



2nd (Second) National High-Level Stakeholders meeting on the Implementation of the National Alcohol Policy



Theme:
"Harnessing the Reset Agenda to stimulate healthy lifestyles and promote wellness through the passage of the draft National Alcohol Control Regulations."





The high level stakeholders meeting was chaired by Hon. Mark Kurt Nawane, Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Health and MP for Nabdam. In his opening remarks, he emphasized Parliament's dedication to protecting public health and expressed confidence that once the draft Alcohol Control Regulations are submitted, the Health Committee and the Subsidiary Legislation Committee will act swiftly to facilitate their passage.

Hon. Mark Kurt Nawane
(Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Health and MP for Nabdam)

Mr. Benjamin Anabila, Chairman of GhanAPA, welcomed participants and called for strengthened collaboration to reduce alcohol-related harm. He stressed the urgent need for Ghana to advance the draft regulations to ensure a comprehensive alcohol control framework.



Mr. Benjamin Anabila
(Chairman of GhanAPA)



The Mental Health Authority, represented by the deputy chief executive officer; Dr. Maame Aba Dadzie highlighted on the relationship between alcohol consumption and mental health, highlighting its severe impacts on individuals, families, and the country at large. The presentation emphasized the rising burden of alcohol-related mental health conditions and the urgent need for strengthened prevention, early intervention, and public awareness strategies.

Dr. Maame Aba Dadzie
(Deputy CEO, Mental Health Authority, Ghana)

The National Road Safety Authority delegation led by Dr. Alexander A. Ayatah presented on Alcohol Harm and Road Safety, emphasizing Ghana's progress and challenges in aligning with global best practices on Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limits and underscoring the role of effective enforcement, data systems, and legislative support in reducing alcohol-related road crashes.



Dr. Alexander A. Ayatah
(National Road Safety Authority, Ghana)



Dr. Williams K. Agbavitor a representative from the legal department of the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) provided an update on current alcohol regulations in Ghana, focusing on the Supreme Court ruling upholding the ban on celebrities endorsing alcoholic beverages. He reaffirmed FDA’s commitment to enforcing laws that reduce exposure of minors and vulnerable populations to harmful alcohol marketing.

Dr. Williams K. Agbavitor
(representative from the legal department of the Food and Drugs Authority FDA, Ghana)



The World Health Organization Ghana Country Office, represented by Mad. Leveara Gyimah expressed the need for Ghana to align to WHO global best practices and affirmed WHO’s commitment in ensuring the presentation and passage of the draft National Alcohol Control Regulation into law.

Mad. Leveara Gyimah
(World Health Organization, WHO, Ghana)

The West African Alcohol Policy Alliance (WAAPA) represented by Mr. Issah Ali delivered a presentation on the African Regional Framework for implementing the Global Alcohol Action Plan (2022–2030).

Mr. Issah Ali
(Head of Secretariate-WAAPA & Executive Director-VALD)



The Ministry of Health (MoH) represented by Mr Mark Atuahene highlighted on the progress of implementing Ghana’s National Alcohol Policy (NAP) and the processes underway for the presentation of the draft Alcohol Control Regulations to Parliament. The Ministry reaffirmed it’s commitment to working with all stakeholders to expedite the legislative process.

Mr. Mark Atuahene
(Ministry Of Health, MoH, Ghana)



Declarations by Stakeholders Present at the High Level Meeting

1. Request Stakeholders and Duty Bearers to priorities the comprehensive implementation of the National Alcohol Policy 2016 through a coordinated multi-sectoral actions.
2. Call on Government (Ministry of Health and Parliament) to ensure the presentation and passage of the draft National Alcohol Control Regulation into law.
3. Urge Government to protect public health policies and the National Alcohol Policy from commercial and vested interest.
4. Recommend to the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Parliament to allocate adequate and sustainable financing for the implementation of the National Alcohol Policy 2016 and Section 173 (3)(f) of Public Health Act 2012.
5. Call on Parliament to expedite actions on the Passage of the Amended Road Traffic Act.
6. National Road Safety Authority should be adequately funded.
7. Tax Revenue Generated from Alcoholic beverage should be used for the prevention of Alcohol related Diseases
8. Rehabilitation centers to be set up and funded.