



Trades Union Congress (Ghana)

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END OF YEAR MESSAGE TO THE WORKERS

The Trades Union Congress (TUC) salutes all the hardworking people of Ghana for their invaluable contribution to the development of our country, in spite of the enormous social and economic challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We pay tribute to workers who have lost their lives in the course of the year. Our hearts are with their families. We pray that the Good Lord grants them the strength to deal with the great loss they have had to endure. We pay special tribute to all health workers some of whom became victims of Covid-19 in their effort to help us to fight the deadly disease.

Thousands of workers, especially those employed in the hotels and educational institutions in the private sector lost their jobs due to the pandemic. Informal workers in all sectors of the economy were not spared. The employment and livelihood losses also meant loss of income for workers and their families. Some workers who were lucky to keep their jobs have had to endure pay cuts. Given the already high cost of living in Ghana many workers and their families have suffered poverty in 2020.

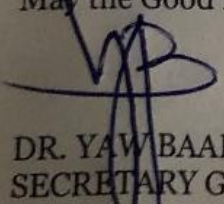
The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us very important lessons. First, we need to invest adequately in building strong health system, including training and retraining of health personnel. Second, we need to develop a stronger social protection system to support workers and businesses in times of crisis. The decision to establish a National Unemployment Insurance Scheme (NUIS) is, therefore, an excellent initiative that should be supported by all social partners.

As we prepare for Christmas and New Year festivities, the TUC urges workers and all Ghanaians to reflect on all the important social, economic and political events that took place in 2020, including the general elections, and resolve to work harder to ensure that there is peace and political stability in Ghana. We should always remember that the economic growth we have witnessed in Ghana in the last three decades is due, mainly, to political stability. We should all work together to avert any form of instability.

By all accounts, the year has been a very difficult one for the working people of Ghana. We hope 2021 will be better. We need to work harder to keep peace and rebuild the economy from the ashes of COVID-19. We need to focus more on improving the living standards of all Ghanaians, regardless of their location and their socio-economic status.

We say AYEKOO to all the Working People of Ghana!

May the Good Lord bless our country and grant us peace and stability in 2021 and beyond.


DR. YAW BAAH
SECRETARY GENERAL

ACCRA, 24TH DECEMBER, 2020