



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACCOUNTABILITY GAP IN MAJOR DRUG SEIZURES THREATENS NATIONAL SECURITY AND PUBLIC TRUST

Accra, Ghana – March 25, 2025

The Africa Center for Security and Counterterrorism (ACSC) commends the National Intelligence Bureau for successfully interception of cocaine worth over \$360 million. This significant achievement demonstrates the capacity and vigilance of our security agencies in combating transnational crime. This significant achievement deserves recognition as part of ongoing efforts to protect Ghana from the devastating impacts of drug trafficking and organized crime.

While acknowledging this significant success, the ACSC also emphasizes the critical need for greater transparency and accountability in the handling of high-profile drug seizures and financial crime investigations. The recent cocaine bust raises essential questions about whether this case will be pursued to its logical conclusion or, like many others before it, disappear into obscurity without any accountability to the Ghanaian people.

Just last month, National Security intercepted containers allegedly containing substantial amounts of U.S. dollars and gold, yet the public remains uninformed about the progress of that investigation. This follows a concerning pattern where major seizures receive initial

publicity but vanish from public discourse without resolution. Such opacity undermines public confidence in our security institutions and raises questions about the effectiveness of our criminal justice system.

The Africa Center for Security and Counterterrorism (ACSC) sincerely applauds our security agencies' diligence in intercepting contraband and criminal activity. We must emphasize that national security encompasses successful operations and transparent processes that build public trust. The foundation of our democracy rests on the principle that institutions are accountable to the people they serve.

The Africa Center for Security and Counterterrorism respectfully calls upon the National Investigation Bureau and all relevant authorities to address the following:

Full Public Disclosure – Provide a comprehensive update on the ongoing \$360 million cocaine seizure case, including appropriate information about the individuals involved and the legal proceedings being pursued.

Accountability for Prior Seizures – Issue a public report on the containers allegedly containing dollars and gold seized last month and the status of other primary drug and financial crime cases from recent years.

Legal and Judicial Transparency – Confirm that these cases are progressing through proper judicial channels and ensure they are handled with the utmost integrity.

Parliamentary Oversight – We respectfully urge Ghana's Parliament, particularly the Defense and Interior Committee, to exercise its oversight

function by requesting briefings on these cases and ensuring transparency in security operations.

Ghana's democratic institutions thrive on accountability and transparency. The ACSC believes that our security agencies can balance operational security with public accountability, ensuring that Ghanaians are appropriately informed about cases of significant national interest.

The Africa Center for Security and Counterterrorism calls upon civil society organizations, media houses, and concerned citizens to maintain appropriate interest in these cases and to advocate for transparent processes that strengthen our democratic institutions.