



*Prof. George Agyei and Mr. George Anti at the ARSO Council Meeting*

## 73rd ARSO Council & 16th Champions Meeting – Mombasa, Kenya (17–21 November 2025)

The 73rd ARSO Council and the 16th ARSO Champions Meeting were held in Mombasa, Kenya, from 17–21 November 2025 under the theme “Accelerating Fair and Just Trade in Africa under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) through an African Coherent Regulatory Framework and

Harmonised Standards.” The event was officially opened by Ms. Esther Ngari, Managing Director of the Kenya Bureau of Standards, on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade & Industry for the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Lee Kinyanjui.

The week-long engagement comprised two main sessions: Days 1–3 dedicated to focused trainings for members of the ARSO Council and ARSO Champions respectively. Days 4–5 focused on the ARSO Champions and

*cont. on page 3*

## Vision

To become a customer-focused world-class standards organisation.

## Mission

To contribute towards the growth of industry, protect consumers and facilitate trade through standardisation, metrology and conformity assessment.

## Core Values

- Excellence
- Customer-focus
- Integrity
- Teamwork

---

# Editorial Team

## Editorial Advisor

*Prof. George Agyei*

## Editor

*Alex OSEI-BOATENG*

## Sub-Editor

*Kofi Yeboah DEBRAH, APR*  
*Fotwe AFFUL*

## Writers

*Fotwe AFFUL*  
*Alex OSEI-BOATENG*  
*Kofi Yeboah DEBRAH, APR*  
*Nathanlel Kofi AFRAM*

## Design

*Aseye Kokui SEPENU*

## Photography

*Fotwe AFFUL*  
*Nathaniel Kofi AFRAM*  
*Aseye Kokui SEPENU*

## Contributors

*Kofi Yeboah DEBRAH, APR*  
*Rhoda Owusu ODAME*  
*Malik ODENKEY ABBEY*  
*Nathanlel Kofi AFRAM*

This newsletter letter has been developed and published by the Public Relations Department of the Ghana Standards Authority.

All rights reserved.

©2025 Ghana Standards Authority

cont. from front page



Council Meetings. The ARSO Council comprises representatives from Burkina Faso (Vice President), Cameroon (Treasurer), Egypt, Ethiopia, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, with Botswana as President. The ARSO Champions consists of members such as Zambia (Chairman), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa (Vice Chairman), Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe, and UNECA.

The ARSO Champions and Council Meeting events centred on strengthening governance and performance systems within ARSO. The meetings focused on overcoming Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs), highlighting

the role of harmonised African Standards in boosting intra-African trade and solidifying the “Made in Africa” brand. The meetings also examined ARSO’s governance architecture, financial procedures, and the 2022–2027 Strategic Plan to ensure effective implementation. The three-day training sessions which preceded the meetings focused on best practices in Corporate Governance, Boardroom Dynamics, Duties and Responsibilities of Council Members, Risk Management and ISO 31000:2018, and Integrated Performance Management (Balance Score Card), among others. Key outcomes of the 16th ARSO Champions Meeting include the replacement of the Vice Chairman—now serving as ARSO President—

with South Africa, which was unanimously approved by the Champions. ARSO Champions were also encouraged to pursue accreditation to offer certification services in respect of the ARSO Quality Marks.

