

## ROTATIONAL NURSES AND MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (RNMA)

### WESTERN/WESTERN NORTH REGION

(An affiliate of Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives Association)

In case of reply, date and number should be quoted

Our Ref:...RNMA/W/WNR/PR/001

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9<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES**

### PRESS RELEASE

### **THE INSENSITIVE AND UNCONCERNED POSTURE OF MOH AND MOF TOWARDS THE PAYMENT OF OUR CLOSE TO 12 MONTHS UNPAID-ALLOWANCES**

The **Regional Leadership of Rotational Nurses And Midwives Association(RNMA)** humbly extend our heartfelt greetings to our most-cherished members both within the region and the entire country at large for your unwavering support, particularly in this most-challenging times we find ourselves plagued into.

Friends from the media, colleagues of this noble profession, the entire populace, we humbly come to you again to sympathize with us as we seek the payment of our **12 months unpaid allowances from the Ministry of Health(MOH) and Ministry of Finance(MOF).**

In fact, we are really pained, sad and angry about the ill-treatment meted out to us by these Ministries. Their insensitive and unconcerned posture towards the payment of our hard- earned allowances have caused so much suffering and untold hardship among our members.

How can one work for almost a year without receiving a penny? How do you want them to survive? How can the MOH be this insensitive particularly to the issues that has to do with healthcare delivery in this country?

Ladies and gentlemen, upon series of letters and engagements with the Ministries, and even to a point of the **Minister of Health promising us on the floor of Parliament of getting our Financial Clearance released from the MOF before the month of May ends**, all tends to be lies.

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Friends from the media, ladies and gentlemen, the **10,975 rotational nurses and midwives across the country will be finishing their one year mandatory national service come 30th of this very month, and still our Financial Clearance has not been released by MOF for our documents to be processed on and placed on the Mechanized Payroll to enable the Controller and Accountant-General's Department to effect payments.**

Most of us were posted to health facilities far away from our respective homes and our rents will be expiring some few days ahead of us. And our landlords are already on our necks to pay our existing debts and vacate their rooms for them.

Our fear is when the clearance get released at their own convenient time, we would have to travel away from our homes to our respective facilities again to undergo a whole processes to get our money in our accounts, which is not a day thing. One can only imagine the extra financial burden and the stress we would have to go through at that moment.

We have already become a laughingstock among our peers and in the community as we have to borrow money to fend for ourselves in order to survive. An innocent soul has died as result of this unpaid allowances consequently.

Is it a crime to undergo three years training to become a professional nurse or midwife and to demand for something you have constitutionally worked for?

Friends from the media, the most painful part is that, our **second batch of colleagues** who are **4,154** in number and have also worked **close to 6 months** share the same fate as us.

Ironically, the MOH has approved **12,594 of our junior colleagues** who will take over from us when we are done to be deployed by NSS nationwide to do their rotation **without** Financial Clearance. When are we going to stop glorifying an absurdity as normal?

Why wouldn't our experienced nurses migrate to oversea countries where their services are needed and well-appreciated to work? Because, right from inception to permanent postings, we don't prioritize their welfare as a country.

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Ladies and gentlemen, just in **2022** alone more than **1,200** Ghanaian nurses joined the United Kingdom's nursing register. That is only UK alone. How about other countries like USA and Canada that are recruiting day in day out. Again, a recent study published by BBC, Accra concluded that **Ghanaian patients in danger as more nurses head for National Health Service in UK**. All these point to how the system has become here in Ghana.

Friends from the media, ladies and gentlemen, Leadership both at the Regional and National level will therefore be **demonstrating massively on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month to once again express our disgust and displeasure about our 12 months unpaid allowances**. It is quite unfortunate that the Law Enforcement Agency had to move our planned Demonstration to the tail end of our service. But come what may, the Demonstration will come on. We have starved and suffered for this long and Enough is Enough.

We therefore by this release call on the Ministry of Finance to pay all our allowances **now**.

Friends from the media, colleagues of this noble profession, Ladies and gentlemen, we acknowledge your presence, overwhelming support and attention.

Thank you.

**THE END.**



**Isaiah Kwofie**  
**(Regional Chairperson)**



**Kimbelene Catherene Agnes Mensah**  
**(Regional Secretary)**

