

HONORARY CONSULAR CORPS OF GHANA

(Member of the Federation Internationale des Corps et Associations Consulaires)



Newsletter 03, 2018

Glimpses of 12th World from 04-07 Oct 2018 Congress of Consuls in Brussels
from 04-07 Oct 2018



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Saied Fakhry, chairman of Interplast Ghana adjudged business icon 2017

BY CLIFF EKUFUL

MR Saied Assad Fakhry, Chairman of Interplast Ghana Limited was over the weekend adjudged the overall best Business Icon for 2017 at the second edition of the Ghana Business Quality Awards held in Accra. For his prize, he received a plaque and a citation in recognition of his immense contribution to the economic development of the country through the diverse business entities he has established across the country and in the sub-region.

In all, 35 individuals and organisations were awarded at the event organised by the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Ghana (EFG).

Mrs Kate Quartey Papafio, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Reroy Group, Mr Dan Kofi Okudzeto, Executive Chairman of Allied Oil Company Limited and Mr Robert Kingsford Kutin, Chief Executive Officer of Allship Logistics were adjudged as the Eastern, Volta and Central Regional Business Icons respectively for the same period.

In addition, Dr Macdonalds Vasanani, Chief Executive Officer of

Consolidated Shipping Agency, Mr Adam Bonaa, Chief Executive of Kazz Group of Companies, Mr Obed Asante CEO of Ghana Nuts Company Limited and Mr Moses Baiden Junior, CEO of Margins Group, Dr Ernest Sarpong, CEO of Special Investment Limited emerged as the Business Icons of the Upper West, Brong Ahafo, Western and Ashanti Regions respectively.

At the quality products and services categories, JRA Cosmetics, Karpowership, Vanguard Assurance, Taabea Company Limited, Allied Oil Company Limited and the Ghana Community Network Services Limited were crowned as the quality best indigenous Cosmetics and toiletries, premium quality Insurance, premium quality herbal mix and premium quality trade facilitation companies of the year respectively.

The Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Robert Ahomka Lindsey, who graced the occasion congratulated all those who received nominations for their contributions in diverse ways to the development of the country.

He said as we sought to celebrate our own, it was important that we did not lose sight of the importance of such recognition and strive hard to improve on the quality of our businesses.

Mr Lindsey said government believed in the private sector and would



continue to work to create the enabling environment to ensure that private businesses thrive.

He explained that business was at the core of every country's economy and the President believed that creating the necessary fiscal and macro environment would anchor the "Ghana beyond Aid".

On his part, the founder of EFG, Mr Sam Ato Gasie said they institutionalised the awards not only to celebrate excellence but also to promote quality for businesses in the country.

He said it was in the best interest of the country to develop its businesses to be able to compete with their counterparts elsewhere in the world.

Mr Gasie commended all individuals and organisations who got nominated and those who won awards and urged those who did not win to strive hard to improve on their quality in order to emerge winners in the next edition.

Ghana: GBF to Honour Amb. Quarcoo, Hon Consul of Haiti The Ghana Boxing Federation (GBF) will stage a special boxing competition at the DG Hathiramani Sports Hall of the Accra Sports Stadium. It will precede this year's election of AIBA to be held in Russia on November 2, 2018. Mr George Lamptey, President of the GBF, told the Times Sports that the event would also be used to mark the 83rd birthday anniversary of Ambassador Ray Quarcoo, a former President of the GBF. He said a series of events will be held in Ambassador Quarcoo's honour having played a big role in the success story of amateur boxing in Ghana.

*Congratulations NICE GOING!
GREAT! Way to Go!
Yea! FELICITATIONS
CHEERS Take A BEST
BOW! WISHES!*

Hon. Ghassan Yared, Consul of Peru, Awarded at Ghana Business Quality Awards 2018 Hon. Ghassan Yared was awarded best Ghana-Lebanese Business Icon at the recently held 2nd Ghana Business Quality Awards ceremony on Saturday 20th October, 2018 at the Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast, Accra. The quality awards was organized by the Entrepreneurs Foundation Ghana (EFG) in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Sector Development. Its vision is to promote quality products and services in the country and this year's event was held on the theme: "Building Ghana Beyond Aid: the Role of the Private Sector in Economic Growth and Job Creation." The Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Robert Ahomka Lindsey, who graced the occasion congratulated all those who received nominations for their contributions in diverse ways to the development of the country.



Hilton John Mitchell, CMILT, PhD (h.c.)