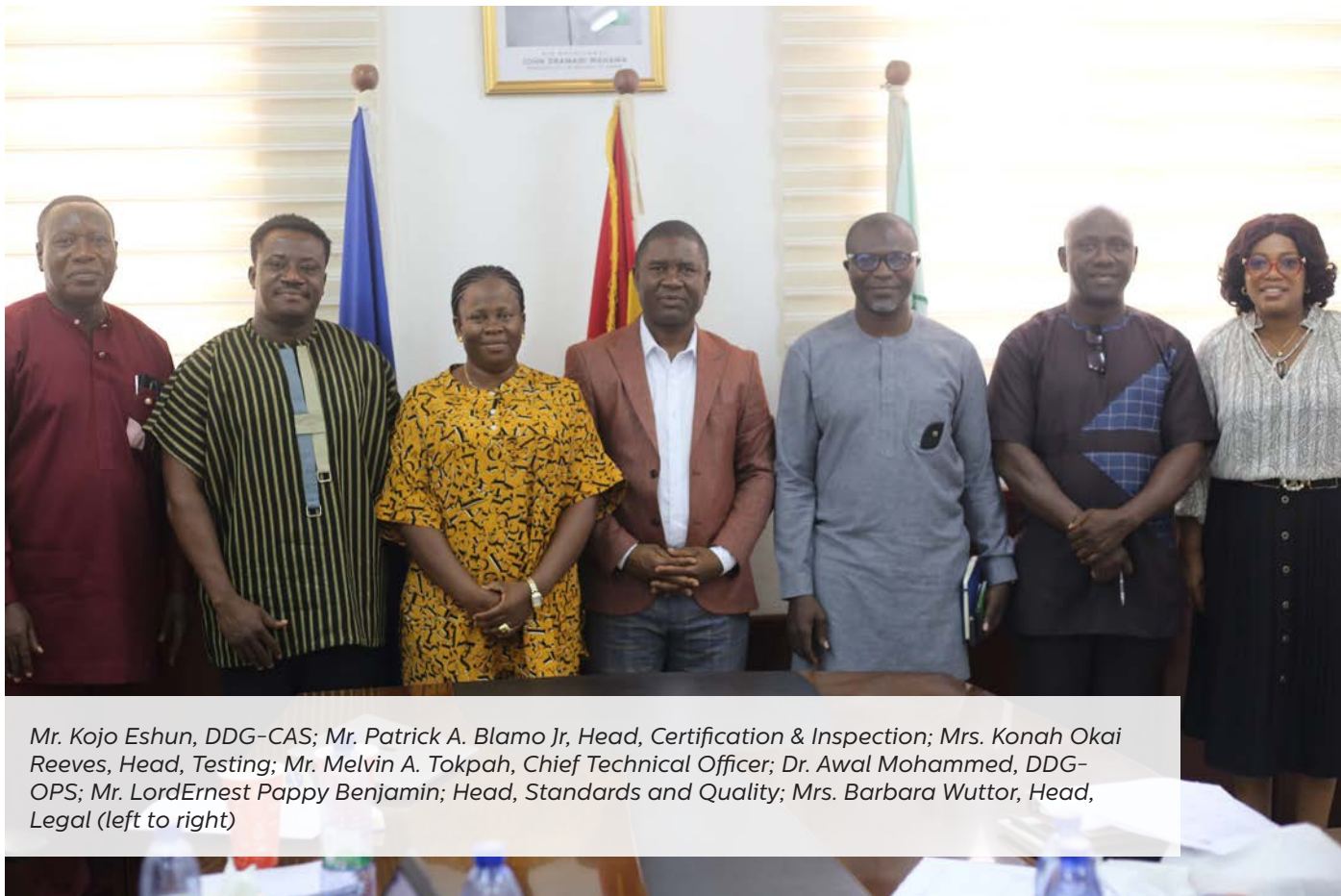
During the 16th Champions Meeting, Ghana was represented by Prof. George Agyei, Director-General of the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA), and Mr. George Anti, Esq. Head of Special Projects, GSA. During the Champions meeting, Ghana highlighted its leadership in regional, continental, and international standardisation, following its presidency of ARSO from 2022 to 2025. Ghana continues to play a central role in ARSO’s harmonisation agenda, actively participating in 59 Technical Committees

and Working Groups, chairing ARSO TC 22 on Agrochemicals, and leading Special Working Group 5 on Body Measurements. Ghana also contributes significantly to ARSO-WTO transparency initiatives, awareness creation, and the harmonisation of 291 ARSO standards. Furthermore, Ghana supports capacity building across Africa, providing extensive technical assistance to the Liberia Standards Authority (LISA) and the Gambia in strengthening their national quality infrastructure and compliance frameworks.

