



GHANA ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN COOKSTOVES (GHACCO)

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A STATEMENT IN COMMEMORATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

IN GHANA, JUNE 5TH, 2018

The Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and Fuels (GHACCO) wishes to join the thousands of civil society organizations and individual environmental activists World-wide, and in Ghana, in particular, to Commemorate this year’s World Environment Day, which is being celebrated around the theme, “Beat Plastic Pollution”; calling on individuals to take charge of their surroundings and realize the danger post by daily usage of plastics to our lives.

GHACCO wish to call on the Government through the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to step up efforts on research, technology development and dialogue among all stakeholders to deal with plastic waste management in our cities and communities across the Country. GHACCO further calls on Ghanaian civil society organizations, traditional authorities and the media to support government efforts and initiatives for behaviour change among the citizenry in dealing with the plastic waste menace in our communities and neighbourhoods.

While observing the Day around its special theme; “Beat Plastic Pollution” GHACCO wishes to urge all Ghanaian families to remain concerned about household air pollution (HAP) resulting from the use of traditional cooking technologies and wood-based fuels for indoor cooking, which causes avoidable loss of lives and ailments, especially among women and children, in Ghana and Worldwide.

Studies recently conducted by GHACCO in collaboration with the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) found that firewood and charcoal remains the main cooking fuels to over 70% of Ghanaian households. The study further reveals that while 41.3% of the households use firewood as their main fuel, 31.5% use charcoal as the main fuel. The extensive and unsustainable exploitation of our forest resources especially in the Savannah areas, for wood fuels continue to expose the Country to severe environmental consequences and climate hazards.

Executive Board: Sarah Agbey (Chairperson), Adwoa Etsiwaa Sey (Vice Chairperson), Venan Sondo (Financial Secretary), Lily-Versta Nyarko (Secretary), Kenneth Amoateng (Member), Erasmus Osei-Essah (Member), Lovans Owusu Takyi (Member)



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GHACCO therefore, wishes to appeals to the Government of and development partners to promote and support sustainable wood fuel production in Ghana. These must include promotion of woodlots development, waste wood processing into alternative fuels and regeneration of our forest resources. This effort must be complemented by the promotion and adoption of high efficiency cooking technologies and cleaner fuels especially in the rural and peri-urban households of the Savannah, forest and coastal belts, to regulate the demand for the wood fuel resources in Ghana.

Thank you.

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