



# Alhassan Sayibu Suhuyini

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: September 15, 2024**

**Accra, Ghana** – In light of the ongoing crisis surrounding illegal mining activities otherwise known as “*Galamsay*” in Ghana, we wish to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Civil Society Organizations and labour unions that recently have been at the forefront of advocacy, education, and community mobilization. Their unwavering commitment to protecting our natural resources and advocating for sustainable practices has not only highlighted the urgent need for a collaborative approach to environmental conservation but has also galvanized the needed public awareness on the critical implications of these illegal practices.

However, it is with great concern that we must address the clueless and sometimes seemingly pretentious response from the government, and particularly the office of the President, regarding this pressing issue. The persistent pollution of our water bodies and the irreversible destruction of our cherished forest reserves pose significant threats to both our environment and public health. Despite numerous promises and money sapping initiatives launched by the government, the situation continue to worsen as no progress has been made to effectively combat the *galamsay* menace, leaving many communities to bear severe consequences of the illegal mining activities.

The detrimental impacts of *galamsay* are widespread, affecting not just the environment but also the livelihoods of countless individuals who depend on clean water and healthy ecosystems. **We call upon President, Nana Akufo Addo and his government to, without fail, address the nation on the State of our Environment, outlining the immediate and decisive actions to be taken to address these illegal activities.** This should include how to enforce the existing laws more rigorously, conducting thorough investigations especially on several allegations of the complicity of many government officials and party leaders, and holding accountable those already implicated by previous investigations in these destructive practices.

Moreover, we assure all concerned Ghanaians of the NDC and President Mahama’s future government’s commitment to engage constructively with civil society organizations and labour unions to implement comprehensive policies, as crafted in our manifesto, that will address both the economic realities that drive illegal mining and the urgent need for environmental protection. We acknowledge more than ever, how essential it is for all stakeholders to work together to find sustainable solutions that preserve our natural resources for future generations.

We also commend the efforts of those who have dedicated their time and resources to this crucial fight and reaffirm our solidarity with communities affected by the illegal mining menace.

**Together, we can advocate for and build a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future for Ghana.**

Thank You.

**Alhaji Alhassan S. Suhuyini (Hon)**

**MP, Tamale North Constituency**

**Ranking Member Lands and Natural Resources, Parliament.**