During the Champions Meeting, Ghana also reaffirmed its commitment to hosting the 33rd ARSO General Assembly and 77th Council Meeting in June 2027, which will coincide with ARSO's 50th anniversary. At the close of the Champions Meeting, Ghana and Nigeria were encouraged to work closely to ensure alignment between ECOWAS and ARSO activities to avoid duplication. Champions were further urged to adopt and implement the ARSO Quality Mark for product certification and EcoMark Africa for sustainability.

Ghana expressed its commitment to lead standards harmonisation work in Africa in key sectors, particularly the extractive industries with focus on the precious metals (gold, silver, and platinum) jewellery value chain. Ghana further expressed its commitment to spearhead ARSO's work on Mining and Mineral Beneficiation under ARSO T/C 69.





*Mr. Kojo Eshun, DDG-CAS; Mr. Patrick A. Blamo Jr, Head, Certification & Inspection; Mrs. Konah Okai Reeves, Head, Testing; Mr. Melvin A. Tokpah, Chief Technical Officer; Dr. Awal Mohammed, DDG-OPS; Mr. LordErnest Pappy Benjamin; Head, Standards and Quality; Mrs. Barbara Wuttor, Head, Legal (left to right)*

## Liberian Standards Authority Officials Tour GSA

The GSA on Monday, November 24, 2025, hosted officials from the Liberian Standards Authority (LiSA) who are undertaking a study tour of the Authority.

The tour formed part of a collaboration instituted by the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), to enhance the operational capacity of LiSA staff and enable the institution to deliver more effective services in support of Liberia's national quality infrastructure, following the

renovation and refurbishment of LiSA labs.

During the opening session of the study tour, the Deputy Director-General in charge of Operations (DDG-OPS), Dr. Awal Mohammed, who represented the Director-General, expressed the Authority's excitement at hosting its Liberian counterparts once again and noted that the visit will go a long way in enhancing the longstanding relationship between the two institutions.





*Lawyer Eshun administering the oath of secrecy*

## Selected Staff Swear Oath of Secrecy

Selected junior and senior staff of the GSA, on Monday, November 17, 2025, swore an oath of secrecy in accordance with the new GSA Act and HR policy.

The Oath of Secrecy is aimed at ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of staff in carrying out their duties and operations.

During the brief event, the Head of Legal at the Authority, Ms. Barbara Wuttur, noted that the swearing-in was not merely an exercise, but it had a significant meaning on the progress and growth of the institution.

“This swearing-in is not just an activity you’re doing to tick-off your books; it’s an exercise that will ensure that your conduct and how we handle and serve the public will be with the utmost professionalism. Please take this seriously,” she noted.

The oath, administered by Lawyer Yaw Eshun, a Notary Public, was taken by the staff who pledged to uphold the values of the Authority.



*Mrs. Barbara Wuttor, Head, Legal*



*Lawyer Eshun, Notary Public*







## Tamale Technical University Students Visit GSA

On Tuesday, November 18, 2025, level 300 students from the Department of Food Science and Technology at the Tamale Technical University, paid a visit to the GSA. This visit formed a key part of the school's industrial tour, designed to educate students in practical research and help them develop essential competencies needed for their future careers.

The students were received and taken through an insightful overview of the Authority's operations by the Marketing and Public Relations Departments.

Mr. Kofi Yeboah Debrah, APR, and Mr. Fotwe Afful, both members of the Public Relations Department, explained the various activities undertaken by the GSA, shedding light on the roles of the various directorates and departments.

They encouraged them to always check for the GSA Certification Mark when buying items on the market, reminding them that it is a key indicator of product quality and safety.

The students toured the Pesticide Residue Laboratory

as well as the Food and Drinks Laboratory, where they gained first-hand insight into the activities and operation within the Laboratories.

The students expressed their appreciation to the team for the warm reception and the insightful explanations about the Authority's operations. They noted that the visit had greatly deepened their understanding of how the GSA upholds product quality, safety, and standards compliance across various sectors.



