

GSA, FDA Harmonisation to Fast-Track Approvals for Businesses



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The Ghana Standards Authority (GSA), and the Food Drugs Authority (FDA) have harmonised their certification processes to fast-track approvals for businesses.

The move, according to the Director-General of the GSA, Prof. Alex Dodoo, is to avoid duplicated services from the two-state organisations aimed at facilitating the ease of doing business in the country.

The two regulatory bodies are expected to issue an official communication in the coming days, outlining details of the process.

“By this one-stop shop, the two institutions are avoiding the repetition that businesses have to go through in securing the required certification,” Professor Dodoo told Joynews in an interview on April 11, 2024.

“We want to make sure that the struggles that enterprises go through in getting the

needed certification are reduced,” he added.

He explained that the purpose is to simplify the processes for businesses to save time.

“At the Food and Drugs Authority level, it will be called progressive licensing, while at the Standards Authority, we will call it graduated certification”.

Prof. Dodoo is optimistic businesses will embrace the new processes, when launched, since it will provide a relatively short period to complete.

“In the past, it used to take about four to six weeks, but that process has been reduced to about four days,” he said, revealing that his outfit is building more laboratories to deal with the pressure that may come because of the new process.

“Industries are always worried about delays because it impacts on their cost of doing

business and we are working hard to deal with that. We have already built quite a number of new laboratories and procured new equipment to augment the Authority’s service in readiness for the harmonisation,” he noted.