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# GHANA INDEPENDENT BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

Saturday, September 30, 2017

## PRESS RELEASE

### Re: NCA SANCTIONS 131 RADIO STATIONS

The Executive Council of the Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association (GIBA) has noted with great concern the actions of the National Communications Authority (NCA) in sanctioning some radio stations and the heavy fines imposed on others for various infractions. As much as GIBA wants to encourage state institutions to be actively exercising all mandates in the performance of their duties, GIBA is alarmed by the effects of the heavy sanctions on the stations, the extent these actions have on investments and the employment security of their workers.

The Executive Council believes the situation as it stands now is rigid, harsh and can affect the morale of others in doing legitimate business knowing the unpredictable terrain of business in Ghana.

The Executive Council and leadership wish to encourage the affected members and all other members to continue exploring all avenues in opening discussions and engaging the NCA to arrive at an agreeable solution to the matter. GIBA will also continue to offer support and open discussions at all levels of authority/governance to safeguard the interests of affected Members. Members are encouraged to remain calm, open-minded, and tactful and to contact the National Secretariat for further consultations in finding a solution to the situation.

Meanwhile, an emergency Executive Council meeting with the GIBA Council of Elders has been called for Monday, October 2, 2017 in Accra to discuss a common ground and the way forward in this matter. The Executive Council believes the Association's relationship with the NCA remains good and the doors for negotiations are still open. A full statement on GIBA's stand will be issued on Monday after the crucial meeting with the GIBA Council of Elders. Members are entreated to continue trusting in the efforts of the leadership and the Association and to cooperate with information flow for a successful end to this matter.

Signed:

**Andrew Danso-Aninkora**

President