

2016 CAPITAL MARKET SEMINAR

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE GSIA, MR. REGINALD FRANCE

On behalf of the Governing Council of the Ghana Securities Industry Association (GSIA), I welcome you all to the 2016 capital market week seminar which is being held as part of the 2016 Capital Market Week. The theme is “**Unleashing the Potential of the Capital Market in Ghana**”.

This year marks the inaugural hosting of the Capital Market Week celebrations which hitherto was organised by the Securities & Exchange Commission, Ghana. (SEC). At this time, the GSIA wishes to applaud the SEC commissioners and its energetic Director General, Dr. Adu Anane Antwi and his team for leading the efforts of Financial Literacy and Investor Education in Ghana.

We began the Capital Market Week with a 6.5 mile health walk and fun games in Burma Camp, Accra, hosted a workshop for Financial Journalists at the Ghana Stock Exchange and today’s Capital Market Seminar and to be followed by a Quiz for Senior High School Students in the Greater Accra Region.

The GSIA has a nine- member Governing Council (GC) which is made up of representatives of Investment Advisors, Broker-Dealers and Licensed Service Providers. The GC is supported in managing the business and affairs of the Association by an Executive Secretary and a Secretariat.

As of September 2016, the GSIA has a membership of 111, comprising;

Broker- Dealer	22
Custodians	10
Registrar	1
Stock Exchange	1
Securities Depository	1
Investment Advisors	76

Ghana still has a low savings rate, and a 25% exclusion of its adult population from financial services and a 36% rate in the banking sector per CGAP, a World Bank initiative. The recent three tier pension reform is encouraging as the tier three informal sector is virtually untapped for retirement savings.

As of June 2016, NPRA data reflects, that private pensions has GHS 6.4b Assets under Management (AUM) and Public Pensions (SSNIT) had an AUM of GHS 8.2b for a cumulative pension AUM of GHS 14.6b representing 17.3% (7.6%+9.8%) of Ghana's GDP at period end June 2016. The recent NPRA revised investment guidelines, has increased the asset allocations to Listed Debt Securities, Listed Equities and Alternative Investments in Collective Investment Schemes and Private Equity asset classes. This singular initiative should spur investment in the Capital Market and contribute to the growth of Ghana's GDP. A new Securities Industry Law has been passed and waiting on a Presidential assent. The industry regulator is now financially independent and has to be a self-sustaining agency, which will require an industry levy to support its sustainability and investment protection mandate.

This forum is an opportunity for all players in the Capital Market to deliberate and discuss relevant issues on Policy, Standards and Regulations that impact on the Capital Market Industry. We have in our midst regulatory bodies and financial market participants and licensed capital market operators.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention that the GSIA was endorsed as the approved Country Sponsor of the GIPS Standards in Ghana by the CFA Institute/GIPS Committee, U.K. GSIA is indeed committed to ensuring that we achieve greater standardization in performance management and reporting within the securities industry as attainment of these standards will increase the confidence of the domestic and foreign investors and partners in the Ghanaian Capital Market.

The expectation of the GSIA at the end of this seminar, is that, we would have interrogated, discussed and evolved strategies that will help us deepen the capital markets in Ghana. This seminar is designed to be interactive, engaging and one to provoke and stimulate thought. It is our hope that adoption of the GIPS Standards, increased investor participation and satisfaction in our market will lead to an increased economic growth in Ghana.

Once again, I welcome you to the 2016 Capital Market Week and God bless our country Ghana.

