



# GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2018

**MR. WILFRED OSEI KWEKU  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
BLACK STARS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**


Dear Sir,

**DECISION ON ALLEGED UNETHICAL COMMENTS MADE BY GFA EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE MEMBER MR. WILFRED OSEI KWEKU**

We forward herewith the decision of the Ethics Committee on the above-mentioned subject for your information and necessary action.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully,

  
**ISAAC ADDO  
(GENERAL SECRETARY)**

## **GFA ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **REPORT OF THE GFA ETHICS ON ALLEGED UNETHICAL COMMENTS MADE BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND BLACK STARS MANAGEMENT VICE CHAIRMAN MR. WILFRED OSEI KWAKU**

#### **SUMMARY OF FACTS/INTRODUCTION**

The Committee received an audio recording in which the Vice Chairman of the Black Stars Management Committee and a member of the Executive Committee allegedly stated that the non-payment of “unclassified payments” resulted in Ghana’s inability to qualify for the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

The Committee began its investigations into the allegation on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2017 and invited the Mr. Wilfred Osei and the Chairman of the Black Stars Management Committee and GFA Vice President, Mr. George Afriyie.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In an interview with Citi 97.3 FM, Mr. Wilfred Osei Kwaku claimed that Ghana’s inability to induce referees and make “unclassified payments” accounted for the Black Stars’ failure to qualify to the World Cup.

He cited the referee’s decisions to disallow Ghana’s goal against Congo in Kumasi and the refusal to award Ghana penalties against Uganda in Kampala as reasons as to why such payments should have been made for fairness.

According to him, arrangements such as booking the referee into a luxurious hotel (Kempinski) or giving him a traditional Ghanaian present could help create fairness. He however stated that this should not be in the form of bribe and should be given to the referee after the match.

He also said that unclassified payments can be channeled into scouting on opponents and seeking spiritual support for the national team.

Mr. Osei based his arguments on the fact that while the Commission of Inquiry into the 2014 World Cup called for “unclassified payments” to be abolished, the Government’s white paper indicated that it was necessary to make such payments.

### **COMMITTEE SITTING INTO THE MATTER**

By unclassified payments, Mr. Wilfred Osei Kwaku said he meant that the nation could go an extra mile to make the match officials comfortable. He cited comforts such as booking the match officials into luxurious hotels like Kempinski or giving them traditional gifts on arrival.

He however told the Committee that he was emphatic in the interview that he did not mean that Ghana should pay bribes. He explained that by giving the referee a good treatment when he arrives and other arrangements, instances such as the goal against Congo in Kumasi would not have been disallowed. He added that in his comments on radio he referred to “good goals” that Ghana scored in Kumasi and Uganda that were disallowed which according to him would not have happened if the “unclassified payments” component of the budget had been used.

He claimed that after his comments, he saw news headlines which such as “Ghana failed to qualify due to non-payment of bribes” etc.

On his part, the Chairman of Black Stars Management Committee, Mr. George Afriyie informed the Committee that the comments made do not represent the position of the Black Stars Management Committee. He added that the GFA’s Communication Director had also dissociated the GFA from the comments Mr. Osei Kwaku made. He also informed the Committee that there was an official press release from the GFA to deny the comments being attributed to his vice chairman.

#### **FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

- The Committee finds the utterances of Mr. Wilfred Kwaku Osei unfortunate, particularly as an Executive Committee member and the Vice Chairman of the Black Stars management committee.
- Even in his personal capacity, Mr. Wilfred Osei Kwaku should have taken cognizance of the esteemed positions he holds at the GFA and as vice chairman of the Black Stars Management Committee and refrain from such controversial issues or topics.

## DECISION

- The Committee finds Mr. Wilfred Kwaku Osei's comment on Citi FM as very inappropriate and should not be repeated
- Mr. Wilfred Kwaku Osei should write a letter of apology to the GFA Executive Committee, the GFA and the Minister of Sports within 14 days on receipt of this decision.

SIGNED: .....

  
**FELIX H.G. ANYINSAH**

**VICE CHAIRMAN**

**GFA ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**