welcoming him to one of the hottest seats in Ghana's public sector, COCOBOD News wishes to assure him of the unflinching support of staff in helping to shape the fortunes of the industry.

At a time when cocoa producers worldwide are struggling to find antidotes to the unending fall of cocoa prices on the international market, we are faced with yet some challenges that could affect production - the unprecedented level of illegal mining on cocoa farms, ageing cocoa

farmer syndrome as well as the presence of diseased and over-aged tree stock on our farms.

It is in this regard that we are particularly happy about the commitment of the new management headed by Hon. Aidoo in promoting local processing and consumption of cocoa.

We also laud the idea of further enhancing the National Cocoa Rehabilitation programme which will see the cutting down of more than 50,000 hectares of cocoa farms and replanting them with early bearing and high yielding hybrid varieties. The decision to compensate farmers for cutting down their trees will motivate many (who have hitherto refused to rehabilitate their farms for fear of temporarily losing their sources of livelihood) to come on board. This is one sure way to increase productivity.

COCOBOD News is optimistic that while collaborating with other government agencies and civil society organizations to eradicate the illegal mining menace, management of COCOBOD will put in more enticing measures to attract the youth into cocoa farming. With their energy and ability to quickly adopt new technologies, the youth, without doubt, represent the future of Ghana's cocoa industry.

Hon. Aidoo, a former western regional minister in the Kufuor administration has co-authored a number of publications on agriculture and land tenure systems. He hails from the Western Region which is the largest cocoa producing region of Ghana.

In addition to his recent working experience, Hon. Aidoo was the Principal Country Researcher in the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC sponsored research into Land use and Changing Land Tenure System in the cocoa areas of Western Ghana from 1984 to 1998.

Hon. Aidoo is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cocoa Marketing Company Ghana Limited (CMC), Cocoa Marketing Company UK Limited (CMC-UK) as well as the Quality Control Company Limited (QCC) of Ghana Cocoa Board.

COCOBOD News wishes him a very successful tenure of office.



The newly appointed Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) Hon. Joseph Boahen Aidoo has bemoaned the steady decline in cocoa production over the last few years.

He indicated that when Ghana achieved one million metric tons of cocoa production in the 2010 /2011 crop year, Cote d'Ivoire achieved a little over 1.1 million metric tons of cocoa at the same period. However, Ghana's cocoa production has decreased to about 850,000 metric tons annually whilst that of Cote d'Ivoire has increased to about 1.8 million metric tons.

Hon. Boahen Aidoo made these observations when the Executives of the Ghana Cocoa Coffee and Sheanut Farmers' Association (COCOSHE) paid a courtesy call on him on his new appointment at Cocoa House in Accra.

The Chief Executive noted that COCOBOD has for the last three years purchased and supplied large quantities of fertilizer to cocoa farmers but production keeps dwindling.

He enumerated a number of measures the new management of the Board intends to put in place to surmount this challenge.

He hinted that some of these measures include focusing on cocoa farmers as the key stakeholders. By providing their logistical needs and technical support, they will definitely increase cocoa production.

Hon. Aidoo added that another area of concern was the destruction of pollen grains by strong winds, hampering natural cross fertilization.

Consequently, he said the Board intends to embark on a massive programme of artificial pollination where a lot of extension staff would be trained to provide technical support to farmers to increase yield.

Furthermore, COCOBOD also intends to introduce payment of compensation to farmers to encourage them to cut down diseased cocoa trees for replanting. As a measure, farmers would be supported financially by the government in the initial three years of replanting, he noted.

'Cutting of Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus Diseased trees deprive farmers

income. therefore tenant farmers (Abunu/ Abusa) and landowners who are reluctant to cut their diseased trees will be considered financially" he indicated.

Hon. Aidoo explained that affected cocoa farmers and land owners will be given compensation to enable them cope with the losses that may occur during the rehabilitation period.

Chief Executive The reiterated the need to supply only potent and efficacious

fertilizers to farmers to increase production. They will also be provided with financial support for replanting or seedling, and this the farmers will repay after harvesting.

He said this will attract the youth to go into cocoa cultivation and to take over from the aging cocoa farmers.

'This he said can be achieved when a database of farmers is built to determine soil suitability and farm sizes for the right type and quantities of fertilizers to be supplied to cocoa farmers"

He again emphasized the need by COCOBOD to revive and improve the Cocoa Mass Spraying exercise to make cocoa cultivation very 'If cocoa cultivation attractive. becomes more attractive, no cocoa farmer will give out his or her cocoa farm to a galamsey operator" he said.

The Chief Executive subsequently called on all stakeholders especially

> hard working cocoa farmers to cooperate and these support laudable objectives and to prompt him if something goes wrong.

to achieve all the

objectives enumerated.

Executives The of COCOSHE led by its President, Alhaji Alhassan Bukari pledged association's the total support for COCOBOD and government the

Also present at the meeting were Dr. William Mensah, Deputy Chief Executive (F&A), Dr. Yaw Adu-Ampomah, Deputy Chief Executive (A&QC) and Nana-Oduro Owusu, Deputy Chief Executive (OPS).





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### WORLD'S LEADING COCOA COMPANIES PLEDGE TO HELP GHANA FIGHT GALAMSEY



Twelve of the world's leading cocoa and chocolate companies have promised to help Ghana address the issue of illegal mining known as 'galamsey" which is destroying many forests and cocoa landscape.

This was announced at a meeting jointly held by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), IDH-the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH), and The Prince's International Sustainability Unit (ISU) in London.

The companies pledged their commitment to develop an actionable plan to end galamsey which will include a greater investment in more sustainable forms of landscape management.

The Prince of Wales lamented on the issue of deforestation in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire, the world's leading cocoa producers, which he said are responsible for low cocoa yields.

'Tropical rainforests play an absolutely crucial role in climate change mitigation and adaptation, in ensuring sustainable livelihoods for hundreds of millions of people and in conserving biodiversity," he said.

According to him, the most powerful direct reason for the action is that deforestation undermines the very resilience of the cocoa sector itself.

'I am heartened that companies are undertaking to work up, in full collaboration with host governments and civil society, a Joint Framework of Action to make good on the commitments announced today, in time for COP 23 in November."

THe Executive Director of IDH, Joost Oorthuizen said they are happy to lead the initiative in the two countries which will help to improve their cocoa yields.

'In recent history, the cocoa sector has proven to not be afraid to address difficult issues like child labor, malnutrition, and poverty reduction, all in a non-competitive manner. This meeting provides a great starting point to expedite action on the deforestation issue in concert with other relevant stakeholders."

On his part, WCF Chairman, Barry Parkin, said the decision by the 12 companies to help the two countries marks a 'crucial step forward" in the 21st Century.

'We look forward to more companies joining the effort and are grateful for the leadership provided by The Prince of Wales in convening today's landmark event," he said.

The programme which is the first of its kind covering the global cocoa supply chain was attended by HRH The Prince of Wales, Lands and Natural Resources Minister, John Peter Amewu, senior executives from the companies and senior government officials from Côte D'Ivoire.

It also brought together a crosssection of the world's largest chocolate makers and cocoa buyers, producers and traders including Barry Callebaut; Blommer Chocolate Company; Cargill; CEMOI; ECOM; Ferrero; The Hershey Company; Mars, Incorporated; Mondelēz International; Nestlé: Olam and Touton.

There were ministers and senior government representatives of the two-leading cocoa producing countries – Côte D'Ivoire and Ghana – as well as France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom.

Source: WCF



### US AMBASSADOR TOURS COCOBOD FACILITIES

The US Ambassador to Ghana, His Excellency, Robert P. Jackson, took a day off his busy schedule to tour COCOBOD facilities in the Eastern Region to acquaint himself with first-hand information about the cocoa industry

Accompanied by COCOBOD Management Team, the visiting delegation visited the Tetteh Quarshie and Jubilee Farms at Mampong, CRIG at Tafo, a Cocoa Farm and Nursery Site at Bososo.

The visit to these areas afforded the US Embassy Delegation the

opportunity to learn about how Tetteh Quarshie brought the Amelenado cocoa to Ghana to start commercial cocoa farming in 1879 at Mampong, scientific studies carried out to improve upon cocoa planting materials as well as good agronomic practices offered cocoa farmers to enhance their farming operations.

Ambassador Robert Jackson was thankful for the insightful learning experience and praised cocoa farmers and staff of the Board for their hard work towards the sustenance of the industry.





US Ambassador in a group photograph with officials of COCOBOD

### COCOBOD SPONSORS YOUNG COCOA FARMERS TO ICCO CONGRESS

hana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD), as part of efforts to encourage the younger generation to go into cocoa farming, has sponsored two young cocoa farmers to attend the 28th World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) Partnership Meeting and Cocoa Sustainably Trade Fair in Cote d'Ivoire, Abidjan.

Mrs. Lucy Addai-Poku, a Professional Teacher and Maccarthy Kojo Doh, a graduate of the University of Ghana, Legon—both farmers from the Ashanti and Western Regions respectively, are among the thousands of Ghanaian youth who have embraced the Youth in Cocoa Programme.

