

June 14, 2022

The Commissioner  
Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ)  
Old Parliament House, High Street  
Accra

Dear Sir,

**PETITION TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST PUBLIC OFFICERS WHO HAVE FAILED TO  
DECLARE THEIR ASSETS**

We, the undersigned citizens of Ghana, respectfully write to petition CHRAJ to take appropriate action against public officers, including some current ministers and deputy ministers who have failed to declare their assets contrary to the requirements of Article 286 of the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana ('the Constitution') and Section 1 of the Public Office Holders (Declaration of Assets and Disqualification) Act, 1998 (Act 550).

Article 286 of the Constitution and Section 1 of Act 550 place an obligation on public officers to submit a written declaration of all property or assets owned by, or liabilities owed by them, directly or indirectly, to the Auditor-General, (i) before taking office, (ii) at the end of every four years, and (iii) at the end of their term of office.

Pursuant to a right to information request made to the Audit Service on March 4, 2022 by the Fourth Estate, an Accra-based media organisation, the Audit Service, on May 17, 2022, supplied information on public office holders who had declared their assets from January 2013 up to that date. The list of public officers who had declared their assets as of May 17, 2022, can be found in Appendix 1 of this document. In other words, public officers who had failed to declare their assets as of May 17, 2022, have not been listed in Appendix 1.

Given the importance of asset declaration as a tool in the fight against corruption, we take a serious view of these constitutional violations.

Article 287 of the Constitution provides that "*An allegation that a public officer has contravened or has not complied with a provision of this Chapter shall be made to the Commissioner for Human Rights and Administrative Justice...who shall, unless the person concerned makes a written admission of the contravention or non-compliance, cause the matter to be investigated.*" This constitutional mandate is reiterated in Section 7(e) of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice Act, (Act 456).

We, therefore, respectfully urge CHRAJ to:

1. Open investigations into:

- a. the failures of public officers not listed in Appendix 1 to declare their assets; and
  - b. whether the failure of the above-mentioned public officials to declare their assets amounts to a breach of the oaths of office they swore to “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution” as mandated by Article 286 (7) and the Second Schedule of the Constitution;
2. Take appropriate action against the defaulting public officers pursuant to CHRAJ’s mandate in Article 287 of the Constitution, including but not limited to:
- a. directing each of the defaulting public officers to promptly declare their assets to the Auditor-General; and
  - b. initiating legal actions at the courts against the defaulting public officers to compel them to promptly declare their assets to the Auditor-General or have them sanctioned for default, pursuant to CHRAJ’s mandate under Section 9 of Act 456.

We shall be available to assist the Commission in respect of any actions it deems appropriate pursuant to this petition.

Please do not hesitate to contact us via our email at [ghanacitizens@proton.me](mailto:ghanacitizens@proton.me).

We look forward to a positive response.


Yours in the Service of the Republic,

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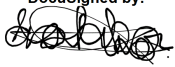
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Appendix 1