

# ORAG OKADA RIDERS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA

Our Ref:	Your Ref:
Bankers: Fidelity Bank Ghana	Date: .07//

# **PRESS RELEASE**

# **DISCLAIMER ON DELAY OF LEGALIZATION PROCESS**

To all esteemed members of the media and the general public,

We, the Okada Riders Association of Ghana (ORAG), would like to address certain misinformation circulating in the public domain regarding the legalization process of the okada industry. Some self-proclaimed unions have been falsely claiming that the government is delaying the legalization process, purporting to speak on behalf of the Okada Riders Association of Ghana.

We wish to emphatically state that these claims do not reflect the views of ORAG. We commend the government for its efforts in moving the legalization process forward and assure the public that we are working closely with the relevant authorities to ensure the successful implementation of the policy.

As mother association, we are committed to adhering to the guidelines set forth by the Ministerial Committee inaugurated by the Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe. We are pleased to note that the Minister recently updated us on the progress of the bill, which has been forwarded to Cabinet and will be laid before Parliament upon resumption.

However, we would like to bring to the attention of the government one pressing issue that affects our members: the high cost of licensing and registration fees for motorcycles. We believe that the current fees are prohibitively expensive for many of our riders, making it difficult for them to acquire the necessary licenses and registrations. This, in turn, exposes them to harassment by law enforcement agencies.

We respectfully urge the government to review the licensing and registration fees for motorcycles with the aim of making them more affordable for our members. Additionally, we kindly request that the government engages with the Ghana Police Service to grant our members sufficient time to comply with the regulations without fear of harassment or intimidation. A phased implementation or grace period would allow our members to gradually regularize their status without undue hardship.

We find it perplexing that some of these unions are mounting pressure on the government despite the progress made so far. As the mother association, we are working tirelessly with the government and are fully aware of the steps being taken to finalize the legalization process. We understand that this is a complex process requiring careful consideration, and we appreciate the government's diligence in ensuring that all necessary protocols are followed.

We urge the public to disregard any misinformation propagated by these unions and to recognize the efforts being made by the government to legalize the okada industry. We remain committed to working with the government to ensure the success of this initiative.

## COPY TO:

- •All media houses.
- Office of the Transport Minister
- Office of the President
- Office of the Chief of Staff

### **SIGNED**

Michael Kofi Owusu National president Okada Riders Association of Ghana (ORAG) 0246883006

Adande Kojo National secretary Okada riders Association of Ghana (ORAG) 0246352567

Evans Waja National P.R.O Okada riders Association of Ghana (ORAG) 0244490680