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New Captain At The Helm

Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo- Addo, Ghana's fifth President of the fourth Republic is a President of firsts- he holds the record as the head of state with the longest name in our history. He is the hands down winner when it comes to the number of attempts at running for Presidency. He is also the first President whose father, Edward Akufo-Addo, was once President of Ghana.

At his third attempt and what many described as his last, Nana Akufo-Addo won the 7th December 2016 Presidential elections. President Akufo-Addo was a Member of Parliament from 1996 – 2008. He served as Attorney-General and Minister of Justice under the President Kufuor administration and played a pivotal role in the repeal of the Criminal Libel Law. During his tenure as Foreign Minister, he was involved in the ECOWAS peace efforts in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea Bissau. He was the Chair of the ECOWAS Mediation and Security Council. President Akufo-Addo is a family man, married with five children.

Promises to Fulfil

The New Patriotic Party's ("NPP") victory in the 2016 Presidential elections has been met with much optimism. The cause of private sector has been championed on the campaign trail. Promises have been made to use the private sector to develop our material resources and increase Ghana's industrial capacity. No less than six new ministries have been created to pursue this agenda.

Most publicized amongst these promises is the 'One district, One factory' policy. The aim of this policy is to ensure that Ghana as a whole, and not just a few select urban areas, benefits from the industrialization drive: boosting the economy and reducing the high level of unemployment amongst the youth. Mr. Alan Kyeremanteng, the Minister of Trade and Industry has revealed that the 'One



District, One Factory' project has generated a lot of business interest with several industries identified and committed investors lined up. Plans appear to be well thought out. An organization is to be specifically set up to manage the collaboration between the public and private sectors, to reduce the risks and costs of the project and to promote the products manufactured by the district-located industries.

It is envisaged that the same organization will partner with a host of other institutions including the Ghana Stock Exchange and its subsidiary Ghana Alternative Market to provide an exit channel for investors who want to cash in their investments for hefty profits overtime. According to Mr. Kyeremanteng, the construction of the first set of factories will begin within 6 months and would be built from viable existing companies in the various districts, with the new factories streaming in within a year or two. The stakes are high for the new government but if this project succeeds, it will be a welcome revival of the economy.

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Energy Update



Power supply has remained stable despite various cautionary statements of imminent power outages in 2017. The NPP-led Government has however promised to end the erratic power supply ("dumsor") in the short-term. The Government believes that the challenges in the energy sector are not technical but rather financial. To bring this "dumsor" tale to an end, the Akufo-Addo administration intends to improve financial management and structuring within the energy sector by injecting money, restructuring debts owed and securing firm commitments for reliable supply of fuel.

Land of Opportunity

Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. John Peter Amewu, has proposed the creation of a complete inventory on the status of the various lands acquired by

the Government over the years.



Ghana has long seen arguments over land. In some instances, traditional authorities and individuals have clashed over compensation payments (or lack of) by the State for land acquired. The Government on the other hand, has often pointed the finger at private developers encroaching on land properly acquired by the State. Indeed the encroachment of state lands has been reported to impede the successful execution of various public projects. Reflecting public priorities, this proposal shows a seemingly monumental task. Managing this project will require state and traditional leaders to find common ground.

Judicial Service Commits to Anti-Corruption Compact

Ghana has become the first country to

commit to an anti-corruption compact agreement with the International Bar Association (IBA). The purpose of the compact is to enhance judicial integrity by mobilizing anti-corruption crusaders in judicial systems across the world. The signing of the compact, an initiative of the IBA is significant because of the recent judiciary corruption scandal which engulfed the nation.

Eleventh Hour decisions: justified or politics as usual?



One can do a lot in the so called "eleventh hour" as Former President Mahama did before handing over power on 7th January, 2017.

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He confirmed the appointment of Joseph Akanjolenur Whittal and Josephine Nkrumah as heads of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE) respectively, and appointed Mr. Daniel Domelovo as the new Auditor-General.

The former President has come under a lot of criticism following these appointments. His critics have called these appointments mischievous and an attempt to sabotage the new government. Others say the actions of the former President constitute a blatant disregard of the provisions of the Transitional Law. Mr. Mahama has justified these decisions as being in the interest of the country. The New Patriotic Party has filed a writ challenging the authority of the President to make such last minute appointments



WHO's WHO?

- **Minister for Finance**
Kenneth Ofori-Attah
- **Minister for Energy**
Boakye Agyarko
- **Minister for Trade and Industry**
Alan Kwadwo Kyeremanteng
- **Minister for Foreign Affairs**
Shirley Ayorkor Botchway
- **Minister for Agriculture**
Dr. Owusu Afriyie Akoto
- **Minister for Zongo and Inner city development**
Boniface Abubakar Saddique
- **Minister for Railways**
Joe Ghartey
- **Chief of Staff**
Akosua Frema Osei-Opare

B&P ASSOCIATES New Office Launch



On Thursday, 1st December, 2016, B&P ASSOCIATES launched its new offices with

a client cocktail. Our offices are located at House No. F 106/5, 4th Soula Street, (Opposite Ecobank Pelican Plaza), Labone-Accra.

To further discuss these, or any other related topic with us contact:

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This publication may provide a summary of legal issues but is not intended to give specific legal advice. If you require legal advice, please speak to a qualified lawyer, which may include a qualified member of our legal team at

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