

**GENERAL TRANSPORT, PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL WORKERS' UNION  
OF TRADES UNION CONGRESS (GHANA)**



**PRESS STATEMENT**

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**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE TO REVIEW  
THE WORK OF THE OUTGONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TEMA OIL  
REFINERY (TOR).**

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The leadership of General Transport Petroleum Chemical Workers Union (GTPCWU) of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) wishes to call on the President of the Republic of Ghana, H.E. John Dramani Mahama, to constitute an Independent Non-Partisan Committee to review and conduct due diligence on the activities and performance of the outgone Board of Directors of Tema Oil Refinery (TOR) (hereinafter referred to as "TOR BOD"). The individuals who were alleged to have spearheaded the affairs in the decision making at the blind side of the TOR BOD were Mr. Apenteng, Mrs Sapara Grant and Mr. Ato Morission. These members of the BOD were the only active members during the period.

Being a public institution, TOR holds significant importance to the nation; the TOR BOD must be held accountable for all decisions that had adverse financial consequences which were proven to be driven by personal interest during its tenure.

The activities of the erstwhile TOR BOD suggest a deliberate intention to engage known individuals and affiliates within the previous Government to partner with TOR for various transactions in a non-transparent manner. Therefore, sanctioning an independent and transparent review of TOR BOD's actions will safeguard the public trust and ensure adherence to best practices in state governance, administration and financial management.

We respectfully propose that the mandate of the Independent Committee should include the following activities that were undertaken by the TOR BOD, but for the intervention of the GTPCWU it would have escalated:

1. Negligence of engaging Decimal Capital-VITOL in a joint partnership with TOR, even when VITOL had written to the Energy Ministry about not having such an arrangement (financial and technical support) with Decimal Capital.
2. Allowing the incorporation of a special purpose vehicle, "Torentco Asset Management Limited", by the shareholders of Decimal Capital to cover up all its structural irregularities and flaws identified by the union executives.
3. With the above-failed attempts, TOR BOD colluded with the shareholder of Torentco Asset Management Limited, Mr. Michael Darko and Mr. Christopher Hesse-Tetteh and some compromised workers of TOR to incorporate the Tema Energy and Processing Limited in August 2023. These TOR workers were made to incorporate a company limited by guarantee named TOR Workers Charity Trust for 20% shares in Tema Energy and Processing Limited without the knowledge or approval of TOR Management and Workers.
4. Investigate the subsequent removal and resignation of all objective and astute general managers and the subsequent reassignments of

incorruptible managers and officers for those whom the TOR BOD could easily manipulate.

5. Review the promotions of all five (5) workers involved in the incorporation of TOR Workers Charity Trust.
6. Investigate all the processes leading to the TOR BOD issuance of Request For-Proposal (RFP) and the supposed signed agreement with NETOIL.

As a UNION with an oversight responsibility over the workers of TOR, GTPCWU has written to key stakeholders, including the Attorney General's Office, the Office of the Special Prosecutor, State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA), the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Energy in respect of TOR's partnership with all the above entities, raising every identified irregularities.

Notably, the response from the Attorney General to GTPCWU substantiated our concerns about the lack of capacity and transparency in the transaction. Additionally, findings by the Special Prosecutor raised significant irregularities that necessitated instructions to halt the Tema Energy and Processing transaction. While we acknowledge the importance of private participation or the dilution of the ownership structure of TOR for private participation in TOR's transformational agenda, we believe it should not be a ruse for state asset exploitation and misappropriation. TOR therefore should remain a state entity with a private participation.

As a responsible stakeholder in the petroleum sector, the GTPCWU is prepared to submit relevant documentation to the office of the President concerning the above mentioned issues and requests, as and when needed, to facilitate your inquiry. The GTPCWU is also ready to assist the current administration in resetting the activities of TOR. We are confident that such an inquiry will

provide valuable insights and reinforce public trust in TOR and the Government's commitment to transparency and good governance.

Finally, we would like to make a clarion call to the President, H.E. John Dramani Mahama, as indicated earlier by the Trades Union Congress to order the Ghana Police Service to arrest perpetrators of thugs who invaded and destroyed state properties especially at the Petroleum and Energy Sector institutions such as Bui Power Authority, Ghana Gas, BOST and TOR to attack innocent staff without any cause. We believe in a strong democratic principle that will foster unity in the country, as was beautifully done recently during the handing over.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.



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GTPCWU OF TUC (GHANA)**



**FRANCIS SALLAH  
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GTPCWU OF TUC (GHANA)**

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