At the conference which brought together cocoa industry stakeholders from around the globe, Lucy and Maccarthy were exposed to presentations which focused on encouraging youth engagement in the cocoa sector. The youth were urged to make good use of the incentives available to them and enter into cocoa farming as a business. Issues about deforestation and cocoa sector as well as efforts being made to ensure

sustainable livelihoods for farmers in cocoa growing countries featured prominently on the agenda.

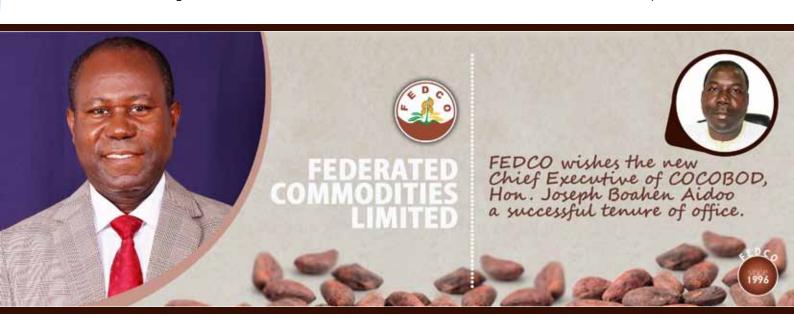
In a brief presentation at the conference, Mr. Doh, on behalf of Ghanaian youth, appreciated the Management of COCOBOD for introducing interventions aimed at ensuring sustainable cocoa production in Ghana. He mentioned the Free Seedlings Distribution programme which provides early bearing and high yielding planting materials to farmers at no cost, the Free Fertilizer Distribution Programme which is helping to improve upon soil fertility and increase yield, the National Cocoa Rehabilitation Programme which has facilitated the replanting of large hectares of over-aged, moribund and diseased farms as well as the Youth in Cocoa Initiative which is curbing the ageing-cocoa-farmers situation in Ghana.

Both Lucy and Maccarthy, agreed that there are fine opportunities in the cocoa business, especially for young men and women, and urged all to come on board to increase the country's annual production levels.

'The programme has helped me interact with people from other cocoa producing countries and non-governmental organizations. It was an interesting programme, educative and inspiring", said Maccarthy Doh, adding that he had been able to learn a new skill on how to manage and raise the cocoa seedlings during the dry season and when there is less rainfall by applying the method called Drip Irrigation System. According to him, this method helps prevent young cocoa seedlings from dying during the dry season.

On her part, Mrs. Lucy Addai-Poku was optimistic empowering women to go into cocoa farming is a prerequisite for poverty alleviation in Ghana. She called on women to adopt modern methods to boost their farming operations.

COCOBOD, has for the past three years, sponsored several young farmers to attend international cocoa events in Europe, Asia, America and Africa with the utmost aim of exposing them to modern trends in cocoa production.



### NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COCOBOD INAUGURATED



he President of the Republic of Ghana, H.E Nana Addo Danquah Akuffo Addo has inaugurated an eleven member board of directors for Ghana Cocoa Board, (COCOBOD) who will steer the affairs of the cocoa industry in the subsequent years at the Flagstaff house in Accra.

The members include: Hon. Hackman Owusu Agyemeng as the chairman, Dr. Abdul-Nashiru Issahaku, Mr. Kwame Sarpong, Nana Adwoa Dokua, Hon. Carlos Ahenkorah, Hon. Gyiele Nurah and Hon. Joseph Boahen Aidoo, Chief Executive of COCOBOD as members. The other members include Nana Johnson Mensah, Nana Obeng Akrofi as farmers' representatives and Mr. Peter Atta Boakye as the workers representative.

In his inaugural address, Nana Akuffo Addo congratulated the members on their new positions and their acceptance to serve on the board of an entity which has over the years supported the economy of Ghana.

President Nana Addo noted that

cocoa as a flagship commodity and has been the mainstay of Ghana's economic development, contributing 8% of Ghana's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and a major source of government revenue.

He added that the New Patriotic Party government under his leadership is bent on introducing policies and programmes that will increase production level to 1,000,000 metric tonnes and process about 50% locally by way of adding value to the

commodity and make it a lucrative

He charged the new members to

bring to the fore their vast knowledge and rich experiences acquired to work to improve the fortunes of the cocoa industry in the country.

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The chairman of the board of directors, Hon. Hackman Owusu Agyemang, on behalf of the members expressed his appreciation to H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo for the confidence reposed in them and the opportunity to serve on the board of COCOBOD.

He pledged his support to work in collaboration with his able lieutenants, to make the cocoa industry an enviable entity and also continue to

be backbone of Ghana's economic development.







### FIRST BRONG AHAFO YOUTH IN COCOA ASSOCIATION INAUGURATED

he Brong Ahafo Region is set to regain its past glory as the beacon of high cocoa production in the country following pragmatic efforts by the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) at rehabilitating old and moribund cocoa farms as well as establishment of new ones.

The Region lost vast hectares of cocoa farms to the 1983 bush fires but recent aggressive actions taken by COCOBOD to revamp cocoa production in the Region are yielding positive results. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Ahia Clottey, Deputy Executive Director, Cocoa Health & Extension Division (CHED) of COCOBOD gave this assurance at the inauguration of the first youth in cocoa production Association at Jinijini in the Berekum West Constituency of the Brong Ahafo Region.

Rev. Ahia Clottey disclosed that a total of 13 million hybrid cocoa seedlings would be raised in the 2016/17 crop year for distribution to farmers in the Brong Ahafo Region whose farms have been measured by staff of his outfit adding, COCOBOD has decided to raise a nursery site at Jinijini as part of efforts to bring the cocoa seedlings closer to the door steps of farmers. He said a borehole would be constructed close to the nursery site to provide uninterrupted water supply for the seedlings.

Rev. Clottey said two years after the COCOBOD rolled out its advocacy programme to woo the youth into cocoa production, over 46,000 young persons from 36 Youth-in-Cocoa farmers associations across the country have signed up and are into full-time cocoa farming. He said by this initiative, COCOBOD, is gradually demystifying cocoa farming through education to attract the youth who would approach cocoa farming more professionally. He assured that COCOBOD would enhance its on-going interventions to promote the growth of the cocoa sector.

Nana Baffour Asare Tutu II, Chief of Jinijini, who chaired the occasion, pledged to support the Association in all its endeavours. He was optimistic bringing the youth into mainstream cocoa farming would help to provide a better future for the industry. He thanked COCOBOD for the ongoing cocoa road project in the Jinijini community and requested the establishment of more cocoa input shops in cocoa communities.

Mr. Ernest Duah, the Chairman of the Association thanked COCOBOD for the provision of free seedlings, fertilizers, inputs as well as the improvement in road network in the area to support the youth in cocoa programme. He was grateful to the Jinijini Chief for his efforts at mobilizing the youth into cocoa farming and added that with his support, the association would soon grow into a cooperative.



Richard Scobey, President, WCF

## WCF GETS NEW PRESIDENT

The World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) Board of Directors has announced that it has named Richard Scobey as the organisation's President, effective July 11, 2016.

He will be responsible for providing the vision and leadership to guide WCF's operations and to ensure fulfillment of its mission of promoting a sustainable cocoa sector worldwide. Scobey joins WCF after a successful career at the World Bank, which he first joined in 1986.

Mr Scobey has led public-private efforts focused on natural resources management in Africa, as well as monitoring and evaluation efforts. His most recent position at the Bank was as its deputy director general in the Independent Evaluation Group.

He previously also served as Advisor to the Africa Region Vice President and

as Director for Regional Integration in Africa.

In making the announcement, WCF Chairman Barry Parkin, noted the critical nature of the 105-member organisation's mission, at a time

when the cocoa sector faces challenges to achieve sustainability in the face of threats that include stagnant yields in some of the world's leading cocoa-producing countries, increasing pest and disease pressure, climate change and declining interest by young people to pursue careers in cocoa farming.

Mr. Parkin, who led the search process that identified Scobey, said: 'Rick is a strategic and innovative leader who brings to WCF extensive

experience in international and community development. His proven ability to create new partnerships, leverage networks and achieve impact will boost WCF's mission to achieve sustainability in the cocoa sector, namely through our Cocoa Action strategy. I look forward to working closely with Rick to accelerate our efforts to bring measurable

improvements to farmer livelihoods and cocoa-growing communities around the world."

Mr. Scobey said: 'I am honoured to be chosen to lead WCF, which has long been at the forefront of building public-private partnerships to help achieve sustainability in the global cocoa sector. I am eager to engage soon with WCF's membership and other key partners to understand their views and benefit from their counsel. With Cocoa Action moving from design into implementation, WCF is at an especially exciting point in its history. I am ready to bring my own experience and energy to all of the organisation's efforts."

Mr. Scobey was selected following a search process that solicited input from the WCF membership of more than 100 companies and other key players in the global chocolate and cocoa sector. Scobey assumes his duties after the December 31, 2015 departure of Bill Guyton, who guided WCF from its inception through its first 15 years.

The World Cocoa Foundation is an

international m e m b e r s h i p organisation promotes that sustainability in the cocoa sector. provides WCF farmers cocoa with the support they need to grow more quality cocoa and socially and economically strengthen their communities. WCF's members include cocoa

and chocolate manufacturers, processors, supply chain managers, and other companies worldwide, representing more than 80 percent of the global cocoa market. WCF's programmes benefit farmers and their communities in cocoa-growing regions of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Americas.

