GROUPSTAND FOR PEACE, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT



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GM-097-2935 CK 9 Quince Street Accra-Ghana.

26th August, 2024.

The Groupstand for Peace, Growth, and Development expresses deep concern regarding the recent developments in the country's peace framework, particularly the National Democratic Congress (NDC)'s decision not to sign the 2024 election peace accord.

We respectfully urge the **NDC** to reconsider its decision in the national interest, while also acknowledging their leadership's transparency in outlining conditions under which they would commit to the agreement. This indicates that the **NDC** has not completely disengaged from the peace process but is seeking to protect what they believe to be just.

In this context, we emphasize that justice and fairness are fundamental to any peace initiative. We therefore call on the current government, the leadership of security agencies, and the National Peace Council to urgently address the NDC's concerns to facilitate their signing of the peace accord. The potential negative consequences of the NDC's non-commitment to this pact cannot be overstated.

The Groupstand for Peace, Growth, and Development commends the NDC for its stance on ensuring justice is served for the Ayawaso West Wuogon violence and the prosecution of those responsible for the deaths of eight individuals during the 2020 general election. The government's silence on the recommendations of the Justice Emile Short Commission only fosters impunity and risks escalating tensions in the upcoming elections.

The Peace Council must reinforce its role in our political landscape by demanding accountability, particularly from the current government, and advocating for justice for victims of political violence to uphold national peace.

In addition to the **NDC's** call for the President to publicly commit to respecting the election results, we urge all politically exposed persons, especially those within the current administration, to be mindful of their statements and prioritize the nation's peace.

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Politicians must remember that power resides with the people, on whose behalf they govern. The people of Ghana have consistently demonstrated their commitment to protecting their sovereign will, as evidenced by three successful inter-governmental transitions. The Groupstand for Peace, Growth, and Development appeals to all political parties and politicians to do whatever is necessary to uphold the sovereignty of the people.

We call upon all institutions to actively contribute to this effort.

Signed.

Happy Agbenyenu

(Executive Director)

Groupstand for Peace, Growth and Development.