

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY MR. WILLIAM TEVIE, NCA DIRECTOR
GENERAL, AT THE NCA 20TH ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL
SYMPOSIUM AT THE LA PALM ROYAL BEACH HOTEL,**

18TH & 19TH JULY, 2016

Honourable Ministers of Communications,

Secretary General of WATRA

Heads of Sister Regulatory Bodies

Distinguished Speakers,

Participants,

Members of the Press,

Colleagues from the National Communications Authority,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Colleagues,

I am very pleased to welcome you all to this special and unique occasion in the history of the National Communications Authority. We are grateful that you took time not only to celebrate with us but to also take part in discussions that will foster partnerships and enable the exchanging of ideas on best practices that will guide the role of regulators in our various countries.

The National Communications Authority has come a long way from the time when frequencies were being awarded by the Ghana Frequency Registration and Control Board to the passing of Act 524 which brought the NCA into existence.

Today NCA is represented in seven other regions in the country where we are able through this decentralisation to bring our regulatory ambit to all stakeholders in the regions. The past 20 years has come with its challenges and victories which have contributed to the dynamic communications landscape that we enjoy in our country today.

Needless to say, the men and women of NCA continuously make it a point to put their best foot forward each day as they take on the role of regulating this ever changing atmosphere by ensuring that consumers are protected and informed in order to make appropriate choices as well as providing the necessary guidelines and parameters for all service providers to be continuously encouraged to give their best to their consumers both locally and internationally.

Today no one can deny the fact that ICT has incredible potential to improve development outcomes in both the developing and the developed world. All three pillars of sustainable development i.e. economic development, social inclusion and environmental protection need ICT as a propeller to make development in those various sectors achievable. In this regard the role of the regulator is continuously expanding as ICT continues to evolve and contradictorily converge, as result of new technologies which make it easier for the consumers to use their ICT equipment for various activities which hitherto had be done on a number of equipment.

To this end, the regulator will at every point in time have to be ahead of all other stakeholders to be enabled appropriately to guide the industry. This symposium, we believe, will provide us all the opportunity to hear from seasoned practitioners in the communications industry from Peru, United Kingdom, Nigeria and even as far as Australia. It will enable us to share ideas and consolidate our experiences and translate them into action points for the benefit of the global ICT industry. We will also be able to participate in inclusive dialogue as well as propose innovative solutions.

During these two days, it is my fervent hope that delegates will dialogue openly on how the regulator can work through challenges as well as how to promote the growth of the industry for all stakeholders to be positively impacted by the activities of the regulator. We believe that this forum is only the beginning of bold steps to be taken by other communication regulatory bodies on the continent for us to proactively harness the ICT domain for productive use by the people of our great continent.

On behalf of the NCA family, I bid you ***Akwaaba*** and welcome to Accra.

Thank you.