Source: AccraFM.com/100.5fm



### YOUNG COCOA FARMERS ATTEND **68TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR SCHOOL**

he president of the Akuafo Anigye Young Cocoa farmers Association, Evans Tagbor, has lauded the 68th New Year School held at the University of Ghana, Legon, for creating the platform to discuss national development issues through modernized agriculture. He made the statement on behalf of cocoa farmers who attended the annual brainstorming programme that seeks to improve the different sectors of the Ghanaian economy.

Themed 'Promoting National Development Through Agricultural Modernization: The Role Of ICT', Mr. Tagbor recounted the benefits of the programme, The 68th New Year School has been an eye opener to many issues within the agricultural sector that could have been overlooked by we the farmers', he stressed.

Ms. Leticia Ama-Kowa Yankey, another cocoa farmer called for the use of cinema vans to screen documentaries on cocoa farming in



addition to the ones aired on national television in order to give farmers the opportunity for feedback on the application of Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs).

The farmers expressed gratitude for the opportunity to deliberate on matters affecting the agricultural sector especially ways of improving extension services in a technological manner.

Participants of the four day programme discussed issues focusing on modernizing agriculture through ICT, e-solutions and agricultural productivity, e-extension adoption in agriculture. The other areas included e-agriculture, gender and the youth, ICT, climate change and agricultural

production and agricultural financing and insurance.

Participants shared ideas and knowledge in drafting a blue print to positively turn around the fortunes of agriculture through ICT.

The annual New Year school is organized by the School of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, University of Ghana. The New Year school programme seeks to identify challenges for industry players to offer constructive suggestions to positively change the socioeconomic circumstances of Ghana. For sixty eight (68) years, the school has consistently and successfully organized the programme.

### QCC LAB TO BE ISO CERTIFIED



Management members of Quality Control Company Limited (QCC), a subsidiary of COCOBOD have been charged to apply ISO (International Organization for Standardization) certification for its newly built laboratory.

The advice was given by the then Chief Executive Dr. Stephen K. Opuni, during an inspection of the newly ultramodern laboratory facility acquired by COCOBOD to aid the quality assurance activities of the Quality Control

Company (QCC)

He directed the management members to sign a service contract with qualified and accredited institutions to ensure regular servicing of the laboratory equipment to maintain good quality standards,.

He advocated for the laboratories to collect data on toxins level in cocoa

produced in Ghana since it has become a requirement for all cocoa producing countries to do so by 2018 to prevent downgrading of their quality level.

'It was also disclosed that ascertaining the toxins level of Ghana cocoa beans is key since Ghana cocoa is of premium quality and used as benchmark for measuring world cocoa.

Chief Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Koji Makino expressed satisfaction for having closely collaborated with COCOBOD in agriculture and the setting up of the laboratories and providing some equipment.

The tour ended at the new COCOBOD warehouse being constructed at Tema Industrial Area near the Cocoa Processing Company Limited (CPC). The 50,000 metric tonnes capacity prefabricated warehouses are divided into five with each having a holding capacity of 10,000 metric tonnes.

onourable Joseph Boahen Aidoo, Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board has expressed optimism that Ghana can reap more benefits from cocoa products by increasing local processing and its annual output.

According to him, the quantum of cocoa beans exported is enormous and this has caused volatility in the prices of the produce. He therefore called on Ghanaians to consume more cocoa products to enable the country reduce export of raw cocoa beans and force price hikes on the world market.

The Chief Executive was interacting with pupils of GRIG L/A Primary and Mid Tafo Presbyterian Schools at Akim Tafo in the eastern region,

where Management of COCOBOD, in collaboration with BD Associate, joined pupils and teachers of the schools to celebrate the 2017 National Chocolate Day. According to him, cocoa contains numerous health and nutritional benefits and that. Ghanaians must inculcate the habit of consuming it daily.

He was therefore optimistic that government would focus more on local

processing and consumption, improve production and consequently rake more revenue for the socioeconomic development of the country.

GHANAIANS IE HABIT CONSUMING COCOA DAIL Ш













### MANAGEMENT MEMBERS VISIT CRIG AND BUNSO COCOA COLLEGE

On their first familiarization tour outside Accra since being appointed into office by H.E Nana Addo Danquah Akuffo Addo, members of the new management of COCOBOD, led by Hon. Joseph Boahen Aidoo, Chief Executive paid a working visit to the

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Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana and the Bunso Cocoa College both in the Eastern region of Ghana.

In an interaction with staff, the Chief Executive commended the staff for their hard work which has helped sustain the cocoa industry over the years. He was optimistic of getting unconditional support from the staff to increase cocoa production to more than 1 million tonnes within a short time. Mr. Aidoo assured the staff of management's resolve to initiating and implementing policies that will help improve the fortunes of the cocoa industry.

He disclosed that government of Ghana, under the leadership of H.E Nana Addo Danquah Akuffo Addo, is committed to ensuring value addition

to Ghana's cocoa. This, he said, would not only rake in more money for the economy, but also making it possible for Ghanaians to enjoy the full health and nutritional benefits of cocoa through massive local consumption.

He was of the view that realizing the aforementioned plans cannot be possible without the efforts of the hardworking staff and called on them to work diligently towards this worthy course.





### LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS IN THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



\_\_\_ Randolph John Adei, HR Department

It is an undeniable fact that the successful execution of any task hinges on the caliber of leadership that handled the set task. The performance of the team that executed the task becomes phenomenon when their success becomes consistent. To be consistent in one's approach is to be conscious of the methodology that led one to the achievement of the set goals. Anything short of this will make one's attainment of the set goal a fluke. The consistent attainment of set goals results in productivity, and as productivity is measured in efficiency, it is imperative that there would be prudent use of materials and personnel. At this point I can definitely say that leadership at all levels of production chain has an enormous bearing on productivity.

### Definition of Leadership

Though there are numerous definitions of leadership, the one that tickles my sensitivities states that; Leadership is the knack (a particular skill that might be innate or intuitive) of getting other people to follow you and willingly do things that you want them to do. However it is significant to note that the set things should be lawful and should be geared towards the attainment of set goals and ultimate increase in productivity.

### **Basic Leadership Requirement**

Generally, it has been noted that to be a successful leader you have to master the following basic skills:

- **Persuasion:** It is the ability to present a good case on your views of what should be done to assemble of others. You should have a persuasive skills or ability to sell your views effectively to others for them to buy into it.
- Influence: This is considered to be the ability to exert power over other people. It is stated that a lot of us possess or are given power but a handful learn the rudiment of how to

- use it. Supervisors have power and authority of their position. They also have power of immense knowledge of their units, departments, directorates/divisions/subsidiaries and institutions' operations than their subordinates. All these will help you to become a good leader only if you learn how to use this power to move others.
- Rapport: This is the art of generating among people a readiness to cooperate. This is what behavioural scientists labeled 'interpersonal skills". It requires an immense understanding of motivation and perceives needs of people.
- It is stated that leaders initially established rapport and then use their powers of influence and persuasion to motivate individuals and groups in search of set goals.

It is said that an organization that is going to be consistently successful must be led consistently well throughout its ranks. This means cultivating leadership skills enormously and broadly in the workforce, in order for the whole organization to amplify unity behind its inspired visionary leadership.

### COCOA HOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP HOLDS A TWO-DAY PRAYER FESTIVAL



two-day prayer festival has been held at Bunso Cocoa College to intercede for the cocoa industry players. It was heaven on earth as the great hall of Bunso College was filled to the brim. The presence of God was mighty and the move of the Lord was great with tangible manifestations.

The programme which was organized by the Cocoa House Christian Fellowship was under the theme 'Oh God arise!;have compassion and show favour to Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD)" (Ps. 102:13).

Over three hundred (300) staff of COCOBOD drawn from the various Divisions and Subsidiaries across the country gathered and stood in for the industry to seek the face of God

through intercessory prayers.

Clifford, the main speaker for the programme, speaking on the theme, said, for the favour of the Lord to locate anyone, there is the need for one to set himself or herself apart to call on God in times of need.

According to him, the Fellowship has taken the right initiative to set themselves apart to seek God's intervention in the affairs of the industry and to turn its fortunes around for good. He also led the congregation to pray for increase in cocoa production, spiritual growth in staff, and particularly an improvement in the Ghanaian economy.

Reverend Gaddaffi said, praying for the progress of the industry will in turn have a positive corresponding effect on staff, adding that God is the giver of all good things and therefore when 'you faithfully cry out to Him, He is able to step into every situation and answer accordingly".

Mr. Joseph Mperey, President of the Cocoa House Christian Fellowship, in his opening remarks said the programme was intended to thank the Almighty God for his faithfulness, providence and protection over the cocoa industry and the nation throughout the year.

Mr. Mperey said the programme was one of the Fellowship's major activities on its calendar and it also comes at a time when Ghana is at the crossroad of yet another major election in line with our democratic process. According to him, the encounter was an opportunity to pray to secure the peace the country is enjoying.

He called on staff to make conscious effort to support future programmes of the Fellowship noting that the Prayer Festival was solely organized with the benevolence of certain individuals.