*Mrs. Dorothy Amoah, Head, Marketing*







GSA staff educating assembly members

## Bono Regional Office

### GSA Officials Educate Assembly Members on Mandate, Cashew Scales Verification

The Bono Regional Manageress of the GSA, Ms. Xaviera Ulla Tawiah, led a team to visit the Berekum East Municipal and West District Assemblies, to meet the Assembly Members during their General Assembly meeting.

The aim of the visit was to sensitise them on the need for the calibration of trading scales and its impact on the cashew industry in their respective electoral areas.

In Berekum East, Rev. Conduah, a member of the team, addressed the Assembly Members on the need for them to collaborate with the GSA to ensure fair cashew trade within their various electoral areas and the necessary machinery put

in place by the Authority to ensure effective execution of the cashew scale calibration exercise.

After his presentation, Assembly members pleaded with the Authority not to neglect the verification exercise in their municipality after this season's exercise but should regularly be coming for inspection activities to ensure that traders do not adjust their scales after being calibrated by the GSA.

Later that day, the team visited the Berekum West District Assembly. After the presentation by Ms. Tawiah, the District Chief Executive, Hon. Collins Asomah, expressed his excitement about the initiative by the GSA. In his submission, he assured the

Authority of his support and encouraged the Assembly Members to rally behind the GSA to make sure the project becomes a success.

The Assembly members in both Districts expressed their profound gratitude to the GSA for the visit and assured the Authority of their support to ensure the calibration of trading scales in their various electoral areas.



*Rev. Conduah making a presentation*





Group picture of stakeholders and GSA officials

## Eastern Regional Office GSA Participates in Stakeholder Engagement on Electric Drive Initiative

The Eastern Regional Office of the GSA, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, participated in a stakeholder engagement and sensitisation workshop on the Drive Electric Initiative (DEI-Gh) organised by the Energy Commission (EC), in Koforidua.

The EC, as part of its mandate to recommend national policies for the development and utilisation of indigenous energy, commenced the promotion of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure through the Drive Electric Initiative in 2019.

According to research by the Commission, in its quest to draft the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Regulations 2024, a nationwide survey was conducted in selected towns,

to ascertain the technological advancement of the world and ways of combating climate change and its adverse effects on humanity.

Speaking at the engagement forum, Mr. Andrew Lartey, the Eastern Regional Manager, stressed on the national vehicle homologation standards developed by the Authority, which seeks to ensure that vehicles, whether imported or locally assembled, meet health, safety, and environmental specifications.

“With regards to power charging systems and stations of EV, we plead with all importers, distributors and retailers of automotive batteries, who would want to venture into the EV business in the coming years, to purchase

automotive batteries which have been tested by the GSA, to ensure the safety, quality and performance of batteries available to consumers in Ghana,” he said.

During the meeting, all stakeholders called for the upscale of skilled technicians and training programmes, to increase the public and home charging models awareness, vehicle sales and spare parts availability, as EV is projected to transition by 2045 as business models by the youth, with a call of pricing and incentive packages.

The GSA remains committed to working closely with relevant stakeholders and industries to uphold the highest levels of quality and safety, in line with its mission



of protecting consumers and promoting fair trade practices in the EV transition and regime.



Group photograph of GSA and GIPC officials

## Ashanti Regional Office

### GSA, GIPC Strengthen Collaboration to Boost Investment, Standards Compliance

---

The Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) and the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC) held a meeting on November 17, 2025, at the GSA Ashanti Regional Office in Kumasi, Ghana. The meeting aimed to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations to promote investment and ensure standards compliance in Ghana.

The key discussion points included information sharing on foreign investors, joint stakeholder consultation forums, and the designation of focal personnel for continuous information sharing. These initiatives are expected to improve coordination and efficiency in handling investor-related matters.

The meeting was anticipated to have several positive outcomes, including enhanced investor confidence and strengthened institutional capacity to attract and retain foreign investors.

The next steps include formalizing the collaboration through the development of a joint information exchange framework and scheduling quarterly stakeholder forums.





