



NATIONAL HEALTH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (NAHSAG)

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YOUR REF.

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2025

For Immediate Release



NATIONAL HEALTH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (NAHSAG) STATEMENT ON THE SONA DELIVERED BY H.E. JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA ON THE FLOOR OF PARLIAMENT

We listened attentively to the State of the Nation Address (SONA) delivered by H.E. John Dramani Mahama, and as an association concerned with health, we are thrilled about several key developments. Notably,

- The President's directive to the Minister of Health to present a roadmap for completing the unfinished Agenda 111 projects is a significant step forward. Furthermore, his willingness to establish public-private partnerships to ensure the completion and operation of these projects demonstrates a genuine commitment to improving healthcare infrastructure. We commend the President for taking this initiative, which will undoubtedly accelerate the completion of the projects. With private investors on board, funding will be more readily available, enabling the timely completion of these critical healthcare facilities. Once operational, these hospitals will create employment opportunities for our unemployed members, thereby reducing unemployment rates in the health sector.
- Another pivotal announcement was the President's intention to revive the "Onuad" mobile healthcare vans. These vans will provide essential healthcare services, including outpatient care, ophthalmology, dentistry, ear, nose, and throat (ENT) care, and cancer screening, to remote and vulnerable communities. We view this initiative as a significant step towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), particularly in areas where access to healthcare facilities is limited. The mobile healthcare vans will not only provide vital healthcare services





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- but also create employment opportunities for healthcare workers who will staff these vans. The President's instruction to the Finance Minister to support these initiatives demonstrates his administration's dedication to prioritizing healthcare and economic development.
- The withdrawal of USAID support has significant implications for Ghana's healthcare sector, particularly affecting the National HIV/AIDS Control Programme. This programme, which provides essential antiretroviral therapies (ARTs) in the Western, Western North, and Ahafo Regions, will face considerable challenges without USAID funding. Furthermore, the loss of support will also impact funding for crucial health initiatives, including malaria, maternal and child health, nutrition programs. In response to this setback, the President in his SONA has engaged the Finance Minister to make urgent financial arrangements to mitigate the loss. These arrangements which he stated will be reflected in the next budget, demonstrating the President's commitment to ensuring the healthcare sector remains robust. Additionally, the President's interventions in the recent cholera and meningitis outbreaks, as well as plans to establish the "Mahama Care fund," further underscore his dedication to healthcare. We commend the President for his prompt action and pledge our utmost support as an association in the execution of these measures.
- We also want to humbly appeal to the President to expedite the process of uncupping the NHIS fund, which will provide additional funding to strengthen the NHIS and expand its coverage.

As a united association, we remain committed to promoting health and wellbeing for all.





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Yours In Service,

Signed

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UNITED FOR HEALTH

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