

LAUNCH OF THE CENTRE FOR AFRICAN DIPLOMACY & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT (Afro-Global)

*“MOBILIZING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN BUILDING
RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE POST-COVID
GLOBAL ECONOMY”*

GUEST SPEAKER~

**RT. HON. ALBAN
SUMANA BAGBIN**
SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT OF GHANA



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PROGRAMME LINE UP

Opening Prayer: Dr Ismael Hlovor

Introduction of Chairman by MC (Mrs. Eunice Tornyí)

Chairman's Acceptance & Remarks (HRM Amb. Dr Ihenetu)

Welcome Address by Director/Lead Researcher

Musical Interlude (Jay Avid)

Introduction of Keynote Speaker (Hajia Jamilatu Ibrahim)

Address by the Guest Speaker (Rt. Hon. Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin)

Musical Interlude (Jay Avid)

Dedication/Benediction (Rev. Fr. Prof. Michael P.K. Okyerefo)

Chairman's closing remarks

Announcements

Vote of Thanks (Dr Lawrence Boakye)

Closing Prayer (Rev. Fr. Prof. Michael P.K. Okyerefo)



PROFILE OF THE CENTRE FOR AFRICAN DIPLOMACY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT (Afro-Global)

Aims & Goals

The Centre aims to serve as a hub in providing cutting edge scholarly research and training, as well as promote public engagement on global policy issues using multidisciplinary perspectives and approaches to contribute towards the implementation of effective policies on various aspects of Africa's global and diplomatic relations. In so doing, the Centre will aim to build networks across Africa, focusing on key countries such as Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, and organizations such as AU, Ecowas, and the UN. It will identify areas of common Africa interest in relations to the rest of the world, and position Africa as a place of new and exciting opportunities for business and investment. The Centre will also offer practical training to public and private sector agencies in diplomacy, negotiation and contracts.

The Centre is committed to:

- promoting diplomacy as the best approach to solving global problems,
- promoting global citizenship by mobilizing public support through public intellectualism, activism, and research in solving global problems,
- promoting global citizenship and global activism in support of global initiatives such as the SDGs,
- promoting the values of our common humanity by highlighting areas of discrimination and abuse to help devise global solutions,



encouraging global equality, human rights, cosmopolitanism, and multilateralism as the basis for demanding for reforms of global governance institutions and processes

To achieve the above, the Centre will deploy research to promote a robust response to the myriad of challenges of the 21st Century global environment. In doing so, the Centre will contribute to the development and promotion of policy options on any given issue of foreign and diplomatic relationships. Academic publications will be a core activity of the Centre to contribute to international scholarship on Africa's global and diplomatic relations. Conferences and symposia will enable the Centre to share and exchange its projects with broader intellectual and policy communities in the broad areas of international relations, foreign policy and diplomacy, and security.

The Centre will also provide avenues for internship and practical training for both current students and recent graduates as its contribution to the training and development of critical human resources for various Ministries, Agencies and Departments (MDAs) across Africa. It will provide a resource Centre for researchers and policy makers across the African continent to engage critically in policy debates and decisions. It will serve as an advisory body to public and private organizations in the field of global and diplomatic relations.

The Centre will be dedicated to developing practical and accessible training resources for the wider African publics to draw on. The aim is to develop innovative approaches that challenge existing inefficiencies and ineffectiveness with a particular focus on promoting understanding and appreciation of the changing global context. Besides, the Centre will focus keenly on the business environment including the role of multinational corporations, foreign direct investment by conducting relevant research which will be useful for policy makers as well as other stakeholders both within and outside the African continent.



The long-term focus of the Centre includes the mentoring of emerging scholars around foreign policy and diplomacy. Through this mentoring process, particular emphasis and value will be placed on bringing together traditional and emerging knowledge to create state of the art methodologies and practices designed to maximize impact. The mentoring of emerging researchers through the Centre will generate new knowledge, innovative solutions and position our country appropriately as a regional leader within the changing global political economy.

