

ALCOHOL POLICY ALLIANCE – GHANA



2023 Annual Narrative Report

ADVANCING ALCOHOL POLICIES & LEGISLATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

Submitted to the

WEST AFRICA ALCOHOL POLICY ALLIANCE (WAAPA)

by

Sulley Sumani

National Coordinator

Tel: 024 263 7020, E-Mail: sulleysumani60@yahoo.com

E-mail: alcoholpolicyallianceghana@gmail.com

Postal Address: P.O. Box 124, TUC – Accra, Ghana

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/gha_apa

Twitter Account

@gha_apa



Line up of Leaders of GhanAPAs member institutions with WAAPA Coordinator

TECHNICALLY SUPPORTED AND FUNDED BY:



TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page No
Table of Content	3
Abbreviations	4
Introduction of National Alliance	5
List of GhanAPA Members	5
Activity Title 1; First Press Release	6
Activity Title 2: Second Press Release	9
Activity Title 3; Third Press Release	9
Activity Title 4: Annual General Meeting	11
Activity Title 5: Review of Draft Legislative Instrument	18
Activity Title 6: First Meeting of GhanAPA's Board	23
Activity Title 7: Second Meeting of GhanAPA's Board	25
Activity Title 8: General Feedback	26

ABBREVIATIONS

AID:	Action for Integrated Development
ANCF:	Aid for Needy children Foundation
CFF – Ghana):	Community Focus Foundation Ghana
CSO:	Civil Society Organisation
FDA):	Food and Drugs Authority
FYC:	Federation of Youth Clubs
FZL:	Federation of Zongo Ladies
GAPA:	Global Alcohol Policy Alliance
GBC:	Ghana Blue Cross
GhanAPA:	Alcohol Policy Alliance – Ghana
GHS:	Ghana Health Service
GOFAS:	Ghana Organisation on Fatal Alcohol Syndrome
INSLA	Institute of Leadership and Development
MCD;	Mothers’ Clubs in Development
MHA:	Mental Health Authority
MoH:	Ministry of Health
NCD:	Non-Communicable Diseases
NHIA:	National Health Insurance Authority
NRSA:	National Road Safety Authority
PoW:	Programme of Work
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNODC:	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VALD:	Vision for Alternative Development
WAAPA:	West African Alcohol Policy Alliance
WHO:	World Health Organisation

INTRODUCTION

FORMATION AND STATUS

The Alcohol Policy Alliance - Ghana (GhanAPA) is an amalgamation of independent Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working towards advancing a healthy nation through policy development and advocacy with the vision of contributing to the elimination of alcohol related harms in Ghana. GhanAPA was started in 2018 by four Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and has expanded over the years and currently has a membership of twelve active independent CSOs. GhanAPA became a legal body with a Constitution in December 2018 and is registered with the Registrar Generals' Department with Certificate number CG0739922019 in May 2019.

The member CSOs are; Institute of Leadership and Development (INSLA), Action for Integrated Development (AID), Aid for Needy Children Foundation (ANCF), Federation of Youth Clubs (FYC), and Vision for Alternative Development (VALD). The rest are Community Focus Foundation Ghana (CFF – Ghana), Federation of Zongo Ladies (FZL), Mothers' Clubs in Development (MCD), Ghana Blue Cross (GBC), and El-Yahweh Club.

GOAL

GhanAPA's Goal is to eliminate alcohol related harms in the Ghana

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- a) To help prevent people from taking to the use of alcohol.
- b) To get a person's dependence on alcohol to quit the habit and rehabilitated.
- c) To create a forum for networking among members.
- d) To bring together Organizations working in the area of health and advocacy for a coordinated programming
- e) To create a community free from Alcohol related harm and an empowered population.
- f) To provide leadership and further skills training to the various organizations.
- g) To promote and compliment government efforts in the general welfare of the public.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ALLIANCE

Contact address (Name and position of Contact person(s), Postal address, E-mail, Telephone No, Facebook, Twitter, Location, etc.)