The programme was graced by Bishop Charles Ayarkwa and Prophet Emmanuel Ntiamoah who also led the congregants in various sessions.

### COCOA HOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP HOLDS NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

he Cocoa House Christian
Fellowship in collaboration
with the Cocoa Marketing
Company Christian Fellowship
and the COCOBOD Ladies' Club has
held the Festival of Nine Lessons and
Carols with a call on Christians to let
the season of Christ's birth reflect in
way they live and interact at home,
community and workplace.

In a homily on the theme, 'The importance of the Gospel in times like this' ,Rev. Charles Ayarkwah, the Vice Principal of Akropong Presbyteriar Teachers' Training College reminded Christians of the significance of Christmas, stating that for divinity (Christ) to meet humanity (mankind meant that God had a mission to reconcile man to himself and this was made possible through the gift of Jesus Christ.

According to Rev. Ayarkwah, Jesus Christ was given to the world as a propitiation for our sins and called on believers to celebrate what he described as 'Kairos Experience'- ar

experience where divinity meets humanity.

Rev. Ayarkwah advised Christians to have ample knowledge of Christ and unreserved trust in the Epiphany since He is the only saviour of the world.

The Cocoa House Christian Fellowship Choir, the Scientific Voices of CRIG and the Humility Choir were all in attendance and thrilled the audiences with splendid renditions of Christmas carols interspersed with the nine lessons read by some heads of Divisions and Subsidiaries.





### IMF OFFICIALS VISIT GHANA COCOA BOARD

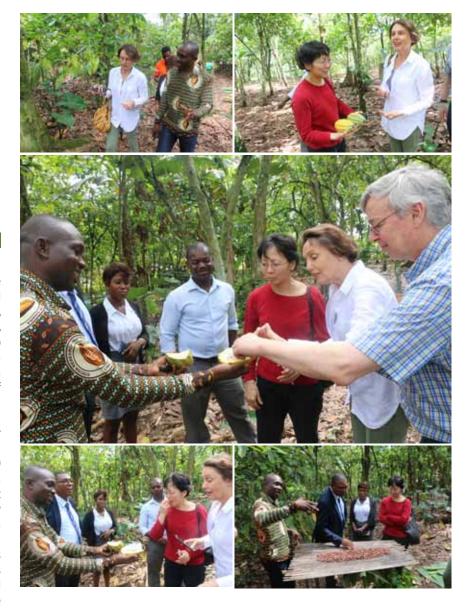
delegation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) led by Mr. David Owen, Deputy Director for Africa, has paid a familiarization visit to the Tetteh Quarshie Memorial farm and the Jubilee farm at Akuapem Mampong in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

Mr. Noah Kwasi Amenyah, the Senior Public Affairs Manager who welcomed the delegation on behalf of COCOBOD to the Tetteh Quarshie Memorial farm hinted that, the farm was the first cocoa farm established in Ghana by Tetteh Quarshie, on his return from Fernando Po now Equatorial Guinea. He added that the farm still contains some of the Amelonado cocoa trees Tetteh Quarshie first planted and has since become the major source of seed pods for commercial cocoa cultivation in Ghana.

He used the occasion to educate the officials on some of the farming practices applied in cocoa cultivation, beginning from planting to harvesting before it is offered for sale to either the local or international market.

Some of the practices he demonstrated to the officials included planting, harvesting, pod breaking, fermentation and drying of cocoa beans.

At the jubilee farm, Mr. Amenyah



mentioned that the farm was established during the 50 years anniversary celebration of Ghana and added that the trees were planted by dignitaries, high ranked personalities, institutions and delegations from other countries that visited the country during the celebrations.

Responding to the question of the difference between the Amelonado and the hybrid varieties, Mr. Amenyah explained that the hybrid cocoa variety is drought resistant, early bearing and very high yielding as compared to the Amelonado variety.

He added that research has proven that about 40% of Ghana's cocoa trees are not yielding, 17% are diseased and 23% aged, hence COCOBOD is distributing the hybrid seedlings free of charge to farmers and encourage them to cut down these diseased farms to plant the hybrid variety in order to increase cocoa production in Ghana.

Mr. David Owen on behalf of the IMF expressed his appreciation to COCOBOD and promised of future visit to learn more about the cocoa industry in Ghana.











### GHANA ASSURES WORLD MARKET OF PREMIUM QUALITY COCOA

The management of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) has assured international chocolate companies that Ghana is set to continue with the supply of premium quality cocoa to the world market.

This was disclosed when officials of COCOBOD interacted with representatives of some Chocolate producing companies (which included Meiji, Guittard, Choco Roi) at the 2016 'Salon du Chocolat' at France in November. It was indicated that Ghana will in all earnest continue to be the market leader in premium

quality cocoa production.

The chocolatiers were further assured that the Ghanaian cocoa farmer will produce the best cocoa beans that the world major chocolatiers so much love and use as important ingredient in chocolate making.

'Salon du Chocolat', Paris 2016, assembled over one hundred (100) chocolate manufacturers, cocoa producing countries and chocolate industry players including manufacturers of chocolate machinery. The display of a variety of cocoa beans by cocoa producing

countries like Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Mexico, Sao Tome and Principe, Cameroon, Mauritius, Togo and many others was exciting. The exhibitors displayed the finest chocolates in various shapes, designs, flavours and colours to the admiration of the visitors.

'Salon du Chocolat', 2016 could best be described as a confluence of crème de la crème of cocoa, chocolate producers and chocolatiers. Upon tasting various chocolates from Ghana, visitors to the exhibition commended Ghana for its unique cocoa tastes and flavours.



### COCOBOD CHIEF EXECUTIVE MEETS STAFF

Hon. Joseph Boahen Aidoo, Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) has assured staff that he will operate an open-door policy in managing the affairs of COCOBOD.

He added that his administration will be flexible but firm in the discharge of his duties.

Hon. Aidoo was interacting with staff in a durbar organized to introduce the new management to the staff at Cocoa House in Accra.

He commended the staff for their hard work which has helped sustain the cocoa industry over the years and assured them of management's resolve to initiate and implement policies that will help improve the fortunes of the industry.

The former chairmanz of the Senior Staff Association of COCOBOD, Mr. Fuad Abubakar on behalf of the staff welcomed the new management team and pledged collaborative with the new management to enhance the growth of the cocoa industry.





















### PERSEVERANCE



By Abigail Ahorgba, Hohoe

verybody has a dream of being successful, happy, having a perfect relationship with loved ones and wishes that all their aspirations will be fulfilled. Though we all have these wishes, sometimes life turns out to be just the opposite of what we have envisioned. All the same we need the right mental attitude to enable us achieve any dream in life.

In this edition of the COCOBOD news, I discuss perseverance with emphasis on its importance, hindrances to perseverance and how we can overcome hindrances to achieve our desired goals. I took a kin interest in this word because it summarizes the major factor differentiating successful people from others.

The Webster dictionary describes perseverance as 'the continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failures or oppositions".

I will like to elaborate on the above description of perseverance by defining the word despite. The Cambridge dictionary describes despite as 'without taking notice of or being influenced by". With this definition of despite, perseverance can be described as the continued effort to do or achieve something without taking notice of or being influenced by difficulties, failures or opposition.

Life seems to be full of difficulties. There is therefore the need to do a retrospection of our individual lives and answer these few questions: what is your history, what have you achieved and where do you want to go from your present state?

Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) is seventy years old. As staff, we need to ask ourselves the above questions with regards to what we have individually contributed to the growth and sustenance of the organization.

Many of us want to be successful and yet are reluctant to do the things that will make us achieve success. We cannot talk about perseverance without talking about time. Time is the vehicle to perseverance. One difference between those who succeed and those who don't is how both use their time. Also the person who perseveres is exceptional, confident, proactive, sets and achieves targets and is always seen as a pacesetter. Anyone with the right mental attitude to persevere will always want to solve problems and not to create problems.

Thomas Alva Edison, inventor of the incandescent light bulb, developed a hearing problem at an early age of twelve. His teachers said he was too stupid to learn anything; this sent him out of school and his mother had to teach him at home. He also sold candies and newspapers in trains.

Amazingly Thomas didn't start life as a great man but through perseverance he is described as America's greatest inventor and businessman. Edison made 1,000 unsuccessful attempts at inventing the light bulb. Not only did he invent light, he also created the world's first industrial research laboratory. Aside from his inventions, he was also a successful manufacturer and businessman. Though Edison failed many times, faced challenges, failures and oppositions, these didn't prevent him from pursuing his dream.

Everyone has twenty four hours in each day to achieve a goal. But sadly most of us allow difficulties, failures from the past and oppositions from our present situations to prevent us from reaching our goals.

Research indicates that about 80% of the world's population is poor. This is because most people give up too easily. We must know that, most of the heroes in history were people who stood alone and chose to forge ahead. We all need to choose perseverance over mediocrity despite any challenges that will confront us.

Aside from the wrong use of time hindering perseverance, negative information also does. Information can either be positive or negative. Our world today loves to report the negative news more than the positive news; hence the negative news always has a better rating. Being continually bombarded by pessimism and negative comments is detrimental to our achievements.

It is a common practice today to find couples criticizing one another, parents demotivating their children, friends discouraging friends, colleagues teasing and mocking hard working colleagues and the list goes on. This canker has unfortunately affected our individual perceptions of what we want to achieve.

