



# GHACCO ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Friday August 19, 2016 at Energy Commission

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| Contents   |   |
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....  | 2 |
| 1.0 INTRODUCTION .....   | 3 |
| 2.0 THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING & SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN ..... | 4 |
| 3.0 MEMBERS UPDATED ON GHACCO ACTIVITY 2015/ APRIL 2016.....         | 4 |
| 4.0 GHACCO ONGOING ACTIVITIES (MAY- JULY 2016).....                  | 5 |
| 5.0 REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIVITY PLAN & UPDATE .....         | 6 |
| 6 6.0 FUND RAISING COMMITTEE UPDATE/ ACTIVATION.....                 | 6 |
| 7.0 A PRESENTATION ON INSPOCCE; WORLD EDUCATION .....                | 7 |
| 8.0 OPEN FORUM/ QUESTIONS.....                                       | 6 |
| 9.0 THE WAY FORWARD.....   | 7 |
| 10.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS.....   | 8 |

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

|          |  |
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| BBC      | British Broadcasting Corporation.                        |
| CEO      | Chief Executive Officer.                                 |
| EBA      | Evidence Base Advocacy                                   |
| FMO      | Dutch Development Bank.                                  |
| GACC     | Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves.                    |
| GES      | Ghana Education Service                                  |
| GHACCO   | Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves & Fuels.             |
| GIZ      | German Agency for International Cooperation              |
| GTV      | Ghana Television   |
| INSPOCCE | Integrated School Project, on Clean Cooking Energy.      |
| MESTI    | Ministry of Environment Science Technology & Innovation. |
| NAMA     | Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action.                |
| OGM      | Ordinary General Meetings                                |
| RVO.     | Netherland Enterprise Agency.                            |
| SDGs     | Sustainable Development Goals.                           |
| SNV      | Netherlands Development Organization.                    |
| TV3,     | Television Three.  |
| UNDP     | United Nation Development Project.                       |
| UTV.     | United Television  |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

*The GHACCO National Executive Board as enshrined in the constitution, article 10 clause 10-15, resolved and called for the Ordinary General Meetings (OGM). The meetings was called to deliberate on matters involving status of activities undertaken, on-going activities, and opportunities for members. The Ordinary General Meeting was deemed relevant to encourage frequent face-to-face meetings of the members to enhance cohesion, networking and discussion of matters that may enrich good governance. The event was held at Energy Commission on Friday, August 19, 2016, at 10:00 am. The meeting was chaired by Auntie Sarah Agbey. She enumerated the purpose of the meeting as the Chairman of GHACCO, who travelled for equally assigned duties, gave his special message via skype and also participated throughout the session. The Program Officer, Raymond Kusorgbor updated members on the GHACCO Progress Report (Activity Report June 2015/ April 2016) and also the ongoing Activities (May- July 2016). The Intr. Financial Secretary, Lovans Owusu- Takyi on his account reported on the financial position of GHACCO. He emphasized and activated the formation of other functional committees most importantly the fund raising committee. The Regional Steering Committees updated members on the initiatives they have undertaken. The open forum time provided opportunity to members to pose questions, get clarifications, and get further information all issues relevant to them. Members dilated their views on the way forward on how to strengthen GHACCO. Mr Manu on his closing remarks acknowledged the contributions of members for organizing a successful OGM. The members were challenged to intensify their hard work to make GHACCO achieve greater heights as the Executive Board works as a team; not as individuals, to help attain a common purpose.*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The much awaited Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as the new global development agenda for development has seen reorientation of most organizations system of operation. The Sustainable Energy Governance Structures are modelled to incorporate approaches and strategies on achieving the Global Goals development goals on; how to end poverty, improve health & livelihood, take action on climate change and the environment, and build strong institutions among others.

The country's cookstoves & fuel energy governance analysis posits that key components like: a.) strategic framework, b.) legal framework, c.) instructional structure, d.) national cookstoves sector policy implementation, e.) project development and f.) quest for sustainable funding, needed much attention. Also less attention has been devoted to the various small scale cookstoves projects in Ghana than expected due to scope and investment weight which less attracts public attention.

Globally, most of the notable problems related to the energy sector governance include: a) lack of transparent, and stable institutional environment, b) poor coordination and cooperation among major stakeholders in the sector, c) low levels of implementation of strategic goals, law and obligations, and d) low efficiency of the energy sector public administration just to mention few. It must also be noted that Ghana is not exempted from traces of such problems enumerated above. According to the Center for the Study of Democracy, 2010 some of the key ways forward are: a) building systems and institutions and the relationships between them, b) formulate laws and enforce them to transform the sector. c). deliberate financial sector policies to help utilize tools to achieve goals among others.

GHACCO as a key stakeholder platform in the sector recognizes that inter-functional coordination from other stakeholders in their deliverables especially the government will play a key role in transforming the sector. In our internal structure of governance, GHACCO sees building its system to be a vibrant institution could be achieved through: a) been financial accountable to members, b) operation of open door policy, c) building strong functional committees, regional steering committees, d) internalizing GHACCO constitutional provisions in jurisdiction, e) developing and improving on the administrative governance just to mention few.

