

**STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY
OF THE INTERIOR, MRS. ADELAIDE ANNO – KUMI AT THE
BUILDING MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT LAUNCH
ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 2023 IN ACCRA.**

The UN Resident Coordinator,

The Chief of Mission, IOM Ghana,

His Excellency, the Head of EU Delegation in Ghana,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Minister for the Interior, it is a great honour to be here with you to launch the **Building Migration Partnership Project** which I am told is part of the European Union's renewed commitment to build a longstanding cooperation through the UN Network on Migration to pioneer capacity building support on

migration and mobility to partner countries. The main objective is to contribute towards safe, orderly and regular migration to accelerate the work of the United Nations, governments and stakeholders, migrants and communities for sustainable development.

Ladies and Gentlemen, migration is essentially conceived to be the movement of people from one place to another usually stirred by economic, political, social and environmental factors. It therefore comes as no surprise that migration has assumed an important role on the global agenda as the prospects for its social and economic development has given recognition from policy makers and leaders of nations.

The Global Compact for Migration which is the first internationally negotiated agreement on common approach to international migration in all dimensions endorsed by world leaders in Marakkesh, Morocco in December 2018 as part of its overriding objectives enjoins Member States to put in measures to manage their migration programmes in order to derive the necessary benefits.

Recent report from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on Trafficking-in-Persons which provide an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at global, regional and national levels based on trafficking cases recorded between 2017 and 2021, identifies trends for human trafficking

in Ghana and assesses that drought and floods in Ghana as well as migrating movements of men and boys searching for job opportunities from the northern to central and southern part of Ghana especially in the mining communities account for vulnerable grounds for persons to be trafficked.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is also reported that between January to August 2021, over Four Hundred and Fifty – Nine (459) Africans, mostly youth had lost their precious lives in attempt to reach Europe through unapproved routes. Such disasters should be of much concern to us as a Government considering the human resource that goes to waste.

It is an undeniable fact that measures taken by Government of Ghana to tackle issues relating to migration such as trafficking in persons are yielding results. The common approach led by the Ministry of Gender and Social Protection with support from institutions such as the Ghana Police Service, the Ghana Immigration Service and the Attorney's General's Office has resulted in the rescue of trafficked persons and the arrest and prosecution of traffickers. This initiative has resulted in Ghana maintaining its second – tier ranking by the United States Department of States report on Trafficking in Persons.

Government has embarked on a programme to strengthen its borders not only to enhance security and prevent terrorism but to prevent irregular flow of migrants. I will therefore like to take this opportunity to thank the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for their support in the renovation of two Border Posts at Hamile in the Upper West Region and Kulungugu in the Upper East Region respectively with modern facilities like the Migration Information and Data Analysis Systems (MIDAS). This is in line with Government of Ghana's Digitalization Agenda. I also wish to thank the European Union and the United Nations Office in Ghana for funding and supporting Ghana's migration governance drive. This is a true reflection of building migration partnerships which is

also geared towards achieving Target 10.7 of the “Sustainable Development Goals.”

The Ministry of the Interior is also looking forward to collaborate with IOM to build a national coordinating mechanism with other relevant stakeholders as part efforts in implementing the National Migration Policy.

On this note, I wish to declare the **Building Migration Partnerships Project** duly launched.

Thank you.