

## US, Ghana co-operate in trade, education

The United States government plans to boost its trade links with Ghana and help the nation improve its education system, under the US President's Special Initiative on Educational Programmes.

Ghana's embassy in Washington said a US delegation would be travelling to the west African state by the end of January to follow up plans on educational support.

Dr Kwame Edusei-Bawuah, Ghana's Ambassador to the US, said that there would also be a three-day trade mission from the US visiting Ghana from 3 March 2008, including representatives of the US Commerce Department and eminent business executives.

"There will also be a five-day US agro-business mission to be organised by the US Agriculture Department with their Ghanaian counterparts to promote agro-business in a wide variety of areas from 10 March," he added.

Dr Edusei-Bawuah said from 7 to 9 May, the US State Department, in collaboration with Ghana's Ministry of Communications, would hold a Telecommunication Conference in Accra, which was expected to attract experts on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) from West Africa and the rest of the world.

He recalled that there had been two separate US missions to Ghana earlier this month to evaluate the country's infrastructure and the cocoa industry, adding that those were some of the evidence of Ghana and the US bonding in business at a very high rate within the past 18 months.

"This has built relations between the two nations, promoting growth and mutual trust in all developmental areas," said Dr Edusei-Bawuah, who added that the embassy in Washington used the 50th anniversary celebrations of Ghana to embark on commemorative business-oriented visits to all metropolitan areas of the US.

The visits, he said, had encouraged Ghanaians in the Diaspora to form Ghana Business Councils to facilitate international trade.

He called on Ghanaian businesses at home and abroad to take advantage of the current trend of the goodwill Ghana was enjoying on the international scene, to embark on aggressive initiatives to form partnerships for creation of business enterprises.

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