

**COMMEMORATIVE TREE PLANTING ON THE 2023 EDITION OF  
GREEN GHANA DAY.**

**STATEMENT BY HON. BENITO OWUSU-BIO, DEPUTY MINISTER  
FOR LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023, KUMASI**

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Your Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II,

Ashanti Regional Minister,

Members of Parliament,

Nananom and Queen Mothers

The people of Asanteman

Our Friends from the Media,

Distinguished invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I bring you warm greetings from the Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor, who would have loved to be here with Otumfuo this morning but had to join His Excellency the President of the Republic Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo at the commemorative tree planting at the

University of Ghana, Legon. I wish to express my profound gratitude to His Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II for honoring our invitation to lead Asanteman to plant trees as part of the activities of Green Ghana Day.

Your Royal Majesty, when we also called on you to launch the 2023 Edition of the Green Ghana Day a few weeks ago you graciously accepted the invitation to despite your busy schedules and we are very grateful for your selflessness and commitment to ensure the protection and sustainable management of our natural resources.

During the maiden edition of the Green Ghana Day in 2021, I had the privilege to join you to plant trees at the Golf Course to commemorate the day. Last year, I had to join the President of the Republic to plant in Accra. Today I am happy to join you again to observe the Green Ghana Day here in the Ashanti Region.

It is very important to also mention that with the overwhelming support of Ghanaians and residents of our beloved nation including each one of you gathered here today, over 30 million trees have been planted since 2021 under the Green Ghana Project.

Your Royal Majesty, this year, the President of the Republic has set the national target to 10 million trees. This means, we expect to plant at least 10 million trees on this day and Asanteman has always risen to the challenge and this year will not be an exception.

The need to plant trees is very clear to us and we don't have any option than to embark on an aggressive afforestation/reforestation drive to restore our lost vegetative cover and contribute to the global fight against climate change. As we plant the trees today, let us make conscious efforts to nurture and grow them to maturity. In many circumstances, what we plant are neglected and not catered for and this is the

reason why the target has been reduced to nurture what has already been planted to ensure a higher survival rate.

Your Royal Majesty, on behalf of the President, I wish to thank you and Asanteman for your support in the fight against galamsey and your desire to uplift the image of the Asante Kingdom.

I wish you a very fruitful and successful event today and beyond.

Thank you!

***LET'S GO PLANTING!***