The OGM meeting organized provided avenues to for members to be accounted to. This also help to deliberate on matters involving status of activities undertaken, on-going activities, and opportunities for members. This encouraged frequent face-to-face meetings with the members to enhance cohesion, networking and discussion of matters that will enrich the governance system of GHACCO. Strong criticisms from members and stakeholders on internal governance structures helped the National Executive Board the challenge itself to help build vibrant institution. The OGM concerns are computed into day to day administrative management of GHACCO.

## **2.0 THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING & SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN**

The Chairperson for the meeting, Auntie Sarah noted that, the purpose of the meeting, is in line with constitution to ensure face to face interaction with members and most importantly to account to members. She coached participants on the constitutional requirements for the call of GHACCO meetings like the Ordinary General Meeting, Emergency Meeting, Annual General Assembly among others. Lovans read the constitution articles and provisions to buttress and lay more emphasis in this regard.

The chairman in his special message acknowledge the support from members over the years. He noted that, the board works as a team and takes collective administrative decision than unilateral. He defused certain concerns from the email attack. He emphasized via skype that: “I am currently on a business trip to seek funding hence working in support with the board”. He enumerated the agenda of the meeting.

## **3.0 MEMBERS UPDATED ON GHACCO ACTIVITY REPORT JUNE 2015/ APRIL 2016.**

Raymond Kusorgbor updated members on the progress report whose activities reporting period is indicated above. Some review of tasks accomplished by the board were highlighted as follows:

- Office equipment secured, and National Coordinator and Program Officer recruited
- Remuneration for 2 staff undertaken during the period.
- GHACCO participated in national and international advocacy and energy-related programs, workshops and conferences.
- Regional awareness creation activities organized in Accra and Kumasi
- GHACCO organized quarterly executive meetings at national level.
- The board witnessed increased membership through membership solicitation campaigns at national and regional levels.
- The distributors and retailers were trained in marketing skills and innovative business models for improved cookstoves dissemination both in Accra and Kumasi.
- Regional Steering Committee and Regional Operation of GHACCO held: Greater Accra, Volta Region and Ashanti Region.
- Also hosted stoves plus academy capacity building workshop or training.
- Collection of membership dues intensified.
- There were several media engagements like BBC, GTV, UTV, TV3, HOT FM
- GHACCO has organized and hosted the global forum on clean cooking.
- GHACCO a technical member helped in the formulation of NAMA Policy, collaboration partner on INSPOCCE project, and Ghana Girl Guides Clean Cooking Project and
- There were investment meetings undertaken with FMO (Dutch Development Bank), GIZ and Netherland Enterprise Agency (KVO) among others.

This yielded the RVO cookstoves sector project in its inception stage implemented by GHACCO and SNV.

#### 4.0 GHACCO ONGOING ACTIVITIES (MAY- JULY 2016).

Raymond also updated members on the ongoing initiatives. This period spans from May to July 2016 activities that were:

- Funding initiatives involve periodical writing of proposals and seek for funding from various partners to promote the cookstoves and fuels sector in Ghana.
- GHACCO/SNV EBA Project. GHACCO through partnership with SNV has established collaboration to develop Evidence Based Advocacy Plan to promote access to clean and affordable improved cookstoves and sustainable use of clean energy in Ghana. GACCO has participated in two workshops organised by SNV.
- GHACCO/ Netherland Enterprise Agency (RVO) Project. The National Coordinator (William) contacted Netherlands Enterprise Agency to support the cookstoves sector in Ghana. The Executive Board further held meetings with RVO in Ghana on: Monday, March 21, 2016 at 2:00 pm and the secondly on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 3:00 pm at SNV Office. We have established funding and technical support as the project is in its inception stage.
- Cookstoves data collection currently is coordinating the collection of quarterly cookstoves production and sales figures for 2016 from the manufacturers.
- Partnership initiatives: thus administrative and working partnership with Switch Africa Green; UNDP, Ghana and others have been established. GACC has been a faithful partner to GHACCO and recently supported top women CEO in the clean Cookstove sector with a training on Grant Writing.
- National Cookstoves Market Activation Campaign. GHACCO collaborated with GACC to organize and subsequent participation of manufacturers and mobilized data for the campaign. This market activation took place in market centres such as: Kaneshie, Mallam Attah, Nima, Dome, Madina, Labadi, Dansoman, Ashiaman of Accra and in Kumasi: Spintex, Bantama, Dr Mensah Street, and Asafo Market.
- GES Cookstoves Festival; Sunyani. GACC in collaboration with GHACCO and World Education International is working with GES to mainstream Clean Cookstoves and Fuels in Ghana Basic Education Curriculum. GHACCO is also working with Ghana Girl Guides to mainstream Clean Cooking solution in their activities.