A lot can change if only we can individually encourage anyone in our sphere of contacts who has a dream. We need to know that perseverance always starts with a dream. When this dream is properly natured, it will grow to produce inventions in science, business, politics and life in general.

In conclusion, let us not forget that everybody has the potential to be the next best in their fields of endeavours. Let us keep our dreams alive, we need to believe we can make it. Tell yourself everyday 'I can get there"; be genuine about it, work towards achieving that goal by acquiring the necessary requirements because successful people don't easily give up and are celebrated by the world over.







### RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION OF GHANA COCOA BOARD CALLS FOR STRONGER TIES WITH MANAGEMENT

The retired staff association of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) has called on the Chief Executive to give them the opportunity to meet with management at least twice in a year to voice out their grievances.

According to the secretary, Mr. D.K. Dosoo the association had a long

standing tradition of welcoming and installing new Chief Executives into office which created the opportunity for them to discuss with the Chief executive pertinent issues affecting the association. This practice he said for some time now has been halted and appealed for reinstatement of the practice.

Mr. Dosoo made the call during the association's end of year party which was held in Accra at COCOBOD Club House on the 18th of March, 2017.

He also appealed to management of COCOBOD to provide them with an office where they could hold their meetings adding that 'office accommodation will be the new Chief Executive's first fulfillment to the association" he noted.

He urged his fellow retirees to take

the periodic gym exercise introduced by the Board seriously noting that a healthy mind lives in a healthy body.

He also expressed gratitude to management for their continual financial support in the organization of their end of year party.

Mr. Gyamfi Ocran, Deputy Human Resource Manager on behalf of management assured retirees that the new administration is ready to open its doors to the association, listen to their grievances and address them accordingly.

He further advised the retirees to come together and form unified association instead of fragmented ones. This he said would give them one voice and enable management fashion out strategies and respond to their issues with urgency.









### COCOBOD LADIES CLUB GOES FIFTIES (50s)



Members of Ladies Club adorned in their Old Fashioned Cloths

It was an atmosphere of joy and tradition when the ladies of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) revisited the beautiful old fashion trend of the 1950s.

The ladies were elegantly clad in wide variety of colourful African clothes with their complementary accessories. While some rocked 'afro wigs" with fascinators, others wore the 'kaba and slits" with matching head gears namely 'yen fii ta," 'kwasia bi di m'akyi", among others. Do you remember the name of your grandmum's favourite headgear style?

The old school shoes had

their fair share of the fun - it was a sight to behold. The old wedges, pencil heals, 'I swear god"and the like were also worn to grace the feet.

This display of immaculate tradition was organised to commemorate Ghana's 60th anniversary during the ladies club quarterly meeting which took place at the rooftop of Cocoa Board.

The occasion was also used to award best traditionally dressed ladies. Miss Josephine Addy of the Scholarship unit was adjudged the best traditionally dressed lady. Miss Gifty Appoh also from the Scholarship unit who stood

out in her apparel fashioned as the Queen of England proudly grabbed the second position.

Miss Pamela Dzikunu, Estate, Miss Linda Saaka, Salaries and Victoria Hodgson, Procurement followed in the third, fourth and fifth positions respectively.

Mrs. Sabina Wereku, President of the Ladies Club expressed worry about members' low attendance to meetings and advised that issues of ladies in the industry could only be solved if members are committed and dedicated to the activities of the association including regular attendance to meetings.









### **KNOW YOUR COCOA DISTRICTS**

COCOA REGION	POLITICAL DISTRICTS	NEW COCOA DISTRICTS
		Essam
WESTERN NORTH	Bia West	Ajuafua
		Adabokrom
	Juaboso	Juaboso
	Bodi	Bodi
		Sefwi Bekwai
	Bekwai-Anhwiaso-Bibiani	Bibiani
	Aowin	Boinso
		Enchi
	Soaman	Dadieso
	Akontombra	Akontombra
	Sefwi Wiawso	Boako
TOTAL	8	12
TOTAL	Upper Denkyira East Mun.	Dunkwa
	Upper Denkyira West Mun.	Diaso
	Wassa Amenfi East	
	Wassa Amenfi Central	Wassa Akropong
	Wassa Amenfi West	Asankragwa Samreboi
	Tarkwa-Nsuaem Mun.	Tarkwa 
WESTERN SOUTH	Prestea/Huni Valley	Huni Valley
	Wassa East	Daboase
	Mpohor	Kejebril
	Shama	,,,,
	Jomoro	Aiyinase
	Nzema East	Elubo
	Elembelle	
	Ahanta West	
TOTAL	14	11
	Amansie West	Antoakrom
	Amansie West Atwima Kwanwoma	Antoakrom
		Antoakrom New Edubiase
	Atwima Kwanwoma	
	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North	New Edubiase
	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North	New Edubiase
	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru Juaso
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru Juaso
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru Juaso
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma Asante Akyem Central Sekyere West Sekyere Central Sekyere South Ejura Sekyere-Odumase Sekyere East Kwabre East Afigya - Kwabre Sekyere Afram Plains	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru Juaso
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru Juaso
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya  Atwima Mponua	New Edubiase  Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere Couth  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya  Atwima Mponua  Offinso North	New Edubiase  Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya  Atwima Mponua  Offinso North  Offinso South	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma Asante Akyem Central Sekyere West Sekyere Central Sekyere South Ejura Sekyere-Odumase Sekyere East Kwabre East Afigya - Kwabre Sekyere Afram Plains Atwima Nwambiagya Atwima Myonua Offinso North Offinso South	New Edubiase  Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya  Atwima Mponua  Offinso North  Offinso South  Obuasi Municipal  Bosome Freho	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma Asante Akyem Central Sekyere West Sekyere Central Sekyere South Ejura Sekyere-Odumase Sekyere East Kwabre East Afigya - Kwabre Sekyere Afram Plains Atwima Nwambiagya Atwima Myonua Offinso North Offinso South	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma  Adansi North  Adansi South  Asante Akim North  Asante Akim South  Ejisu Juabeng  Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma  Asante Akyem Central  Sekyere West  Sekyere Central  Sekyere South  Ejura Sekyere-Odumase  Sekyere East  Kwabre East  Afigya - Kwabre  Sekyere Afram Plains  Atwima Nwambiagya  Atwima Mponua  Offinso North  Offinso South  Obuasi Municipal  Bosome Freho	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie  Offinso Obuasi
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma Asante Akyem Central Sekyere West Sekyere Central Sekyere South Ejura Sekyere-Odumase Sekyere East Kwabre East Afigya - Kwabre Sekyere Afram Plains Atwima Nwambiagya Atwima Myonua Offinso North Offinso South Obuasi Municipal Bosome Freho Amansie Central	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie  Offinso Obuasi
ASHANTI	Atwima Kwanwoma Adansi North Adansi South Asante Akim North Asante Akim South Ejisu Juabeng Bosomtwe Atwima Kwanwoma Asante Akyem Central Sekyere West Sekyere Central Sekyere Couth Ejura Sekyere-Odumase Sekyere East Kwabre East Afigya - Kwabre Sekyere Afram Plains Atwima Nwambiagya Atwima Nwambiagya Atwima Mponua Offinso North Offinso South Obuasi Municipal Bosome Freho Amansie Central Bekwai Municipal	New Edubiase Brofoyeduru  Juaso  Mampong  Nkawie  Offinso Obuasi  Bekwai

	Tano North	
	Tano South	Bechem
	Berekum	
	Techiman Municipal (South)	Berekum
	Techiman North	Derekum
	Sunyani East	
	Jaman South	
BRONG AHAFO	Sunyani West	Sunyani
	Dormaa East	
	Dormaa Central	Dormaa Ahenkro
		Missiland
	Dormaa West	Nkrankwanta
	Asunafo North	Goaso
	Asutifi South	Dadiesoaba
	Asunafo South	Sankore
TOTAL	14	8
	Biakoye	Jasikan
	Jasikan	Jasikan
	Nkwanta	D
	Kadjebi	Papaase
VOLTA	Hohoe Municipality	
	North Dayi	]
	Afadjato South	Hohoe/Kpeve
	Ho Municipality	<b>j</b>
	Ho West	1
TOTAL	9	3
	Upper West Akim	
	Lower West Akim	
	Birim South	Asamankese
	Birim Central	
		Bawdua
	Denkyembour	
	Birim North	New Abirem
	Kwaebibirim	Kade
	East Akim	Tafo
EASTERN	Fanteakwa	Talo
	Kwahu West	
	Kwahu East	Nkawkaw
	Kwahu South	
	New Juaben	Oyoko
	Atiwa	Osino
	Akyemmansa	Akim Oda
	Suhum Municipal	
	Akwapim South	Suhum
	Ayensuano	j sanem
TOTAL	19	10
	Agona East	
	Gomoa West	
	Agona West	Nyakrom
	Gomoa East	
		-
	Awutu/Senya	
	Asikuma-Odoben-Brakwa	Breman Asikuma
Central	Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam	
	Twifo Atti-Morkwa	Twifo Praso
	Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira	
	Komenda-Edina-Eguafo	Jukwa
	Abura-Asebu Kwamankese	Jakwa
	Assin South	Assin Fas:
	Assin North	Assin Fosu
TOTAL	13	5

### Harnessing Green IT: POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO GHANA COCOA BOARD



What is 'green IT'? In general terms it is the use of technology in a sustainable and eco- friendly manner. The idea of green IT emerged in 1992 when the United States Environmental Protection Agency launched Energy Star, a voluntary labeling programme that helps organisations save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by identifying products that offer superior energy efficiency.

