

NDC UK & IRELAND

THE CHAPTER

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“Quote of the WEEK

“The bravest heart is the one that stays close to Allah (God), even, when it's in pain. When you forget that you need Allah (God), He puts you in a situation that causes you to call upon Him”



CHAIRMAN CONRAD DUMBAH WISHES ALL UK & IRELAND MUSLIMS A HAPPY RAMADAN

On behalf of the NDC UK & Ireland Chapter, I extend my warmest wishes to our Muslim brothers and sisters as we begin the holy month of Ramadan. This sacred period is a time for reflection, sacrifice, and spiritual renewal.

It reminds us of the values of compassion, unity, and generosity—principles that strengthen our communities and our nation. May this Ramadan bring you peace, good health, and countless blessings. May your prayers be answered, and may we all

continue to uphold the spirit of kindness and togetherness.
Ramadan Kareem!

Conrad Dumbah
Chairman, NDC UK & Ireland Chapter



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STATE OF THE NATIONS ADDRESS BY JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA

In his 2025 State of the Nation Address (#SONA2025), President John Dramani Mahama laid out an ambitious roadmap for Ghana, focusing on governance efficiency, anti-corruption efforts, and economic self-reliance. The address highlighted key reforms, including a lean government, improved tax policies, and a strong emphasis on local food production.

Fighting Corruption and Strengthening Governance

A major highlight of Mahama's speech was his firm stance on corruption. He assured Ghanaians that his administration would combat corruption effectively by ensuring accountability and transparency in public offices. He emphasized that corrupt officials would face legal consequences, signaling a renewed commitment to good governance. To further streamline government operations, Mahama pledged to reduce the size of government to no more than 60 ministers. He believes that excessive government

spending has been a major drain on Ghana's resources, and trimming the number of ministries will improve efficiency. Additionally, his administration will realign ministries, agencies, and departments to eliminate duplication and redundancy.

Economic Reforms: Austerity and Improved Taxation

Mahama's vision for Ghana's economy revolves around austerity measures, waste reduction, and enhanced tax collection. He criticized the current economic landscape, citing excessive government expenditure and inefficient tax systems as key issues. His plan includes:

Expanding Ghana's tax net to include more businesses and individuals. Reforming tax waivers on investments to prevent unnecessary revenue loss.

Returning to homegrown economic solutions, reducing dependency on external aid and IMF programs. Boosting Agriculture: "We Will Grow What We Eat" One of the standout points

in Mahama's address was his commitment to reducing food imports by encouraging local food production. He stressed that Ghana has the capacity to produce most of its staple foods and should not rely heavily on imports. His government will implement policies that support farmers, improve irrigation systems, and provide subsidies for local agricultural production.

A Vision for Change Mahama's #SONA2025 address painted a picture of a Ghana that prioritizes good governance, economic discipline, and self-reliance. His commitment to fighting corruption, restructuring government institutions, and promoting local production aligns with his broader vision of national prosperity. As Ghanaians anticipate the implementation of these policies, the coming months will determine how effectively these plans translate into action. President Mahama, among other things, said that the state of the economy he inherited is worse than initially anticipated. He, however, indicated that he is going to fix the problems of the country and not lament about it. The president also gave an update on the work of the "Operation Recover All the Loot" (ORAL), which collected information on alleged misappropriation of state resources by the previous government. The president also provided an update on the status of the Agenda 111 hospital project initiated by the Akufo-Addo government. He also promised that his government was not going to cancel the Free Senior High School programme.



NATIONAL ECONOMIC DIALOGUE.

President John Dramani Mahama 's government remains resolute in its dedication to constructive engagement and collaboration as we strive to build the Ghana we want. The National Economic Dialogue 2025 seeks to build consensus and foster collaboration among the Government and key stakeholders on priority policies and structural reforms.



Participants will work towards establishing clear commitments and milestones that will help reset the economy for long-term resilience and transformation.



UPCOMING EVENTS



UK - POLITICS NEWS FLASH:

UK HOST EU TO SURPORT UKRAINE

It's been a busy day here in London as Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer hosted a swathe of fellow leaders to discuss the state of play of the war in Ukraine. Starmer started off his Sunday by telling the BBC that the UK and France will work with Ukraine "on a plan to stop the fighting" with Russia - and will then "discuss that plan with the United States". After a swift stop at No10 to meet with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, he headed to Lancaster House to greet the 18 leaders - mostly from Europe, including Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky - for his Ukraine summit. A little over two hours later, Starmer was back in Downing Street warning that "we are at a crossroads in history today".

