

## NATIONAL TENANTS' UNION OF GHANA

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## NATIONAL TENANTS' UNION OF GHANA CONDEMNS CRUEL DEMOLITION AT ADENTA- FRAFRAHA BY THE STATE.

The National Tenants' Union of Ghana, (NATUG) wishes to express our displeasure of the impunity in which the Greater Accra Regional Minister and the Regional Security Council carried out the demolition exercise at Frafraha.

We are appalled by the cruel destruction of properties of victims with both children, their sources of income, education and the subsequent failure of the Regional Minister and Security council to put in measures that seeks to provide sustainable sources of livelihoods for the victims.

The inhumane Demolition Exercise has imposed a lot of hardship on the people of Frafraha and has rendered a large number of breadwinners' homeless and unemployed leading to grime in an already depressed economic hardship and social situation.

The Greater Accra Regional Minister failed to consult extensively with the various stakeholders before embarking on the demolition exercise.

We take this opportunity to remind Government and Hon. Henry Quartey that the demolition exercises carried out in recent times are in breach of the International covenants and treaties signed by Ghana in the year 2000. We want to unequivocally remind Government under President Akuffo Addo and the NPP Government that Ghana has ratified the International

Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which prohibits Ghana to undertake such a misguided demotion exercise which amount to Forced Eviction, without any recourse to due process International laws, in which Ghana is a party to, and is obliged to respect those laws

Serving a 48hour eviction and demolition notice to settlers who has lived in a community for over 20yrs is cruel, treacherous and total disregard to legal processes and international human rights norms and standards.

The Greater Accra Region Minister, Hon. Henry Quartey failed to also put in place a comprehensive relocation plan for the victims whiles rending them homeless in these torrential raining seasons. It is an openly discriminatory instance of collective punishment.

We consider the actions of the Regional Minister as painful, cruel and disrespect, with no regards for the victims for failing to put in place contingent measures precedent and subsequent to the demolition exercise.

We think the haphazard manner in which the Regional Minister has found an abode in his rampant demolitions does not in any way lay claim to justice and an upfront to human rights and morals.

Whiles we recognize the power of eminent purview of the state, we also wish to remind the Regional Minister and security council to take into consideration the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) fundamental human rights of the victims as specified in the 1992 constitution of Ghana and to put in measures that would provide sustainable reprieve to the victims immediately.

We also wish to call on the President, H.E. Nana Addo Dankwah Akuffo Addo to issue a moratorium on such cruel and callous evictions led by the Greater Accra Regional Minister and place human interest policies that have mutual interest between the state and the victims that would lead to a lasting solution to this problem.

We indulge the hope that, in the interest of the public trust, the focus of economic and social prosperity of the victims and people of Frafraha-Adenta, stakeholders meeting would be called immediately to facilitate a solution that would house the affected children and women in this situation.

NATUG will intensify its monitoring of all demolition and eviction activities in the country to ensure that comply with the provisions of the UN convention for a just and humane demolition.

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