According to Cai et al (2013) 'Green IT is the practice of designing, manufacturing, using and disposing of computers, servers and associated subsystems efficiently and effectively with minimal or no impact on the environment, with a strong focus on improving energy efficiency and equipment utilisation through steps such as designing energy efficient chips, virtualisation, reducing data center energy consumption, using renewable energy to power data centers, and reducing electronic waste. IT for green is the use of information systems to enhance sustainability across the economy, with a focus on IT as a solution."

### Organisational Context:

'Going green" is a hot new trend in the business world, and that naturally filters down to the IT department. When implemented correctly, this eco-friendly tactics can make the organisation's operations more efficient and save money.

The primary goals of green IT include minimising the use of hazardous materials, maximising energy efficiency, and encouraging recycling use of biodegradable products without negatively affecting productivity. In this article, we will look at 8 ways to implement green IT in an organisation.

### 1. Purchase of energy efficient hardware

Hardware products such as computers, air conditioners, fridges and etc should meet the EPA's Energy Star guidelines for lower power consumption. Again it should be the priority of the organisation to buy systems that have good EPEAT ratings (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) (www. epeat.net). The ratings use standards set by the IEEE to measure 'environmental

performance." All EPEAT-registered products must meet Energy Star 4.0 criteria. Also the organisation should consider high efficiency (80%) power supplies, variable speed temperature controlled fans, small form factor hard drives, and low voltage processors.

2. Use of virtualisation technology The Organisation can reduce the number of physical servers by leveraging on virtualisation technology. By using a virtualisation technology to run multiple virtual machines on a single physical server the savings can be substantial. Many physical servers are under utilised as in most cases they are only in use 10 to 15 percent of the time. Furthermore, the savings from virtualisation can be dramatic as VMWare claims that its virtualised infrastructure can decrease energy costs by as much as 80 percent. In the same vein, such benefits can be

### 3. Consolidate storage

realised with Microsoft's Hyper-V.

Just as server consolidation saves energy, so also consolidation of storage in centralized location helps to reduce energy consumption. For instance, Storage Area Networks (SAN) and Network Attached Storage (NAS) technologies are better options when it has to do with centralised storage.

### 4. Reduce paper consumption

Another way to save money while reducing the organisation's impact on the environment is to reduce consumption of paper. This can be achieved by switching from a paperbased to an electronic workflow: creating, editing, viewing, and delivering documents in digital rather than printed form. Send documents as e-mail attachments rather than faxing. In a situation where printing is unavoidable, the organisation can still reduce waste and save money by setting printers to use duplex (double-sided) printing. An internal study conducted by HP showed that a Fortune 500 company (similar to a Club 100 company) can save 800 tons of paper per year by printing on both sides. ( a savings of over \$7 million)

### 5. Use of computers without storage (thin clients)to reduce power usage

The amount of energy consumed by computers can be greatly reduced



through the deployment of thin clients. Because most of the processing is done on the server, thin clients use very little energy. In fact, a typical thin client uses less power while up and running applications than an Energy Star compliant PC in sleep mode. Thin clients are also ecologically friendly because they generate less e-waste. There are no hard drive, less memory, and fewer components to be disposed at the end of their lifecycles.

Few years ago, a Verizon spokesman said the company had decreased energy consumption by 30 percent by replacing PCs with thin clients, saving about \$1 million per year.

### 6. Recycle systems and supplies

To reduce the load on already overtaxed landfills and to avoid sending hazardous materials to those landfills (where they can leach into the environment and cause harm), old systems and supplies can be reused, repurposed, and/or recycled. Management can start by repurposing items within the organisation; for example, when a graphics designer or engineer needs a new high end workstation to run resource-hungry programmes, the old computer is perfectly adequate for use by someone doing word processing, spreadsheets, or other less intensive tasks. This hand-me-down method allows two workers to get better systems than they had, while requiring the purchase of only one new machine thereby saving money and avoiding unnecessary e-waste. The organisation can also donate old computers and other devices still in working condition to schools and nonprofit organisations.

### **Conclusions:**

There are several ways that green IT can be implemented in an organisation and not limited to the 8 mentioned above. According to a report that surveyed 426 companies in North America and 1,052 companies worldwide, 86 percent believed that it is imperative to implement green IT initiatives. The emergence of green IT promises organisations the benefits of reducing power consumption and carbon emissions, improving operation system performance and increasing interaction and collaboration.

Mr. Emmanuel Lamptey an administrative officer at the office of the Chief Deputy Executive (Agronomy and Quality Control) has retired after 39 years of meritorious service.



At a send off

party organized in his honor at the board room of Ghana Cocoa Board, The

Chief Executive of the Board Mr. Joseph Boahen Aidoo on behalf of the Board congratulated him for depicting high level of professionalism throughout his service in COCOBOD and assured him of the Board's continuous support and urged him not to hesitate to fall unto the Board for any help. 'COCOBOD is much grateful to you and we will continue to fall unto you for any advice when the need arises"he added.

Dr. Francis Oppong, former Deputy Chief Executive (A&QC) who chaired the occasion advised Mr. Lamptey popularly known as 'Major" to take good care of his health and thanked God for bringing such a resourceful person into the cocoa fraternity. He added that for the numerous years he has worked with Mr. Lamptey, he has always diligently executed his duties without receiving any form of query making him the hallmark of a very good team player.

Rev.J.D. Clottey Sefah, the Director of Legal Services said Mr. Lamptey was very diligent throughout his work life and took his work seriously. 'We know we will always have your name on our lips even as you go home and leave us here" he stated.



**MR. EMMANUEL** 

Mr. Emmanuel Tettey Atter, who joined Ghana Cocoa Board in 1980 as an Accounts Clerkgrade 3 has retired after 35 years of devoted service in the Cocoa Industry.

As an Accounts Clerk, Mr.Tettey worked on cocoa

exports for 12 years; liaising mainly with the Bank of Ghana and Customs on matters relating to exports of the country's main export commodity.

Mr. Emmanuel Tettey Atter rose through the ranks to become a Principal Accounts Officer in 2013 after having worked at salariesheadquarters, and at various Central Stores at Swedru, Nsawam and Koforidua.

Between 1998 -2004, he was the Chairman for the COCOBOD Local Union and articulated on issues which helped to enhance the welfare of staff.

We congratulate him on his contributions towards sustaining the cocoa sector.



MRS. MERCY AMUH

Mrs Mercy Amuh οf the Cash Quality Office, Control Company Limited (OCC) Accra, has retired from active service after over 30 years of meritorious service in the cocoa industry, she was employed as a clerk in 1975 at

the then Produce Inspection Division now QCC, a subsidiary of Ghana Cocoa Board. She was later posted to Stationery Stores, Canteen stores till 1991 when she was transferred to the Cash Office. In 1992, she was assigned additional duties to take charge of the Nsawam store and Accra chemical store.

By duty of hard work and dedication to duties, Mrs Mercy Amuh was promoted to Accounts Office in 2012 and subsequently transferred to the salary section of the Accounts department. Following her regard for meticulous work, Mrs Mercy Amuh was transferred back to head the Cash Office in February 2015 where she worked till her retirement in March 2017.

Congratulations for good work done Mrs Mercy Amuh.



Lawson of the Bills Unit has retired after almost fortv years of service at COCOBOD.

Madam Emelia

a send-off party organised in her honour by the Bills Unit, Aunty Emelia as she is affectionately

called expressed her gratitude to the Finance department for the cordial working relationship and the support she enjoyed from her colleagues, senior officers and subordinates during her time in active service. 'Your support made my work in the Finance department a success", she noted.

Speaking at the brief but impressive ceremony, Mr. Asamoah Frimpong, Deputy Director of Finance expressed gratitude to God and reiterated the fact that 'It is not everybody who gets the chance to exit as peacefully as our dear sister and mother is witnessing today", he stressed.

Former DCE in charge of Finance and Administration, Mrs. Miriam Okwabi , and some Accounts Managers, Messrs Daniel Gyabaah, Martin Asiamah praised Aunty Emelia for her tremendous and dedicated service to the cocoa industry.

The department presented items including a citation to Aunty Emelia.



Mr. Peter Okyere Boateng a Deputy Executive Director of Cocoa Health and Extension Division (CHED), a division of COCOBOD has retired after 30years of dedicated service.

At a send-off party organized to honour him at the conference room of CHED, The acting Executive Director Mr. Emmanuel A. Opoku congratulated him for his enormous contribution to CHED and COCOBOD as a whole. He used the opportunity to advise the staff to respect and love everyone they work with irrespective of their positions. He said, 'CHED is grateful to you, we thank God for your life and wish you all the best as you step out of COCOBOD" Mr. Opoku called for a toast to appreciate his effort in the Cocoa fraternity.