# GS 145-1:2025: Timber and Sawn Logs – Specification for Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunication Lines – Part 1: Teak, Afina, Kusia and Kusibiri poles

## Scope:

This Ghana Standard specifies the requirements for wood poles, anchor logs and stabilizer logs (hereinafter called poles, except where specifically referred to as anchor logs or stabilizer logs) for overhead power and telecommunication lines. This standard covers the following species: Teak (*Tectona grandis*), Afina (*Strombosia glauscense*), Kusia (*Nauclea diderrichii*) and Kusibiri (*Diospyros sanza-minika*).

## Why Do You Need this Standard?

Application of this standard by manufacturers ensures the production of safe and quality products, consistency in production output, protection of consumers' health and safety, enhanced competitiveness and reduction in losses.

## Summary of Content:

This Ghana Standards provides producers of Timber and Sawn Logs with the specification for wood poles for overhead power and telecommunication lines – Part 1 by providing information on normative references, definitions, requirements, prohibited and limited defects, manufacturing requirements, marking, storage and handling. This standard has been technically reviewed. This edition cancels and replaces the previous edition GS 1451:2019 - Timber and Sawn Logs – Specification for Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunication Lines – Part 1: Teak, Afina, Kusia And Kusibiri Poles. The main changes are the revision of the recommended specie for the furniture – Clause 7.0 – Marking - recommended specie for the furniture.

*Technical assistance is provided to enhance understanding of the standard content.*

This standard is available for **REFERENCE** and **SALE** at the Documentation and Information Centre, The Head Office, Ghana Standards Authority.

For further enquiries, kindly contact us at: **0302-500065/6; 506987**

Email: [info@gsa.gov.gh](mailto:info@gsa.gov.gh) | [gsadir@gsa.gov.gh](mailto:gsadir@gsa.gov.gh)



GHANA  
STANDARDS  
AUTHORITY

INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT  
DEPARTMENT

# 2025 TRAININGS

## OCTOBER - DECEMBER

TO REGISTER, CALL  
**0530634204**

DATE	PROGRAMME	TARGET GROUPS	FEE (GHC)
2-3	Foundation Course on ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety)	Health and Safety Managers, Officers in Public and Private Organisations	1,383.00
7	Foundation Course on ISO 9001 (Quality Management)	Manufacturers and Service Providers, Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	1,401.00
13-14	Foundation Course on ISO 14001 (Environmental Management)	Environmental Managers, Officers in Private Organisations and Public Organisations	1,383.00
23-24	Good Hygiene Practices in Food Industries	Production Managers and Food Process Operators	1,383.00
7	Foundation Course on ISO 9001 (Quality Management)	Manufacturers and Service Providers, Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	1,401.00
11-14	Internal Auditors Course on ISO 9001 (Quality Management)	Manufacturers and Service Providers, Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	2,679.00
11-14	Foundation Course in ISO/IEC 17025 (Laboratory Quality Management)	Laboratory Managers, Supervisors and Technicians	2,679.00
14	Introduction to Management Systems (FD 107)	Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	1,080.00
18-21	Internal Auditors Course in ISO 22000 (Food Safety)	Economic Operators in the Food Chain, Food Processors, Restaurateurs and Caterers	2,679.00
19-21	Advanced HACCP	Quality Control Managers in the Industry	1,584.00
3-4	Foundation Course on ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety)	Health and Safety Managers, Officers in Public and Private Organisations	1,383.00
11	Introduction to Management Systems (FD 107)	Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	1,080.00
12	Foundation Course on ISO 9001 (Quality Management)	Manufacturers and Service Providers, Quality/Production Managers and Staff of MMDAs	1,401.00
12	Foundation Course on ISO 22000 (Food Safety)	Economic Operators in the Food Chain, Food Processors, Restaurateurs and Caterers	1,383.00
17-18	Introduction to Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point	Quality Control Managers in the Industry	1,383.00

O C T

N O V

D E C

*This newsletter has been developed and published by the  
Public Relations Department of the Ghana Standards Authority.*

*All rights reserved.*

© 2025



**0302 506 991-5**  
**0302 500 065/6**

**Location: GA-288-5605**

*Get social with us at  
GhanaStandardsAuthority*



[www.gsa.gov.gh](http://www.gsa.gov.gh)