## HOMELAND STUDY GROUP FOUNDATION

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Our Ref: HSGF/9A/22/Pr022



In case of reply, please use the emails provided at the top.

Date ...

22 August, 2022

## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE CIRCULATION

To: The Attention of Mr Kwabena Bonsu Fordwur, CEO of **GIISDEC** 

**RE: IRON ORE EXPLOITATION IN OTI REGION** 

To:

Your Ref: ..

## All Media Houses

The attention of the Executive Council of Homeland Study Group Foundation (HSGF) and the leadership of the Western Togoland Governing Council (WTLGovCO) has been drawn to News paper headlines in both The Daily Graphic and The Ghanaian Times news papers of August 18 2022 about "Big Boost for iron ore exploitation in Oti Region". Both papers went on to report that "A total of 10 iron ore blocks in the Oti Region have been allocated to selected investors by the Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC) to undertake geo-science studies, commonly known as Mineral Resources Estimation".

The publication listed all the ten selected investors as Africa Exploration and Mining Ghana Limited, Gem Global Ventures, Claudine Ghana Limited, Q3 Company Limited, Star Steels Limited, Shokram Limited, B5 Plus Limited, Fabrimetal Limited, Planet One Group and MagyaMining and Contract Service Limited.

We wish to inform the general public that it is unlawful for any entity in today's Ghana to start any exploitation of minerals in any enclave of the Trans Volta Togoland/ British Togoland, now Western Togoland. This is because the United Nations Organization (UNO) which mandated Britain to NURTURE the Territory into a fully fledged country placed an embargo on any Estimation or Exploitation of Mineral Resources in the Mandate.

The fact is that in 2014 a group of chiefs and individuals who were described as "VOLTA CHIEFS" confirmed this in a letter they had purportedly written to the United Nations demanding the lifting of the ban on the exploitation of minerals resources of the Western Togoland. The said letter which was published by GNA (14 July 2014), listed many minerals of the land which stretches from Keta in the Volta Region to Bawku in the Upper East Region of today's Ghana.

After the so-called demand by the forum to the UNO we never received any news item on the results whether the UNO had responded to their request or not. It will be in the interest of all to have that document or response from UNO published just as the demand was published for the population to know what had happened. After the so-called demand by the forum to the UNO we never received any news item on the results whether the UNO had responded to their request or not.

It will be in the interest of all to have that document or response from UNO published just as the demand was published for the population to know what had happened. We wish to further reiterate that the Territory of Western Togoland which has, through the maneuvers of Britain, become an entity of today's Ghana remains an illegal enterprise and confirmation of GENOCIDE by Britain in Western Togoland during the WW1.

This is because the original intent of France and Britain was to add the divided 'TOGOLANDS' to their already acquired colonies of Dahomey and Gold Coast respectively but the League of Nations disagreed and rather Mandated them to make sure the Territories became a full country giving them all the necessary logistics and structures a nation should have. The Question is, did Britain live up to that agreement? The answer is obvious, because if Britain were to provide all governmental structures for Western Togoland just as she did to Gold Coast there would not have been any issue when Gold Coast started demanding for independence.

In fact the UN had it that both Gold Coast and Western Togoland should be given independence and not that Western Togoland be integrated into Gold Coast under the name Ghana as we have it today. The leadership HSGF and WTLGovCO want to let the general public know that Ghana will be perpetrating another illegality to what she has already done if they proceed to start any Mineral Resources Estimation or exploitation in any part of the Western Togoland.

The companies listed above to carry out this iron ore estimation must be careful and treat this case seriously to avoid any future repercussions because:

- A. Presently the Western Togoland case is before various courts both local and international. So long as people were arrested in connection with the Territory it will be anger-inviting for any company to head to the illegal call by any entity in Ghanian government to start any investment in exploring the Territory for any Mineral Resources.
- B. The UN did not respond to the call made by the so-called Volta chiefs who demanded the removal of the embargo.
- C. There is NO UNION documents available anywhere that Western Togoland and Gold Coast have become one entity and have agreed on any sharing of resources and allocation as a united territory.

We will like to inform those companies to demand from the Ghanaian government a full publication of the responses from the UN regarding the said embargo before they make any move.

We also will like the aforementioned companies to be very careful henceforth in their approach to Estimation or any exploitation of mineral within any part of the Western Togoland pending the final determination of the case before the various courts of the Republic of Ghana and also those in various international courts.

The Executive Council of HSGF and the leadership of the WTLGovCO find this act by the government of Ghana as intentionally inviting anger from we the owners of the land. The land which has been stolen and dolled out to them, while they continue stealing the resources of the land and at the same time holding the citizens in Court with an outmoded military decree named Prohibited Organization Acts.

It is sad that a country which boasts of being a beacon of African democracy does not know the meaning of fundamental Human rights which she herself is a signatory to. As law abiding as we are, we will continue to avail ourselves before the Ghanaian Court no matter how long they wish to use this anti human rights laws to prosecute our citizens. And we hope that the many PhD holders and all the highly respected lawyers will speak up one day against this dictatorial leadership under the guise of respecting and using democratic principles.

The HSGF which is a registered foundation since 1994 is today being described as an illegal group and her members referred to as terrorist and secessionists! The most disturbing aspect of it is that even members of the law making House did not notice the wrong going on in the use of this Act in today's democratic dispensation. Till today, no one is calling for the right things to be done even the diplomats are silent because Ghana is implementing their wish against the the citizens of Western Togoland. Selective justice, indeed!

We finally want to sound a word of caution to the aforementioned companies who have been assigned to carry out the iron ore estimation to be careful and distance themselves from carrying out any such activities until this case is over.

We urge the general population of Western Togoland to restraint themselves and not to do anything to give Ghana the chance to further deepen her acts of violence in carrying out their so-called justice. Pending report from the various organizations where our case has been reported such as the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the United Nations Periodic Review Committee, we must remain calm.!

No matter the level of untruth that are peddle about our case, the truth will surely be out.

Western Togoland will be reborn into this world and we shall be proud citizens of our own country very soon.

Thank you.

Signed

Dr. A.K Akounoo

General Secretary HSGF and Commissioner for Communication BNC.

Cc.

Africa Exploration and Mining Ghana Limited

Gem Global Ventures

Claudine Ghana Limited

Q3 Company Limited

Star Steels Limited

Shokram Limited

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