

**REMARKS BY THE MINISTER FOR LANDS AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES, HON. SAMUEL A. JINAPOR, MP, AT THE  
NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME AND  
GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE AMASAMAN  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT, HELD AT AMASAMAN  
ON TUESDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

Mr. President;

Greater Accra Regional Minister;

Minister for Works and Housing;

Nananom, Niime, Naamei;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am grateful to the Ministry of Works and Housing for the opportunity to make these remarks as we mark this Groundbreaking Ceremony to launch the National Affordable Housing Programme.

Mr. President, the work of the Ministry of Works and Housing, is intrinsically linked to the work of the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, as everything concerning housing, inevitably, concerns land. Over the years, the two Ministries have been collaborating in the provision of affordable housing, and we have recently concluded a joint operational framework to take inventory of state estates and public lands, with the view of redeveloping them to ensure that public lands are put to judicious use for the benefit of our people.

Ladies and Gentlemen, building a modern, prosperous Ghana requires adequate infrastructure. That is why under the distinguished and outstanding leadership of President Akufo-Addo, we are implementing a robust initiative to redevelop public lands, put them to optimal use, beautify our cities, and address housing deficits in the country. Through the Urban Renewal Programme, in collaboration with the Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA), we are redeveloping prime areas in major cities such as Kumasi Sector 18, Accra Marine Drive, Takoradi Beach Road, Aviation City, among others. We are in the process of taking vacant possession of these lands to pave way for the redevelopment to commence.

Mr. President, this National Affordable Housing Programme, which you launch today, is further testament to your commitment to utilise public lands to improve the living conditions of our people. Pursuant to the dictates of section 235 of the Land Act, 2020 (Act 1036), which aligns with your directive that public institutions in need of public lands are given only user rights for the purpose for which the land is required, we have worked with the Ministry of Works and Housing, and under your express instructions, this two hundred and three (203) acre public land has been allocated to support Government's affordable housing project, together with another two hundred (200) acre land in the Ashanti Region. We will continue to work with all stakeholders, particularly the Ministry of Works and Housing, to provide more public lands in support of this noble affordable housing Programme.

Mr. President, Hon. Ministers, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, indulge me to salute the Ministry of Works and Housing, and the tireless efforts of my compatriot, Minister Francis Asenso-Boakye, for this laudable initiative to provide decent accommodation in the city for our people. The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources reiterates its commitment to work hand in gloves with the Ministry of Works and Housing in addressing our country's age-old housing deficit, and under the able leadership of President Akufo-Addo, we will continue to ensure the judicious, optimal and sustainable use of public lands for the benefit of the Ghanaian people, the true owners of these lands.

I thank you for your attention.