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Centre is to serve as a hub for providing cutting edge research and training in foreign and public policy analysis using multi-disciplinary perspectives, theoretical concepts and empirical evidence and contribute towards the design and implementation of effective policies on various aspects of Africa's foreign and diplomatic relations.

Our Vision

The vision of the Centre is to become the leading hub for research and training in foreign policy, diplomacy, and Africa's global relations, and to provide the intellectual space for a balanced dialogue and debate on global issues and in helping to provide an African input in shaping global affairs to help build a fairer and equitable global system.

Our Mission

The Centre is committed to advancing academic and professional excellence in foreign policy and diplomacy, through innovative research and advocacy, and preparing transformational leaders and policy makers who are dedicated to confronting the critical challenges of the changing global environment.



Funding

The Centre, as a not-for-profit and non-governmental organization, will rely on research grants and donations from individuals and corporate entities to fund its activities.

Post-launch agenda/focus

1. African business & investment research including helping African business in identifying investment opportunities within the continent, helping them with legal and other processes. The research will also include helping to develop Africa's own metrics including ease of doing business models, rating of African business & investment environments, etc
2. Annual celebration of African diplomacy (rotates in different African countries where possible). This includes African diplomacy awards recognizing achievements in business & industry, politics, academia, civil society; Annual Nkrumah Afro-Global (New African in the World) Lecture and induction of new Fellows into the African Diplomatic Academy (FADA).
3. Afro-global bi-annual conference bringing together academics, diplomats, policy makers, corporate executives, students, etc to share research /practical experiences, exhibit products and new discoveries including books and to network.
4. African Review of Diplomacy (yearly peer reviewed academic journal aimed at privileging Afrocentric epistemology in the global knowledge production complex)
5. Afro-Global Working Papers series & current affairs magazine
6. Training towards certification in global affairs & diplomacy
7. Public engagement activities through media partnerships and outreach programs. This includes providing services to governments when it comes to foreign policy responses, negotiations, etc



RESEARCHERS/FELLOWS OF THE CENTRE

1. Prof Lord Mawuko-Yevugah (Lead Researcher)
2. Prof Jasper A. Ayelazuno (Snr Research Fellow)
3. Prof Paul Ugor (Snr Research Fellow)
4. Prof Amy Nyang (Snr Research Fellow)
5. Prof Edwin Etieyibo (Snr Research Fellow)
6. Dr Donald Cog Senanu Agumenu (Snr Research Fellow)
7. Dr Lawrence Baokye (Snr Research Fellow)
8. Dr Simon Peter Kafui Aheto (Snr Research Fellow)
9. Dr David Matsinhe (Snr Research Fellow)
10. Dr Mopele Moshoeshoe (Research Fellow)
11. Dr Ismael Hlovor (Research Fellow)
12. Dr Isaac Odoom (Research Fellow)
13. Dr Emefa Ansah (Research Fellow)



PROF. LORD MAWUKO-YEVUGAH
DIRECTOR/LEAD RESEARCHER



PROF. LORD MAWUKO-YEVUGAH DIRECTOR/LEAD RESEARCHER

PROFILE

Prof. Lord Mawuko-Yevugah is a globally recognized expert in International Relations and Political Economy. Between October 2021 and September 2022, Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah served as the Acting Director of Quality Assurance and Academic Planning (QAAP) of the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). He also served as the founding Head of Department for Public Management and International Relations, and the Founding Coordinator of the PhD program at the GIMPA School of Public Service and Governance. He is the Editor of the Institute's interdisciplinary Journal, the Greenhill Journal of Leadership and Governance; and serves as the Coordinator for the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

Prior to joining GIMPA, Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah taught at the University of Alberta and Athabasca University, both in Canada and at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. He is also currently an Adjunct Faculty in Politics and International Relations at Lancaster University Ghana, as well as Centre for Social Policy Studies, University of Ghana, Legon. He is also affiliated with Graduate Institute of International Relations and Development, Geneva serving as an External Faculty of the master's in development policies and Practices Program.

Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Alberta in Canada, specializing in international relations and comparative political economy. He studied for MPhil in Development Studies as a Commonwealth Scholar at the University of Cambridge in the UK, having graduated with Bachelor of Arts (First Class Hons.) in Political Science and Linguistics from the University of Ghana, Legon. He also held a Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences Research Fellowship at the International Institute of

Social History in Amsterdam. He is an alumnus of the Graduate Institute of International Relations and Development, Geneva where he held Global South Young Scholars Research Fellowship.

Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah has published widely in the areas of international political economy aid and international development cooperation; comparative politics of development in Africa; political economy of Ghana; and postcolonial theory. He is the author of a number of books including, *Made in Ghana: Reflections on Governance and Power Shifts* (University of Ghana Press, 2018); *Reinventing Development: Aid Reform and Technologies of Governance in Ghana* (Routledge, 2016); *African Youth Cultures in a Globalized World* (Ashgate, 2015).

Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah's current research focuses on various forms of exploitation and human rights abuse in Ghana's mining and Petro-chemical industrial complex. He has been involved in several research, consultancy and training activities funded by the Government of Ghana and international partners such as the United Nations system, the World Bank, the European Union, African Union, DANIDA, USAID, MasterCard Foundation, French Development Agency, and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. In 2021, Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah together with a global network of collaborators led by Professor Bonny Ibhawoh of McMaster University in Canada was awarded CAD \$2.5million by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) for the Participedia Phase 2 project on the theme, "Strengthening Democracy by Mobilizing Knowledge of Democratic Innovation".

Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah is a member of several professional associations and is a life-time Fellow of Cambridge Commonwealth Society. He was a winner of the Commonwealth Essay Competition, and a recipient of the Young Scholars Fellowship of the American Society of Public Administration. He was part of a team of researchers nominated by the African Union to develop Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC). He is an external examiner for universities both within and outside Ghana and is a visiting scholar and trainer of trainers at the South African National School of Government. He also serves as a Senior Consultant at the UK-based Humanities Research Consultancy.

Apart from being an astute and internationally recognized academic, Prof. Mawuko-Yevugah worked as a journalist, serving as the Political Editor and Parliamentary Correspondence of the Business and Financial Times. He also worked with the Institute of Economic Affairs, Ghana as a Research Associate, and the Program Officer of the Institute's Governance unit.



**HRM KING DR. AMBASSADOR
CHUKWUI IHENETU**
KING OF THE IGBO COMMUNITY IN GHANA



HRM KING DR. AMBASSADOR CHUKWUI IHENETU CHAIRMAN

PROFILE

King Chukwudi Jude Ihenetu is the King of the Igbo Nigerian Community in Ghana. (representing over two million Nigerians resident in Ghana.) He was crowned King in 2012.

He uses his position to build cultural and economic bridges between Nigerians living in Ghana, Ghana and Nigeria. He was inducted into the GA Traditional Council in 2015 – The only non – Ghanaian King to be so honored. He is gazetted and recognized by the Ministry of Chieftaincy & Religious Affairs, Republic of Ghana.

He has won many international awards and recognitions for his humanitarian and philanthropic projects and as a Peace Ambassador. He runs the Ezeigbo Ghana Foundation – an NGO solely established to bring succor to the less - privileged in the society. Since inception the Foundation has carried out many social intervention projects across Ghanaian communities and other country's including the "Feeding the Hungry Project" that provides a meal a day for the hungry in the society.

To continually keep the touch of the culture and tradition of the Nigerian Igbo people alive, the king annually organizes the "Nigerian-Igbo New Yam Festival". Over the years, this Festival has attracted thousands of visitors and tourists from all over the world who come to appreciate the rich culture of the Igbo people.

In private life, he is a businessman and an entrepreneur and the CEO of CHIBERT Group Ltd.