International Business Executive Managing Director/
CEO,

Jonmoore International

Hon Consul of Trinidad & Tobago



Mr. Hilton John Mitchell is the Founder and Managing Director of JONMOORE International Limited, a project logistics and specialized transport company which, since 1995, has been delivering global and on-site transport, heavy-lifting and freight forwarding services to the mining, power generation, oil & gas sectors in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Niger, Guinea, Liberia, Côte D'Ivoire and Sierra Leone.



Since 1998, Jonmoore International has successfully carried out global project logistics, infrastructural and on-site support to gold mining, power generation, processing and manufacturing industries throughout the West African sub-region using its own assets, offices and personnel in some of the remotest locations from greenfield to production stages.

Some landmark projects include the development of the Samira Hill Gold Mine in Niger, Tarparko, Bissa, Perkoa, Boun-gou and others in Burkina Faso, Morrila, Yatella, Syama, Tabakoto in Mali, Siguiri in Guinea and Mako in Senegal, while also operating on all mines in Ghana, including Newmont's flagship mines in Akyem and Ahafo.

The Company prides itself on becoming the first indigenous Project Logistics Company to be certified by the International Standards Organization (ISO 9001:2005) in Quality Management Processes and TRACE (Anti-Corruption and Bribery).



As Honorary Consul of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to Ghana, He was instrumental in pursuing the implementation of a reciprocal visa waiver regime between the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and The Republic of Ghana. This came into force on August 1st 2008.

In April 2016, Mr Mitchell was conferred an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Philosophy in Humanities by the I-Change Nations Foundation and the United Graduate College and Seminary in Washington D.C. for his service to Humanity, building relationships between nations and accomplishments in Industry.



GHANA: High Court rules that payment of minimum disputed amount is a prerequisite for filing an appeal

The Commercial Division of the High Court, in its decision of 13 July 2018, in the case of *Beiersdorf Ghana Limited v. The Commissioner General of the Ghana Revenue Authority* (CM/TAX/0001/2018), ruled that the payment of at least a quarter of the tax liability contained in a disputed notice of assessment in the first quarter of the year of assessment is a prerequisite for filing a tax appeal in accordance with Rule 4 of Order 54 of the High Court (Civil Procedures) Rules 2004.

In the case at hand, the Ghana Revenue Authority (“GRA”) conducted a tax audit on Beiersdorf Ghana Limited (“BGL”) and issued an additional tax assessment, disallowing royalty payments made in accordance with a distribution licence on the basis that the agreement was not registered as a technology transfer agreement with the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (“GIPC”).

BGL objected on the basis that the distribution licence agreement is not a technology transfer agreement as contemplated by the GIPC Act (Act 865) and was, therefore, not required to be registered with the GIPC. BGL also disagreed with the GRA recharacterising reimbursements paid to its distributors for work done by third-party vendors as sales commission and subjecting such payments to withholding tax.

The GRA subsequently issued a revised assessment taking into consideration tax credits to which BGL was entitled, but BGL disagreed with the revised assessment and filed an appeal with the High Court.

The High Court ruled in favour of the GRA on the basis that it was precluded from hearing the appeal because BGL failed to provide evidence of the payment of at least a quarter of the tax due in the notice of appeal and hence, the appeal was not properly filed.

May we call your attention to the following

Probably you know ViaVia, as the worldwide ViaVia Network with 17 so-called Travelers Cafés in the world is originally a Belgian initiative.

(<http://viavia.world/nl/afrika/accra>)

ViaVia Accra has been officially opened in July 2018



Report on General Meeting held in May 2018



The Honorary Consular Corps recognised



Some members of HCCGH at a General Meeting

Who's Who Directory : Information from Members

Newsletter Edition : Articles from Members

Ficac ID Card Renewal in Dec 2018

Honorary Consuls in Ghana were recognised in the country after establishment of the Honorary Consular Corps of Ghana (HCCGH) in 1996, through the great efforts put forth by Mr. H. R. Roth, the then-Hon Consul General of Finland who took up the leadership by becoming the first Dean of the HCCGH comprising eleven members.

In October 1998, HCCGH was formally elected as a Member Association of the World Federation Internationale des Corps et Associations Consulaires (FICAC).

In December 2015, Hon. Mr. Amarkai Amarteifio - having completed his term as the Hon Consul General of Sweden - resigned from HCCGH as the Dean and handed over to Hon. Mr. Dimitri Avraam, Hon Consul of Belgium who had been Deputy-Dean since 2000; and Hon Antonio Fernandes, Consul of Portugal, was elected as the new Deputy-Dean.

