SOURCES AND RESOLUTION OF CHIEFTAINCY AND LAND CONFLICTS IN GHANA

Conference of the National House of Chiefs (NHC) in collaboration with the German Centre for International Peace Operations (ZIF)

Hosted by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)
15 and 16 June 2010

Moderator: Prof. Irene K. Odotei, University of Ghana, Legon

DAY 1: TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2010

08.00 - 09.00 Arrival and Registration of Participants at the KAIPTC

09:00 – 10:30 OPENING CEREMONY

Opening Prayer
Introduction of Chairperson
Chairperson’s Opening Remarks by Nana Susubribi Kroba Asante, Asokorehene (Prof. S.K.B Asante)
Welcome Remarks by Air Vice Marshal Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo, Commandant, KAIPTC
Brief Remarks by Naa Prof. John S. Nabila, President of National House of Chiefs
Brief Remarks by Alexander Asum-Ahensah, Minister Culture and Chieftaincy
Brief Remarks by Dr. Marius Haas, German Ambassador
Brief Remarks by Dr. Leopold von Carlowitz, Rule of Law Project Leader, ZIF

Keynote Address by Mr. Emmanuel Bombande, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peace Building

10:30 – 10:45 Cocoa Break

COMMENCEMENT OF TECHNICAL SESSIONS: SOURCES OF CHIEFTAINCY DISPUTES

10:45 – 12:00 SESSION 1

Paper 1: Changing Characteristics and Factors of Chieftaincy Succession and Land Disputes by Prof. Steve Tonah, University of Ghana, Legon

Discussant: Daassebre Osei Bonsu II, Mamponghene & Vice-President of Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs
12.00 – 13:00  **SESSION 2**

*Paper 2: The Role of the Youth in Ethnic and Chieftaincy Conflicts* by Ms. Janet Mohammed, Ibis West Africa, Director, Human Rights and Democracy Programme

Discussant: Daasebre (Prof.) Oti Boateng, New Juabenhen & President of the Eastern Regional House of Chiefs

13:00 – 14:30  Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00  **WORKING GROUPS**

*Day One: Identifying Challenges:* Numerous adverse contemporary influences challenge traditional authorities and their institutional set up. On *Day One* members of the National House of Chiefs identify and analyse sources of chieftaincy conflicts in a facilitated exchange. Four workshops focus on core issues and offer the opportunity to systematically identify factors which weaken traditional institutions and aggravate conflict. The sincere identification of key issues will inform the deliberations of *Day Two* dedicated to problem-solving interventions and mechanisms.

- **WG 1:** Changing Characteristics of Chieftaincy Succession
- **WG 2:** Land Management and Community Tensions
- **WG 3:** Challenges which Traditional Councils and Houses of Chiefs Face in Their Work
- **WG 4:** Youth and Conflicts

16:00 – 17:00  **PLENARY SESSION: REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS**

17:00 – 19:00  Reception

**DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2010**

**TECHNICAL SESSION CONTINUES: RESOLUTIONS OF CHIEFTAINCY AND LAND DISPUTES**

09:00 – 10:00  **RECAP of DAY 1 by Moderator, Prof. Irene Odotei**

10:00 – 11:00  **SESSION 3**

*Paper 3: Factors for Peaceful and Orderly Succession of Chieftaincy: A Requirement for Stable and Strong Chieftaincy in Ghana* by Naa Prof. John S. Nabila

Discussant: Dr. H. S. Daannaa, Director of Research, Ministry of Culture and Chieftaincy

11:00 – 11:30  Cocoa Break
11:30 – 12:30 SESSION 4

*Paper 4: The Role of the Houses of Chiefs in the Resolution of Chieftaincy and Land Conflicts by Hon. Justice S. A. Brobbey*

*Discussant: Nana Susubribi Kroba Asante, Asokorehene (Prof. S.K.B Asante)*

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30 WORKING GROUPS

*Day Two – Solutions and Strategies* focuses on identification of feasible solutions to the problems identified on *Day One*. Traditional authorities are invited to mobilise their institutions’ time tested modes of consensus building and representation of their various communities' interest to craft viable solutions. Policy recommendations should be addressed to the national, regional and local levels of both traditional and state institutions, thus assuring that policy recommendations can be put into practice.

- WG 5: Laid Down Traditional Procedures for Chieftaincy Succession Including Queenmothers
- WG 6: Good Chiefly Land Management according to Art. 36 (8) of the Constitution of Ghana
- WG 7: Role of Judicial and Other Committees of Traditional Councils, Regional and National Houses of Chiefs for Chieftaincy Disputes Resolutions
- WG 8: Meeting the Aspirations of the Youth Back

15:30 – 16:30 PLENARY SESSION: REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

16:30 – 16:45 RECAP of DAY 2 by Moderator, Prof. Irene Odotei

16:45 – 17:00 CLOSING CEREMONY

Comments by Naa Prof. John S. Nabila, President of National House of Chiefs
Comments by Prof. Winrich Kühne, Bologna Center, John Hopkins University, former ZIF Director
Comments by Dr. Kwesi Aning, KAIPTC

*CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE BY MEMBERS OF THE NHC STANDING COMMITTEE*  
(e.g. for Press or Chieftaincy Bulletin)