**RT. HON. ALBAN SUMANA
KINGSFORD BAGBIN
SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GHANA**



THE RT. HON. ALBAN SUMANA KINGSFORD BAGBIN GUEST SPEAKER

PROFILE

The Rt. Hon. Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin is currently the Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Ghana. Before ascending to the high office of the Speaker, which is the third in line of succession to the Presidency, Rt. Hon Bagbin had served as Second Deputy Speaker in the Seventh Parliament of the Fourth Republic between 7th January 2017 and 7th January 2021. He also served as the Member of Parliament for Nadowli West constituency in the Upper West Region of Ghana for seven (7) consecutive times between 1993 and 2021, becoming one of the longest serving members of Parliament in the history of Ghana. A consummate legislator, Speaker Bagbin has held various leadership positions in the House including being a Minority Leader and Majority Leader at different times. He also served on numerous Committees of the House and led Parliament delegations abroad. He was also a cabinet minister under President Atta-Mills, serving as Minister of Works and Housing and later, as Minister of Health.

Born few months after Ghana's independence in 1957, Mr. Alban Bagbin was educated at the Wa Secondary School and Tamale Secondary School. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Law and English at the University of Ghana in 1980. He proceeded to the Ghana School of Law at Makola in Accra after which he was called to the bar in 1982. Mr. Bagbin also earned an Executive Masters in Governance and Leadership from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). Before running for political office in 1992, Mr Bagbin had a successful career as a lawyer working in several public institutions. From 1980 to 1982, he worked at the Bureau of Statistics and Statistical Service as the acting Secretary to the Statistical Service Board. Between 1982 and 1983, he worked as Personnel Manager of the erstwhile State Hotels Corporation and department. He later went into private practice, joining the Akyem Chambers, a firm of legal practitioners, consultants and notaries public, as a partner.



Internationally recognized and respected legislator and leader, Speaker Bagbin, was in August 2022 elected as the President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association International (CPA), an organization of over 180 member Parliaments of the Commonwealth of Nations.

A mark of his leadership skills and mastery of Parliamentary delegations, Mr. Bagbin is the first and the only Speaker in the history of Ghana to belong to a different political party from that of the sitting President and the majority group in Parliament.



REV. FR. PROF. M.P OKYEREFO



**REV, FR, PROF.
M.P OKEYEREFO**

PROFILE

Rev. Fr. Michael Perry K. Okyerefo is a Catholic Priest and a Professor of Sociology at the University of Ghana, where he was the immediate past Dean of the School of Arts. He also served as the Head of the Department of Sociology.

Rev Fr. Professor Okyerefo holds a D.Phil. in Sociology from the University of Vienna in Austria and MPhil in Philosophy from the same University. He graduated with Bachelor Arts (First Class Honors) in the Study of Religions and Sociology from the University of Ghana. Rev. Fr. Prof. also studied for a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education (Secondary Religious Studies) at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom and attained 'Qualified Teacher Status from the Department for Education and Skills in England.

Rev. Fr. Prof research focusses on Sociology of Culture and Sociology of Religion. He aims to advance Global Sociology through biographical analysis, studying religious groups and their transnational networks, migration, African Social Thought and conceptual categories, as well as engaging in Critical University Studies. While a Sociologist by training, he also applies anthropological skills, with emphasis on fieldwork in his research, as these are skills he refined during a fully paid Fellowship on Religion and Public Culture at the University of Cambridge from October 2007 to March 2008. He and Professor Abdoulaye Gueye of the University of Ottawa have been engaged in a Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program (CADFP) to strengthen an African Diaspora Support to African Universities project. He is also part of a NIH/FIC funded NYU-UG Research Integrity Training Program to build sustainable research ethics and integrity capacity in Ghana through a partnership between the University of Ghana (UG) and NYU. The project has resulted in a Bioethics Program, which awards a master's degree in Bioethics at UG School of Public Health.

Rev. Fr. Professor is a distinguished and highly accomplished scholar with over a hundred (100) scholarly outputs including books, book chapters, journal articles, conference papers and technical reports.



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