Under the leadership of the Hon Dean and Deputy-Dean at a recent event - the General Meeting of the HCCGH

hosted by Ambassador Ray Quarcoo, Honorary Consul of Haiti, at the plush Kokrobite Beach Villa in Accra - elections of the executive committee with working committees for the period 2018-20, were conducted as follows:

The Executive Committee member is Hon John Mitchell, Consul of Trinidad and Tobago; and Hon Thomas Okyere, Consul of Botswana, elected as the Treasurer.

The GoG and Local Authorities relations committee with Hon Subhi Accad, Consul of Mexico, and Hon Marianna Gabrielle, Consul of Cyprus, to be guided by the chairperson Hon Ghassan Antoine Yared, Consul of Peru. The Committee for Motivation and Coordination for Membership has Hon Frederick Alipui, Consul of Indonesia, as Chairperson; with Hon Kwame Acquah of Seychelles and Hon Kobena Ade-Coker of Belarus to support him. For the Social Events and Community Projects, Hon Elizabeth Knaup, Consul of Mauritius, was elected Chairperson with Hon Shereen Captain, Consul of Jordan, and Dr. Medhat Khalil,

Consul of Malawi, as members.

Mr. Avraam, speaking to journalists, said that the group seeks to promote the role of Honorary Consuls by maintaining excellent and reliable partnerships building capacity for productions of technological transfers to meet developmental goals set out by leadership of Ghana.

“Our active current members contribute immensely to bilateral trade cultural promotions with representation in the country.

“We are proud that one of our members, Saied Fahmy, Consul of Congo, and Chairman of Interplast, recently received an accolade as the Best Business Patriate for 2017, thus underlining our commitment toward growing the Republic of Ghana's economy.

“I wish the elected officers well in their respective endeavours, and do believe that the rich experience gathered by the members through their dedicated service will take the Honorary Consular Corps of Ghana a notch higher.”



Congratulations!



New Appointments

Hon Consul of Ukraine, *Mr. Vladyslav Romanov* Tel +233 (0)26 149 7456

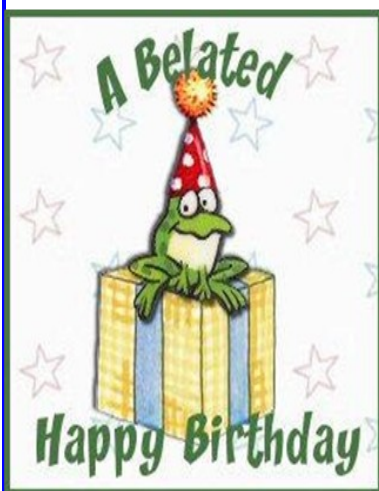
Hon Consul of Bulgaria, *Mr. Nico Van Staaldunen* Tel: +233 (0) 243832200

Hon Consul of Austria, *Mrs. Regina Rosemary ORTHNER* Tel: +233 (0) 24 382 7037

Members who celebrated their **Birthday** last quarter

Hon Fredrik Morsing , Consul of Sweden on 17/09

Hon Saied Fakhry , Consul of Comoros on 24/08



We congratulate the members who celebrated their **National Day** this quarter

Trinidad & Tobago, Mexico, Mali And Cape Verde

Hon Consulate of the Republic of Seychelles also celebrated their National Day

Upcoming events at the Consulate of Seychelles

The Speaker of the Parliament of Ghana and his delegation to meet with the Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles on 02 Nov 2018



Hon Dean and members of EC meeting the Chief of Protocol, Mr. Samuel Yaw Kumah at MFA



Vehicle registration - CC for Honorary Consuls accredited in Ghana

A meeting with the CEO of DVLA, Mr Kwasi Agyeman Busia and Mr George Ackom, Director of Vehicle Inspection & Registration was held by the Hon Dean in March 2018 to discuss the 'CC' plates and a CC Plate Design proposal along with the list of members were submitted. It was advised that a Vehicle Registration System would be introduced in Sept 2018.

A request for a courtesy visit to the President was submitted to the Office of the President in March 2018

The Committee of GOG Relationships to take up the issues for a conclusion.



Consulate of Belgium as the Coordinators & Consultants supported the Trade Mission that was held from 02-04 Oct 2018 in Accra by the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (CCL)

We thank the Hon Consuls for their participation at the Event

