



MINORITY CAUCUS

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

Parliament House – Accra (Ghana)

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PRESS STATEMENT

GHANA FOOTBALL RESET: THE BLACK STARS CRISIS REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY AND STRUCTURAL REFORM

The Minority in Parliament notes with grave concern the continuing deterioration in the performance of Ghana's senior national football team, the Black Stars, following the 4–2 defeat to The Gambia at the Accra Sports Stadium on Tuesday, 29 September 2026.

Ghana surrendered a 2–0 lead to concede four unanswered goals on home soil. The result leaves the Black Stars bottom of Group C with zero points after two matches in the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers, having earlier suffered a 2–0 defeat away to Côte d'Ivoire.

These results cannot reasonably be examined as isolated incidents.

Ghana failed to qualify for the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations after completing that qualifying campaign without a victory. The Black Stars have now gone eight consecutive AFCON qualifying matches without a win, with their last victory in the competition's qualifiers coming against the Central African Republic in September 2023.

The latest defeat is particularly significant. Ghana conceded four goals in an AFCON qualifier for the first time in the history of the Black Stars.

For a four-time African champion, these developments raise legitimate questions about the direction, administration and long-term development of Ghana football.

THIS CANNOT BE REDUCED TO THE COACH

The Minority acknowledges the apology and acceptance of responsibility by Black Stars Head Coach Carlos Queiroz following the defeat.

However, Ghana's difficulties predate the appointment of the current coach. Changing coaches without examining the structures within which successive technical teams operate risks repeating the same cycle.

The responsibility for the current situation must therefore be examined across the entire football administration architecture, including the Ghana Football Association, the technical management of the national teams and the oversight responsibilities of the Ministry of Sports and Recreation.

The public deserves answers on player selection, technical planning, scouting, preparation, expenditure on the national teams, youth development and the long-term strategy for restoring Ghana to a competitive position in African football.

GHANA FOOTBALL REQUIRES A COMPREHENSIVE RESET

The Minority considers the present circumstances an appropriate moment for a comprehensive review of Ghana football rather than another short-term response to disappointing results.

Such a reset should include:

1. A comprehensive and independent technical and administrative audit of the Black Stars and the structures supporting the national teams.
2. A review of the governance and accountability framework of the Ghana Football Association, including decision-making, technical appointments and performance assessment.
3. A transparent review of player identification and selection, based on merit, current performance, tactical requirements and commitment to the national team.
4. A stable and clearly defined technical direction, with measurable performance indicators and accountability for the technical team.
5. Full transparency concerning expenditure on the Black Stars, including preparation, travel, bonuses, technical-team costs and other related expenditure.
6. A long-term national football development plan, extending beyond the immediate objective of qualifying for major tournaments.
7. Renewed investment in juvenile football, academies, school football and the domestic leagues to create a sustainable pathway for developing Ghanaian talent.
8. A deliberate programme to rebuild public confidence in the Black Stars and reconnect the national team with supporters across the country.

ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE GFA

There are also growing public calls concerning the leadership of the Ghana Football Association. These concerns cannot simply be dismissed when the senior national team has failed to win an AFCON qualifier since September 2023 and has now started another qualifying campaign with consecutive defeats.

The leadership of the GFA must account for its stewardship, the decisions taken during this period and the outcomes produced.

Any institutional changes must, however, be undertaken within Ghana's legal framework and applicable FIFA and CAF requirements, so that legitimate demands for reform do not create additional consequences for Ghana football.

The Minority therefore calls for an urgent, transparent and comprehensive assessment of the administration of Ghana football and for the findings to form the basis of structural reforms.

This must not become another exercise in finding a convenient scapegoat while leaving the underlying problems untouched.

The Black Stars belong to the Ghanaian people. They are bigger than any government, political party, football administrator, coach or individual player.

Ghana is a four-time African champion with a proud football heritage. Restoring that heritage will require accountability, competent administration, technical discipline and sustained investment from the grassroots to the senior national team.

Ghana football requires more than another change of coach. It requires a reset of the system.

The time for an honest assessment is now.

The time for accountability is now.

The time for comprehensive reform of Ghana football is now.

SIGNED

HON. VINCENT EKOW ASSAFUAH(ESQ)

RANKING, YOUTH AND SPORTS COMMITTEE