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STATEMENT ON OKADA OPERATIONS

The Ministry of Transport has taken notice of public debate on the legality of the Okada business. The Ministry therefore wishes to inform the general public on the following:

1. The law which makes Okada operations illegal, the Road Traffic Regulation 2012, L.I.2180, was passed in 2012 by the then NDC administration under former President, His Excellency John Dramani Mahama.
2. The Akufo-Addo Government, upon assumption of office, sought to assess the implementation of the Road Traffic Regulations, and, in the process, needed to consult stakeholders, industry players and interest groups on the provisions in the law.
3. Accordingly, the Ministry, between March and November 2019, held consultations with various organizations, regional administrations and local authorities at the following venues:
 - i. Greater Accra Region, Accra – Ghana Shippers' Authority
 - ii. Volta Region, Ho – RCC Conference Hall
 - iii. Eastern Region, Koforidua – RCC Conference Hall
 - iv. Western Region, Takoradi – SSNIT Conference Hall
 - v. Central Region, Cape Coast – RCC Banquet Hall
 - vi. Bono Region, Sunyani – University of Ghana Learning Hall
 - vii. Ashanti Region, Kumasi – GNAT Hall
 - viii. Upper East, Bolga – RCC Conference Hall
 - ix. Northern Region, Tamale – Radash Conference Hall
 - x. Upper West, Wa – Regional Library Conference Hall

The following groups were also part of the consultation exercise:

- i. Ghana Institute of Planners
- ii. Ghana Automobile Dealers Association
- iii. Ghana National Association of Driving Schools

- iv. Ghana Association of Driving Instructors
 - v. National Road Safety Authority
 - vi. Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority
 - vii. Motor Traffic and Transport Department.
 - viii. Okada Riders Association
 - ix. Ghana Insurers Association
 - x. Ghana National Fire Service
 - xi. National Ambulance Service
 - xii. Ghana Red Cross Society
 - xiii. National Disaster Management Organization
 - xiv. Road Safety Advocates
 - xv. Transport Unions (GPRTU, GRTCC, PROTOA, etc.), and others
4. In addition, four (4) major hospitals namely Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Tamale Teaching Hospital, Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital and the Greater Accra Regional Hospital were visited to obtain firsthand information on the toll of Okada related injuries on the administration and operations of the health facilities.
5. Consultation was also held with the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) in November 2019 at the Ghana Journalist Association Press Centre in Accra.
6. The 2nd phase of the consultations is to engage stakeholders in the six (6) newly created regions of Bono East, Ahafo, Western North, Savannah, North East and Oti Regions. Other key interest groups and civil society organizations would also be consulted. They include the following:
- i. Center for Democratic Development (CDD)
 - ii. Danquah Institute,
 - iii. Institute for Democratic Governance (IDEG)
 - iv. Integrated Social Development Centre (ISODEC)
 - v. Centre for Policy Analysis (CEPA)
 - vi. Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)
 - vii. And Political Parties
7. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the final stage of the stakeholder engagement is expected to commence in October 2020, and a report presented before Cabinet for consideration.