No	Name of NGO	Contact person	Position(s)	Telephone	E-mail
1	Institute of Leadership and Development (INSLA)	Benjamin Anabila	Chairman	024 688 9931	benjaminanabila@gmail.com
2	Africa Foundation for Integrated Development (AID)	Sulley Sumani	Coordinator	024 263 7020	sulleysumani60@yahoo.com
3	Aid for Needy Children Foundation (ANCF),	Michael Nartey	Treasurer	024 443 9652	michaelnartey2020@yahoo.com
4	Federation of Youth Clubs (FYC)	Abdul-Fatah Adam	Member	024 480 4501	iamfatahgh@gmail.com
5	Vision for Alternative Development (VALD)	Labram Masawudu Musah	Member	024 321 1854	labrammusah@gmail.com
6	Community Focus Foundation Ghana (CFF – Ghana)	Richard Kasu	Member	024864 0364	cffghana2018@yahoo.com
7	Federation of Zongo Ladies	Nafisa Ibrahim	Member	024 781 6175	inafisa347@gmail.com
8	Mothers' Clubs in Development (MCD)	Hajia Mariam Salfu	Member	024 982 2692	mothersclubghana@yahoo.com
9	Ghana Blue Cross (GBC)	Jonas Nartey	Member	024 972 1387	nartey28@gmail.com
10	El-Yahweh Club	Lilian ALang	Member	024 917 7834	lilyalang@gmail.com

ACTIVITY 1: FIRST PRESS RELEASE

Link:

<https://gna.org.gh/2023/07/expedite-passage-of-alcohol-control-legislation-to-reduce-road-motor-crashes-ghanapa/>

- i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 18TH July 2023
- ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): GhanAPA Office
- iii. Objective(s) and purpose:
To reach policy makers, state institutions and the general public with advocacy on alcohol harm and to demand quick Passage of Alcohol Regulations Legislative Instrument by Parliament.

iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

GhanAPA has been advocating for the past 2 years for the finalization of the draft Alcohol Control Legislation bill and submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Subsidiary Legislation (PSCSL) for passage into an Act.

v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):

The Chairman of GhanAPA has in accordance with the GhanAPA 2023 Plan of Work issued the First Press Release on 18th July 2023 to the Press through Ghana News Agency (GNA).

vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:

The Press Release which called on national stakeholders to submit the completed draft Alcohol Control Legislation for passage to benefit those affected by Alcohol Harm due to the absence of Legislation.

vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

ACTIVITY 2: SECOND PRESS RELEASE

GhanAPA made its second Press Release on World Alcohol Day which fell on Monday 2nd October 2023. The Press Release which was released by the National Coordinator to the Ghana News Agency (GNA) in the afternoon of 2nd October. The detail press release is as shown below:

Link:

<https://gna.org.gh/2023/12/stakeholders-must-expedite-passage-of-alcohol-control-legislative-instrument-ghanapa/>

i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 2nd October 2023

ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): GhanAPA Office

iii. Objective(s) and purpose:

To reach stakeholders including policy makers, state institutions and the general public with advocacy on alcohol harm and to demand quick passage of Alcohol Regulations Legislative Instrument by Parliament.

iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

The issue of the Alcohol Control Legislative Instrument has been ongoing for some 2 years or more and in its absence the impacts of alcohol harm is devastating.

v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):

Civil society led by GhanAPA has amplified its voice and has many several calls on stakeholders to act in the best interest of Ghana. This Press release is the second in 2023 to continue with our demands and hope the response will come sooner than later.

vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:

vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

The impacts of Alcohol Harm on reducing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A call on stakeholders to swiftly Pass Alcohol Control Legislative Instrument in Ghana in 2023.

1. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has set aside the 2nd of October each year as, “**World No Alcohol Day.**” As the name suggests, this day is set aside to spread awareness of the negative effects of alcohol harm on society globally. Excessive drinking potentially leads to violence, irresponsible behavior and driving, causing accidents and injuries. According to WHO, the harmful use of alcohol is responsible for 3.3 million deaths annually throughout the world. This means that for every 10 seconds a human being dies from alcohol harm. This high number of deaths represents 5.9 % of all deaths globally. Additionally, the WHO further states that, the regular consumption of alcohol is linked to high blood pressure, liver diseases, strokes, and diverse types of cancers.
2. The WHO in its research has stated that, through its multiple public health, social and economic impacts, alcohol is a major obstacle to achieving as many as 12 out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set aside by the United Nations. These are:

- i. Eradicating poverty
- ii. Ending hunger
- iii. Ensuring healthy lives for all
- iv. Ensuring quality education
- v. Achieving gender equality
- vi. Ensuring sustainable management of water resources
- vii. Promoting inclusive, sustainable economic growth
- viii. Reducing inequalities
- ix. Making cities and human settlements safe and inclusive
- x. Ensuring sustainable consumption
- xi. Promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies
- xii. Strengthening means of implementation of the SDGs

3. The Alcohol Policy Alliance – Ghana wishes to make a clarion Call for Action for our fellow Civil Society Actors to press home our common agenda and demand from our Government to minimize the impact of Alcohol harm on Ghanaians through a swift passage of the Legislative Instrument on Alcohol Control by end of 2023.

