

**ENSURING SECURITY AND
DEMOCRACY IN WEST AFRICA:**

GHANA'S ROLE IN REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

OVERVIEW

West Africa has been increasingly affected by linked crises - geo-political, economic and environmental. While Sahelian countries have experienced both Jihadist violence and authoritarian militarism, the wider region has faced unprecedented challenges to the liberal democratic order established in the early 1990s. The fragmentation of the regional body ECOWAS (the Economic Community of West African States) has reduced West Africa's capacity for coordination and collective problem-solving.

The international community's engagement in the region has been undermined by short-term priorities and parochial geopolitical considerations. Fueled by a perceived sense of Western manipulation and/or indifference, some West African states are forging new bonds with non-traditional powers including Russia. Ghana, a beacon of democracy and stability in a region increasingly beset by conflict and a resurgence of military rule, is taking a lead in addressing these growing problems, both on a regional and international stage. In this event, Ghana's Minister for National Security Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah will highlight the deteriorating security situation in West Africa and its global consequences. The Minister will discuss both the dangers and opportunities emerging from the rapidly changing regional situation. He will identify potential solutions from Ghana's perspective that require homegrown regional initiatives and international support.



HON. ALBERT KAN DAPAAH
Ghanaian Minister of National Security

ABOUT

Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah is a Certified Chartered Accountant . He received his training as a Chartered Accountant in the United Kingdom in 1978. He is also a Fellow of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants, United Kingdom and a Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana.

Prior to his entry into Public Service, Hon. Kan-Dapaah served as the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana and Vice President of the Association of Accountancy Bodies in West Africa. He worked with International Audit Firm, Panell Kerr Foster (PKF) from 1978 o 1986 in the firm's offices in Accra, London and Monrovia. At the time of his resignation in 1986, he was the Resident Partner of the firm in Monrovia, Liberia. Within the Public Service space of Ghana, Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah served as the Head of Audit at the Social Security and National Insurance Trust for a year. He subsequently served as Director of Finance at the Electricity Company of Ghana for eight years.

Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah later became a Member of Parliament of Ghana in 1997 and served for four terms up to 2012. In his last term (2009 to 2012), he was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament of Ghana. Between 2001 and 2008, he served as Minister of State in four Ministries including the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Communications, Ministry for the Interior and Ministry of Defence.

He has been an Adjunct Lecturer at the School of Administration, University of Ghana and at the Graduate School of the University of Professional Studies, Accra. He has an Honorary Doctorate Degree, LLD (Honoris Cuasa) from the University of Professional Studies, Accra and two National Honours; Order of the Volta Companion of the Republic of Ghana and Ordre Du Mono from the Republic of Togo.

From 2017 till date, he continues to serve as the Minister for National Security of the Republic of Ghana.

APRIL 9, 2024

**10:00 AM
SMATHERS 100**



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AFRICAN STUDIES
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