Mr. Noah Amenyah the Snr. Public Affairs Manager on behalf of COCOBOD Management expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Public Affairs Department for

always being available for the department and advised Mr. Okyere Boateng not to go and sleep but continue to be fruitful to the industry.

Mr. Okyere Boateng thanked God for his guidance and protection throughout his stay in COCOBOD. He expressed his gratitude to all the people he worked with and advised the staff to be dedicated to the work they have chosen to do and stay away from all unlawful acts in the industry. 'We should all have a vision to work towards" Mr. Okyere Boateng added.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### How do I obtain a license to buy cocoa?

The first thing to do is to write an application to the Chief Executive attaching relevant documents (company registration form, tax clearance certificate etc.)

The letter is then referred to the Legal Department for further consideration by the Cocoa Sector Marketing Committee (COSMAC)

Upon the satisfaction of COSMAC, the application is forwarded to the board of directors for approval and then to the legal department again for issuance of the license.

### How does one acquire certification to buy cocoa from Ghana?

**1** Firms wishing to be registered as buyers for Ghana cocoa beans are required to apply in writing to Cocoa Marketing Company (CMC) through the Managing Director.

2 Provide evidence of business registration and business activities.

Furnish CMC with the names and addresses of their bankers to enable it ascertain the firm's financial capabilities.

4 Provide evidence of their membership of the Federation of Cocoa Commerce Limited (FCC) and/or the Cocoa Merchants Association

of America, New York, even if they are members of other Cocoa Associations.

The fee for new applicants is \$1000 and the renewal of buyers' license is \$500.

### What is the minimum quantity of cocoa beans that can be purchased from Cocoa Marketing Company?

The minimum quantity for a contract of Cocoa beans to all the main ports of discharge is 50 metric tones.

In some circumstances, the CMC could insist on a larger tonnage to ascertain ports of discharge if that would serve as an inducement to carriers.

### How are payments made to the Cocoa Marketing Company upon purchase of cocoa beans?

Sales by the Cocoa Marketing Company are effected on the basis of cash against documents via documentary collection.

The company however, reserves the right to insist on the establishment of letters of credit whenever it deems it necessary.

### How do I access free seedlings for my cocoa farm?

The first step is to register at the nearest Cocoa office where your farm is located.

The registration process of farmers is not restricted to Seed Production Division (SPD) or Cocoa Health and Extension Division (CHED) offices, you need to look at where your farm is and the nearness of the offices.

Registration requires a valid national ID card, also, one need to provide answers as to the farm size, whether one is replanting or it's a new farm.

After that Cocoa Station Officials will inspect the farm to confirm the information you have given and take measurements of the farm to determine the quantum of seedlings to give out to the farmer. Is the fumigation service of Quality Control Company (QCC) available to the general public?

Yes it is, but the word is not fumigation but rather Disinfestation, fumigation is just one of many types used for disinfestation.

We have the spraying, rodent control and fumigation. Fumigation is the use of fumigants and they are like gases, it's normally used in rooms or warehouses to kill insects (both crawling and flying) but its targeted more at flying insects since the gases normally suspends in the air.

It is available to the general public, one need to call in or visit Quality Control Company office to pick up a form to fill after which the officers will come to the premises or farm to assess the problem and make recommendations. The form is free.

You can contact QCC on 0302667418

# SAFETY! SAFETY!!! RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT UNIT – SPECIAL SERVICES



afety is said to be a shared responsibility, hence the need to share safety information with all and sundry to enhance collective preservation of lives and properties.

In as much as we anticipate an incidentfree working atmosphere in our facilities, it is equally important for staff to know and be reminded of what to do in emergencies with particular reference to evacuation.

It is in line with the above, that, the Risk and Disaster Management Unit of the Special Services Department, COCOBOD, held a health and safety lecture in all the COCOBOD regions from 14th November to 25th November 2016, as well as the Head Office and Cocoa Clinic, Accra, in December, 2016.

The purpose of the lecture was to create awareness on how some occupational practices could be hazardous to individuals working in the offices. The lecture covered areas such as safety as a shared responsibility and dos and don'ts in the event of accidents or disaster threats. Participants were also educated on the importance of wearing or using Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) as well as some tips on the use of electricity.

An evacuation becomes necessary, if an emergency threatens the safety of those inside a building or an area. People in the threatened area may be instructed to evacuate or leave for a different place so specified near the affected area.

An evacuation is a precaution in which everyone leaves the threatened area and goes to the earest place of safety.

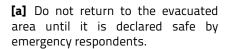
If instructed to evacuate the area, know the nearest and safest means of escape.

1. DOs: 🗸

[a] Remain calm

- **[b]** Close all doors on your way out. (Do not lock)
- **[c]** Turn off all electrical and openflame equipment.
- **[d]** Leave the area by the nearest and safest exit available.
- **[e]** If the nearest route is blocked or unsafe, use an alternate route; do not use elevators/lifts.
- **[f]** Beware of possible dangers along your route; test doors for heat in case of fire.

### 2. DON'Ts:



### 3.EMERGENCIES THAT MAY REQUIRE AN EVACUATION INCLUDE:

- [a] Fires
- [b] Bomb threats
- [c] Release of dangerous goods or substances inside the building you are in (eg. Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear Contaminants) [d] Structural damage

### **4.THE OCCUPANT:**

- **[a]** Know your building; be aware of all evacuation routes, call points and manual fire alarms, as well as the evacuation meeting location/ Assembly Point for your building. Go straight to the assembly point for roll call
- **[b]** Know your evacuation time (i.e. from 60 seconds to 180 seconds); depending on the structural materials.
- **[c]** Do I have a colleague who requires assistance to get to the Assembly Point?
- **[d]** Above all, let us all maintain good housekeeping.

MAKING SURE THE FIRE DOES NOT START IN OUR PRIORITY.

### **5.WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF FIRE?**

[a] Raise the Alarm

[b] Call the Fire Service - 192

[c] Evacuate the Building

**[d]** Fight the Fire if Safe to do so and you are trained.

### 6.SAFETY TIPS ON THE USE OF ELECTRICITY

- **[a]** Switch off all electrical gadgets and detach plug tops from sockets where applicable before leaving your office or room.
- **[b]** As soon as the light goes off, ensure to switch off all electrical sockets that are connected to your electrical appliances.
- **[c]** Avoid the use of water heaters and kettles in the offices as much as possible. Check the ratings of your electrical extension boards as against the appliances being used.
- **[d]** Do not overload your electrical sockets.
- **[e]** Maintain good housekeeping in your office to avoid increasing the fire load in your offices and homes.
- **[f]** Report all signs of arching in your office sockets immediately to the Estate Department for prompt redress by the Electrical Unit.
- g.Be circumspect in the use of the lift, especially during emergencies.

### 7.USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPEs)

If your duties require the use of PPEs, make sure you are properly dressed in the appropriate gear. These are:

- [a] Hand Gloves
- [b] Nose Mask
- [c] Safety Boots
- **[d]** Safety Belts/ Hooks for those working at Heights
- [e] Overall or Overcoat
- [f] Helmet
- [g] Glass Goggles, among others.

REMEMBER – Leaving early is always the Safest Option.



political, religious. So we need chocolate.

ALAIN DUCASSE

I honestly eat chocolate all day long. I do realize how blessed I am to be able to eat what I want and not have to live in the aym. JOYCE GIRAUD

Where there is Chocolate there is Love. MAHATMA GANDHI

Chocolate is a wonderful way of expressing what you really want to say. UNKNOWN

They invented Chocolate to let people know you love them without saying anything. **BIL KEANE** 

A bar of Chocolate makes the heart young again to start a brand new day \_ RUPERT BROOKE

will get one thing done" UNKNOWN

- "Anything is good if it's made of chocolate. Chocolate helps keep your brain function whirring into old age". JO BRAND
- I've always got a sweet tooth. I have chocolate hidden in places that nobody knows about. \_ TONY MCCOY
- Chocolate is not cheating! After a salty meal, you need a little bit of sweet. This is living, not cheating. **ALI LANDRY**
- Chocolate is one of the world's most beloved discoveries, and when we need a quick boost of energy and endorphins, chocolate is the goto treat. \_MARCUS SAMUELSSON
- Everywhere in the world there are tensions - economic.

- Your hand and your mouth agreed many years ago that, as far as chocolate is concerned, there is no need to involve your brain. DAVE BERRY.
- All you need is love. But a little Chocolate now and then doesn't hurt. CHARLES M. SCHULZ.
- There is nothing more lovely than a friend with Chocolate in hand. LINDA GRAYSON.
- "Happiness", Simple as a glass of Chocolate or meandering as the heart. Bitter, Sweet, Alive. JOANNE HARRIS.
- "All I really need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt!" SANDRA BOYNTON
- "Put eating chocolate at the top of your list of things to do today. That way, at least you

# WAKE UP TO A HAPPIER HEALTHIER YOU



courtesy: dream

There are few things in life that make one feel as refreshed as a good sleep and it's no wonder the world almost comes to a standstill for us when sleep eludes us. A power nap for instance energizes us so much it is simply amazing. Many people walk into a doctor's consulting room complaining of sleepless nights; sometimes it's subjective but in many instances the patient has a valid point.

