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DATE: 30TH NOVEMBER, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

SKILLS IN HARMONY: CTVET AND PACT FOR SKILLS PROJECT COLLABORATE TO PUT THE SECTOR SKILLS BODIES INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Accra, Ghana, 30th November 2023: . In a strategic move to amplify awareness about the role played by the Sector Skills Bodies (SSBs) in Ghana, the Commission for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (CTVET) today, hosted a media engagement event at its premises.

Recognizing the power of the media in shaping public perception, the event which was organized in collaboration with GIZ under the Pact for Skills: Support to the Transformation of the TVET System in Ghana served as a crucial platform to spotlight the significance of SSBs in shaping a skilled and responsive workforce.

The engagement brought together journalists, industry representatives, and SSBs leaders, to foster a comprehensive understanding of the initiatives undertaken by SSBs and how they contribute to the nation's economic development.

As part of the agenda to reform TVET, the Government of Ghana through CTVET with support from development partners like the German government and the European Union through the Pact for Skills project have been establishing these SSBs with the aim to increase and strengthen the involvement of industry in the way skill systems are governed and operated.

Speaking on behalf of the German Government, Ms. Ramona Simon highlighted in her keynote address, that Germany has long recognized the critical role that Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) plays in promoting economic growth and encouraging innovation. She indicated that "the German government's investment to this initiative reflects our conviction to transforming potential of skills development to improve communities, empower individuals, and contribute to national prosperity. We are therefore proud to be at the forefront of initiatives that support nations in developing robust and responsive TVET systems."

Ms. Simon also touched on the pivotal role industry plays in the heart of Germany's renowned TVET system. She said "we understand the profound importance of integrating the private sector seamlessly into the national TVET framework. In Germany, the collaboration between educational institutions and industry has been a driving force behind its success in producing a skilled and adaptive workforce."

She reassured all present about the German government's commitment to skills development and acknowledged the SSBs for their contributions towards skills development in Ghana.

The media engagement session will take place on Thursday, 30th November 2023 at the CTVET Head office on Trinity Avenue in East Legon. The event will begin at 8:00 am and end at 2:00 pm.

The Special Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker will be the Deputy Minister for Education in charge of TVET, Hon. Gifty Twum-Ampofo. As part of the event, there would be a panel discussion by some experts and industry players who are members of the SSBs as well as a presentation on the TVET reforms by the Director General of CTVET, Dr. Fred Kyei Asamoah.

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ABOUT PACT FOR SKILLS: SUPPORT TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE TVET SYSTEM IN GHANA

The Pact for Skills: Support to the Transformation of the TVET System is a joint action partnership between the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and European Union (EU) in cooperation with the Government of Ghana. The near 4-year long project is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in cooperation with the Commission for TVET, Ghana TVET Service, AAMUSTED and other public and private sector partners.

In Ghana, the proportion of secondary school graduates who opt for vocational training could be better. Additionally, women make up only around a quarter of trainees and are severely underrepresented in technical and craft occupations. In 2019, the Government of Ghana initiated a transformation of the TVET sector better known as "Harmonization of TVET". In this context, all 218 TVET institutions which were previously spread over 19 different ministries were organized under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education (MoE). Two agencies were newly established: The Commission for TVET (CTVET) responsible to regulate, promote and administer TVET and the TVET Service (TVETS) responsible to manage, oversee and implement approved national policies and programmes relating to pretertiary TVET. These two agencies are, among others, responsible for the expansion of competency-based training (CBT) approaches in Ghana.

Over the years, GIZ on behalf of the German Government supported reform processes through the Ghana Skills Development Initiative (GSDI). The Ghana Pact for Skills: Support to the Transformation of the TVET System in Ghana project is a continuation of the support to the Government of Ghana in this regard.

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