## **5.0 REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIVITY PLAN & UPDATE.**

GHACCO preliminary activity plan for various Regional Steering Committees mainly involve capacity development on leadership skills, project management/coordination, and general orientation on GHACCO as an institution among others. Auntie Sarah noted that, resources will be made available for such capacity developments. The coordinator for Greater Accra, Jackson outlines some plans and initiatives for his region. Raymond Kusorgbor noted that, the EBA Project 2016 preliminary activities to actively engage all the committees in the stakeholder consultation process and implementation process.

## **6.0 FUND RAISING COMMITTEE UPDATE/ ACTIVATION.**

The Intr. Financial Secretary, Lovans explained the essence of fund raising committee to be help complement funding efforts in securing sustainable funding. Other subcommittees were activated and members indicated their prepared committee groups based on technical knowledge, expertise and experience among others. The main committees activated included:

- i. Fundraising and Resource Mobilization Sub-Committee
- ii. Technical Sub-Committee (shall address technical issues on Production, Marketing, Standardization, Research, Distribution, etc)
- iii. Policy Coordination Sub-Committee (Research and Advocacy)
- iv. Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee.
- v. Membership and Elections Sub-Committee.

## **7.0 A PRESENTATION ON INSPOCCE; WORLD EDUCATION**

The National Coordinator of World Education Adwoa Sey indicated that, INSPOCCE program aims at: developing and integrating clean cooking energy information into the Basic Education curriculum of Ghana Education Service. This seeks to increasing knowledge and positive attitudes of students, their families and the community members at large. Also driving force for demand and adoption of clean cookstoves and fuels in households in the Ga West Municipality of the Greater Accra Region She also indicated that, GES National Cultural Festival for Second Cycle institutions in Sunyani to provide an avenue for GHACCO especially manufacturers to sell, demonstrate and create awareness on clean cookstoves & fuels.

## **8.0 OPEN FORUM/ QUESTIONS.**

This session provided opportunity for members to express their concerns, be clarified and informed on all issues bordering GHACCO. Concerns were raised on communication of GHACCO activities, membership dues, widening of the mailing list, revisiting the data base, membership dues among others.

Gifty Baaba Asmah noted that, the Executive Board should determine duration of being a member prior to voting. She was clarified on the awareness campaign involvement that not all members that were involved in the planning processes were meant for implementation phase. Some members

questioned why some cookstoves were promoted over the others in just ended awareness campaign launch. Kwesi noted that it is Global Alliance decision per their implementation strategy will at preliminary stage focus on the stoves that are widely known in the market. He explained that funding will be sought for other brands of stoves and if possible, institutional stoves too to also be promoted during the subsequent phase of the awareness campaign.

Global Alliance noted that the marking campaign has served as a learning curve for decision making and subsequent improvement from the baseline of delivery. They are considering TV and Bill board ads to be done for the second phase of the campaign. During this phase, manufacturers to be given funds to either increase stock or undertake their own campaign. Kwesi noted that the manufacturers respond to the campaign was not much reactive because they were already stretched in the market place

Faustina Boakye demanded to know about CookClean Ghana Limited involvement in NAMA projects due to possible conflict of interest. Kwesi Sarpong and Lovans indicated that the NAMA project was facilitated through open National/ International competitive bidding processes and was won prior to electing the CEO of CookClean as National Chairman of GHACCO.

Also recommended was the need to explore social media communication tool kits for information dissemination. The need to periodically email members the progress reports, give bullet update on projects, share newsletters, and also request members to submit periodic inputs. Mr Manu admonished members to respond to their mail and help contribute their inputs in decision making processes. He noted that the website will provide social media and commercial marketing opportunities for members. Lovan edged members undertaking individual projects to update GHACCO and the create marketplace on the website.

Joseph Senyo shared light on some Green Climate Fund Opportunities in the country coordinated by Ecobank, MESTI, and ministry of Finance. He was encouraged to share the details with the members. Richard Matey also shared detailed information on the administrative governance and processes involves prior to accessing the fund.

Auntie Sarah addressed concerns on GHACCO financial position with emphasis that, ongoing internal auditing, findings and recommendations will be made available. This will also inform financial reform structures to improve the status quo. This was as a result of questions from Kwesi on untallied disparity of 2015 budget verses the actual. Kwesi noted that, Global Alliance had no issues of misappropriation of fund rather a payment made to SNV; adept inherited by the current Executive Board.

## **9.0 THE WAY FORWARD.**

The members suggested the need to develop controls systems for effective financial administration and reporting. This is essential to strengthen financial governance structures for accountability and transparency. Suggestions to make GHACCO sustainable were discussed and focus on LPG sector stakeholders' mobilization was emphasized. It was also noted that GHACCO will be funded in the next two years and a new national coordinator will be recruited. GHACCO is encouraged to join

world organizations to access global platforms and resources. GHACCO to submit 2016/2017 budget activities.

## **10.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS.**

Mr Manu on his concluding remarks thanked members for their contribution and will make use of their ideas and contributions. He requested for their support and criticisms are welcomed to make GHACCO strong. He once again thanked members for their valuable times.

# PICTURE GALLERY