Sleeping soundly night after night is a blessing and some of my favourite people seem to have found the secret to uninterrupted sleep so I picked their brains on tips to the miracle land of sleep. For those of us who snore like a trumpet on a mission to break down the walls of Jericho, maybe it's time to take a close look at our health. Together let us review simple common sense ways of making our sleep more restful hence waking up healthier and happier each day.

### 1. IS YOUR ROOM SLEEP READY?

a. A well ventilated room with minimal lighting is ideal and a firm mattress will ensure you do not wake up with aches and pains. Avoid watching TV in bed since you will definitely strain your neck and begin a cycle of pain. A little background music is the most you can indulge in. Never listen to radio programmes that may engage you all night.

b. Your bedroom is no extension of your office or living room, keep work and clutter away from here.

### 2. RELAX AND PREPARE FOR SLEEP

a. We can't escape the fact that for most things that we do preparation is key and sleep should be treated as such. As often as possible, sleep at the same time especially if you have challenges falling and remaining asleep. b. Take a walk after supper and follow it up with a luke warm shower.

c. Enjoy a few minutes (even 5 minutes is satisfactory) of 'me time" where you relax, go over the day's events, plan for the next day and practice some deep breathing exercises.

d. A bout of sex especially for men may enhance sleep.

### 3. WHAT YOU EAT AND DRINK ARE IMPORTANT

a. Dinner is no time to stuff yourself with food. It makes you uncomfortable and sleep may be difficult. Spicy and oily foods should be avoided as much as possible in the evening and alcohol and caffeinated drinks such as tea and coffee taken late in the day may just be what your doctor asked you to guard against.

b. I hope you don't plan to lie down within two hours of a meal because it may predispose you to 'heart-burns", which could keep you awake all night.

### 4.MANAGE YOUR TIME APPROPRIATELY

a. When all is said and done feeling overwhelmed causes stress and may keep you awake. Plan your day and prioritize your activities so that at the end of the day you would have covered the most important aspects.

b. Engage in a regular exercise programme which will make you healthy so that you can do more in less time. Whenever you have a problem with managing your time I suggest you start exercising immediately.

### **5. CARE FOR YOUR TEETH**

Mouth and teeth hygiene is much more important than you can ever imagine. Anyone who has stayed awake all night with a toothache will need no reminders. It's called learning the hard way.

Make sure you brush your teeth at night before you sleep. Quite often bacteria have a long stretch of time to cause havoc at night. Spit out the toothpaste but do not rinse your mouth with water, this ensures you have a protective layer of fluoride for instance to protect your teeth.

### **6. KEEP YOUR HEART SAFE**

a. It's been suggested that if you have to pop an aspirin a day then bedtime may be ideal to reduce your risk of clot formation.

### 7. SNORING THE ROOF DOWN

Many of us snore like there is no tomorrow and there is nothing that makes insomnia as painful as listening to the trumpet blowing from someone's nostrils close by.

Sometimes losing some fat will reduce snoring and that will help the snorer get more restful sleep. A few people will need professional help to manage their snoring appropriately.

### 8. ANY MEDICAL CONDITIONS?

a. Some medical conditions such as diabetes, urine infection, high blood pressure and prostate challenges will announce their presence by ensuring you make several trips to the bathroom that disturb your sleep.

So when you want to wake up healthy and happy, try these steps and if your

sleep does not improve then you may seek professional care. Shift workers who need to sleep during the day may have challenges but it is important they make time to sleep instead of spending the day sightseeing and shopping.

AS ALWAYS LAUGH OFTEN, WALK AND PRAY EVERYDAY AND REMEMBER IT'S A PRICELESS GIFT TO KNOW YOUR NUMBERS (blood sugar, blood pressure, blood cholesterol, BMI)

Dr. Kojo Cobba Essel Moms' Health Club (dressel@healthclubsgh.com)

\*Dr Essel is a medical doctor, who holds an MBA and is ISSA certified in exercise therapy and fitness nutrition.

Thought for the week – 'breast cancer is rare in males but it is worthwhile for every man to examine his breast at least once in his lifetime."

Reference:

Men's Health Magazine. October 2014 Edition.



### DR. ESIAPE OF COCOBOD HONOURED

Dr. Riches Esiape, a Deputy Medical Manager of Cocoa Clinic Accra is the 2nd Runner-Up in the Doctors category at the 2nd National Medical Excellence Awards held at the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons in Accra.

The awards programme, the 2nd Edition since its inception in 2015, was organized by 1Z Multimedia Group in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service to recognize the contributions of all hardworking health workers across the country.

In an interview with Dr. Esiape he described the honour as a surprise and expressed appreciation to COCOBOD for providing the enabling environment for staff to excel.

He used the occasion to advise his colleagues especially the younger generation, to take their work very seriously adding that 'you may not know who is monitoring your performance'

He entreated all persons who patronize the clinic to offer suggestions to further enhance service delivery at the clinic.

Dr. Esiape also said that being a medical practitioner requires commitment and dedication, and called on those who are aspiring to be medical practitioners to bear in mind that the profession is sacrificial in nature and not an avenue for monetary gains. He added that even a thank you" from a happy patient is a more valuable worth more than financial reward.

He was presented with a citation and other items.

### THE PRISON "ESCAPEE"

A man escaped from prison where he has been for 15 years. He breaks into a house to look for money and guns and finds a young couple in bed. He orders the guy out of bed and ties him to a chair, while tying the girl to bed, he gets on top of her, kisses her neck, then gets up & goes into the bathroom. While he's in there, the husband tells his wife: listen, this guy's an escaped convict. Look at his clothes! He spent lots of time in jail and hasn't seen a woman in years. I saw how he kissed your <u>neck." if</u> he wants sex, don't resist, Do whatever he tells you. Satisfy him no matter how much he nauseates you. This guy is probably very dangerous. If he gets angry, he'll kill us. Be strong honey. I love you. To which his wife responds: "He wasn't kissing my neck. He was whispering in my ear. He told me he was a gay, thought you were cute, and asked me if we had any vaseline. I told him it was in the bathroom. Be strong honey: I love you

too.

### THE FRIDGE

One morning at a doctor's office, Kojo arrives complaining of serious back-pain. The doctor examines him and asks him" OK, what happened to your back?" Kojo replies "You know that I work for a local night club right? This morning I got home to my apartment early and heard a noise in my bedroom. On entering I knew someone had been with my wife and the balcony door was open. I rushed out through the balcony door and did not find anyone. As I looked down from the balcony, I saw a man running out and he was dressing himself. l grabbed the fridge and threw it at him. That's how I strained my back". The 2nd patient, Kwaku, arrives looking as if he has been in a car wreck. The doctor said "My previous patient looked bad, but you look terrible. What the hell happened to you?"He replied, "You know I have been unemployed for a while now. Today was the first day at my new job. I forgot to set my alarm and was running late. I was running out of the building, getting dressed at the same time, and you won't believe it, but I was hit by a fridge."

The 3rd patient, Nkansah, arrives; he looks even worse than the other two Patients do. The doctor is shocked. Again asks "what the hell happened to youuuuuu....?""Well I was sitting in a fridge & someone threw it from the 3rd floor"....

### CARRY YOUR BURDENS

A husband comes home from Church, greets his wife, lifts her up and carries her around the house. The wife is so surprised and excited! She asked with smiles, "Did the Pastor preach on being romantic?" Out of breath the husband replies, "No, he said we must carry our burdens..."

### 

Two men met at a bus stop and struck up a conversation.

One of them kept complaining of family problems. Finally, the other man said: "You think you have family problems? Listen to my situation. A few years ago I met a young widow with a grown-up daughter and we got married.

"Later my father married my step daughter. That made my step daughter my stepmother and my father became my stepson. Also, my wife became mother in-law of her father-in-law.

Then the daughter of my wife, my stepmother, had a son. This boy was my half-brother because he was my father's son, but he was also the son of my wife's daughter which made him my wife's grand-son.

That made me the grandfather of my half-brother.

This was nothing until my wife and I had a son. Now the half-sister of my son, my stepmother, is also the grandmother. "This makes my father the brother-in-law of my child, whose stepsister is my father's wife, I'm my stepmother's brother-in-law, my wife is her own child's aunt, my son is my father's nephew and I'm My own son's grandfather! And you think you have family wahala.

### THE

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine, they laid down for the night, and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see." Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars." "What does that tell you?" Watson pondered for a minute. "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies, and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?" Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke. "It tells me that someone has stolen our tent." -

### FAINTED

A man fainted outside Mr. Biggs.
Soon a crowd gathered around
him and someone suggested, "Give
him some water, it will help." Hearing
this, the man opened one eye and
said, "Commot from here, if na
water I wan drink, I forgo
faint for Ghana Water
Company..."



- Boosts fertility in both sexes.
- Inhibits dangerous clot formation within blood vessels.
- Affords anti-cancer and cancer-prevention properties.
- Promotes cleansing and detoxification of the body.
- Rich dietary iron which helps to fight anaemia.
- Improves memory and general brain functions.
- Promotes nourishment/health of brain cells.
- Supplies many essential dietary minerals.
- Offers healthy levels of dietary fiber.
- Protects blood vessels.
- Boosts sense of well being



# The food for HIEALTHY

