



**GHANA REGISTERED NURSES  
AND MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION  
AKATSI SOUTH DISTRICT**

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**BANKERS**

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District Secretariat

P.O. Box 83, Akatsi

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May 3, 2023.

THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT  
AKATSI SOUTH MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL  
AKATSI

Dear Med. Supt,

**PETITION: RESUMPTION OF WORK AT MALE/FEMALE WARDS, EMERGENCY UNIT,  
THEATRE/RECOVERY UNIT AND CHILDREN'S WARD**

The Akatsi South District branch of the Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives Association (GRNMA) has noted with grave concerns about the directive on the Akatsi South Municipal hospital WhatsApp page for all affected wards to be cleaned and disinfected in preparation for resumption of work.

It will interest you to note that nurses and midwives face several environmental hazards in the course of their duty ranging from electrical spikes to fire outbreaks and exposure to bad weather conditions. In one of such instances on March 26, 2022, the theatre was gutted in fire and was totally burnt down.

Similarly, on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, many of the wards were flooded and ceilings were leaking amidst faulty electrical cables following a heavy downpour. Nurses and Midwives had to rescue the vulnerable clients at the peril of their lives. In our view, some sections of the facility were closed down as a result of unsafe working environment orchestrated by devastating effect of the flooding and leakage. The Association find the recurring situation traumatic and dehumanizing its members.

We acknowledged the efforts of authorities, both local and regional to restore the dignity of the facility and as renovation works remain ongoing at the affected side, we wish to bring to your attention issues of safety in our previous engagements where we recommended the total rewiring of the adult block, changing the location of the power control centers and the procurement of a separate transformer to the hospital which we believe were also made by the Energy Commission-Ghana, Fire Service and the Hospital Electrician.

It is worth noting that nurses and midwives continued to render uninterrupted service in spite of the unsafe working environment and constraints which is detrimental to their physical and psychosocial wellbeing.

We wish to state that occupational safety and health is a human right and decent work eventually is safe work (WHO 2010). We also wish to emphasize that the labour Act makes it obligatory for the employer to ensure that "every worker employed in Ghana works under satisfactory, safe and healthy conditions" (Labour Act 2003: act 651 Article 118, clause 1). This provision is in consonance with the 1992 constitution of Ghana which states that everybody has the right to work under safe and healthy condition" (Section 24 Clause 1). It is also to be noted that the employer's obligations under the labour

acts include certain standards to safeguard the wellbeing of their employees, providing personal protective equipment's and necessary information, supervision and training consistent with the level of literacy of the employee.

The leadership of Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives (GRNMA) after listening to staff in the affected departments and a follow up visit to the affected parts of the facility, want to state that part of the Akatsi Municipal Hospital remains a high risk, uncondusive and unhealthy environment for staff and clients care.


We therefore as a union on behalf of nurses and midwives in the affected wards wish to request for a safety assessment certification of the facility after all renovation works before nurses and midwives be recalled to provide care services to the clients.

It is our prayer that staff and client safety would remain a priority and the concerns raised addressed as soon as possible.

Thank you.



EMMANUEL C.K TODZOH  
(DISTRICT CHAIRMAN)



EBENEZER S.K WAJOLI  
(DISTRICT SECRETARY)

Cc:

The Nurse Manager

GRNMA- Regional Leadership

HSWU- Akatsi Chapter

Municipal Director of Health Services