



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION  
ACCRA, GHANA**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**GHANA OBSERVES THE 2021 UNITED  
NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS DAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2021**

The United Nations will on 29<sup>th</sup> May observe the 2021 United Nations Peacekeepers' Day. The day is marked annually in honour of the over 3,900 peacekeepers who lost their lives serving under the UN Flag since the establishment of the first peacekeeping operation in 1948.

Peacekeeping is one of the unique and dynamic instruments used by the United Nations to assist countries torn apart by conflict and in re-creating the conditions that would lead them back to lasting peace.

Peacekeepers have made a tangible difference in the lives of hundreds of millions of the world's most vulnerable people over the last 70 years, laying the groundwork for long-term peace. We recognize the enormous sacrifices made by peacekeepers, and celebrate their professionalism, dedication, and courage in the discharge of their duties.

Ghana, as a member of the United Nations, joins the rest of the world in commemorating this important day. The global theme, **“The Road to a Lasting Peace: Harnessing the Power of Youth for Peace and Security,”** which highlights the fundamental commitment of the United Nations to pursue an all-inclusive development agenda as the lead international organization in the maintenance of global peace and security.

The Government of Ghana, in conjunction with the UN Office in Ghana and other partners, have decided to commemorate this day with the local theme **“Peace and Security in Ghana: the Role of the Youth”**. The theme provides an opportunity to highlight the invaluable contribution of Ghanaian youth and young Ghanaian peacekeepers towards the realization of peace and security at the national and international levels.

Guided by the commitment to promote peace and security all over the world, Ghana has

maintained her position as one of the top ten contributing nations, to United Nation Peace Operations, and our men and women in the military, police and prison service continue to serve with professionalism and distinction. This commitment is also high on Ghana's agenda, in her current role as Chair of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

To mark the occasion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, in partnership with the UN Office in Ghana and other relevant stakeholders, organized a Webinar on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 from 10:00 – 11:35 hrs via the Zoom Platform. Given the focus on youth, peace and security and the recognition of two young Ghanaian peacekeepers were profiled during the Webinar. The two young Ghanaian peacekeepers are, Lance Corporal Mabel Gyapomah Owusu and Lance Bombadier Samuel Kofi Adu, and are currently on a mission with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

The event offered the youth in Ghana the opportunity to interact with the young Ghanaian peacekeepers and share their thoughts on how the youth in Ghana can help to promote peace, security and stability in their country and the world beyond.

Ghana remains proud of the high standards and professionalism demonstrated by its security personnel in international peace operations and on this occasion, happily partners with the United Nations to recognize the priceless contribution made to the promotion of peace and security by all uniformed and civilian personnel.

On this occasion, we wish to encourage our youth to actively participate in building peace and security within their communities. We pay glowing tribute to our uniformed men and women who have, and continue to exude Ghanaian excellence and discipline in fostering peace and security in conflict areas around the world.

“Ayekoo” to all Ghanaian uniformed personnel and civilians engaged in UN peacekeeping operations. We honour you and encourage you to continue to project Ghana's legacy in UN peacekeeping operations.

27<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2021