

Colleges of Education Teachers Association of Ghana

cetag

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Our Ref: CETAG/NoS.CoS/PR Vol.1



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10th July, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: All Media Houses

NOTICE OF STRIKE:

UNDUE DELAY OF GOVERNMENT IN IMPLEMENTING CETAG'S NEGOTIATED CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND NLC'S ARBITRAL AWARD ORDER

The leadership of the Colléges of Education Teachers Association of Ghana (CETAG) wishes to serve notice of our intention to withdraw our services across the 46 public colleges of education effective **Tuesday, 1st August, 2023** if by Monday, 31st July 2023, the Government has not implemented our negotiated allowances together with the one-off payment of one month's basic salary based on CETAG's salary grade as compensation for additional duty performed in 2022 payable to tutors per the NLC's Arbitral Award **ORDER** (copy attached) given on **2nd May, 2023**.

The decision of the Association has been necessitated by the fact that from August 2021 the Fair Wages and Salaries Commission (FWSC), representing our Employer, deliberately prolonged our negotiations for new Conditions of Service (CoS) for more than a year till the National Labour Commission (NLC) intervened with a Compulsory Arbitration following CETAG's strike in January 2023. At the end of the Compulsory Arbitration, the NLC issued its **Arbitral Award ORDERS** on 2nd May, 2023 granting CETAG members a new CoS with **effective date of 1st January, 2023**.

Following the NLC's Compulsory Arbitral Award, the parties proceeded to sign off the negotiation agreement which has been communicated to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) by FWSC since **26th May, 2023** for approval and implementation. Surprisingly, the MoF has refused to act on the FWSC's letter together with the NLC's Arbitral **ORDERS** in spite of letters we have written to the MoF requesting the immediate implementation of the negotiated agreement. Practically, CETAG members cannot continue to survive on expired 2020 CoS in this biting economy of Ghana.

In a related development, CETAG wants to state unequivocally that at the beginning of the 2023/2024 academic year, our members shall no longer continue with the 'killer' **all-year-round academic calendar** being implemented in the public colleges of education, even if we were given all the money in this world as compensation. The practice is softly killing the tutors. Leadership is therefore calling on stakeholders to adopt the in-out-out-in system to let all cohorts of students remain in school and complete the academic year together to enable tutors to take their inter-semester break. After all, no law says all tertiary students should be accommodated on campus.

Thank you.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT: Mr. Prince Obeng-Himah (0203811964 / 0244891154)

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