ACTIVITY 3: THIRD PRESS RELEASE

Link 1: Ghana News Agency

<https://ghananewsonline.com.gh/ghanapa-calls-on-parliament-moh-ag-to-pass-li-on-alcohol-control-li-in-ghana/>

Link 2: Ghana News Online

<https://ghananewsonline.com.gh/ghanapa-calls-on-parliament-moh-ag-to-pass-li-on-alcohol-control-li-in-ghana/>

- i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 18th December 2023
- ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): GhanAPA Office
- iii. Objective(s) and purpose:
To reach policy makers, state institutions and the general public with advocacy on alcohol harm and to demand from national Stakeholders to quickly submit the Alcohol Regulations Legislative Instrument to the Ghana's Parliament for passage.
- iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

This is the third Press Release to be issued in 2023 by the GhanAPA Office demanding national Stakeholders including
- v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):
- vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:
- vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

The impacts of Alcohol Harm on the Growth and Welfare of Young Adults: A call on stakeholders to swiftly pass the Draft Alcohol Control Legislative Instrument 2023.

Introduction of GhanAPA

The Alcohol Policy Alliance – Ghana, in short form, GhanAPA was formed in 2019 by an amalgamation of ten (10) Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working towards advancing a Vision of a Healthy Nation through policy development and advocacy and has a Mission of

Contributing to the elimination of Alcohol related harms in Ghana. The GhanAPA institutional membership now stands at twelve (12) independent CSOs,

Alcoholism

Addiction to alcohol, or alcoholism, when diagnosed is called Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD). Alcohol is a psycho-active, **toxic and dependence-producing** substance. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), No level of Alcohol consumption is safe for human Health.

Alcohol effects in young person

To regulate the hours, days and intensity of alcohol outlets and raising the national legal age limit for drinking and consuming alcohol is another effective strategy used to reduce alcohol use and harm. Currently in Ghana the national legal minimum age for consumption 18 years. However, the WHO has stated that the recommended minimum age should be 25 years as research has found out that young adults below 25 years are still developing their learning, memory and mental capacities, including dementia and poor school performance.

Alcohol addiction impacts the younger generation of below the minimum age of 25 years for Alcohol use with the following harms including high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, liver disease, and digestive problems. Others are cancer of the breast, mouth, throat, esophagus, voice box, liver, colon, rectum and weakening of the immune system. Further, the WHO says that young adults should not drink alcohol to prevent physical and mental health problems, including alcohol use disorders. Further brain development continues into young adulthood. Teens and young adults don't have the skills or the brain functioning to make the best choices. They might struggle with emotional regulation and impulse control. Alcohol impairs these areas of the brain even further.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse

The brain's reward system helps you learn new skills by releasing "feel good" chemicals to reinforce certain behaviors. Drinking alcohol hijacks this reward system as a shortcut to these chemicals. Young adults are still learning valuable life skills and coping mechanisms. They might be dealing with stressors for the first time. When you drink as a teen or young adult, you might misuse alcohol as a way to feel good when stressed or upset.

Risk factors for alcohol abuse in young people include:

- a. Traumatic experiences
 - b. Sexual or physical abuse
 - c. Underlying mental health issues, like depression or anxiety
 - d. Parents or other close family members who have substance use disorders
 - e. Mixing alcohol with other substances, like illicit or prescription drugs
 - f. Parents and adults in the community with relaxed views on drinking
 - g. Learning disabilities, like attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
 - h. College students are more likely to drink than young adults not enrolled in college
 - i. Young adults in the military are also more likely to have a drinking problem
 - j. Young men are more likely to drink than women
-

Additionally, consuming too much alcohol can affect your health in the long-term. Some side effects may lay dormant for years before they surface. Because of this, professional medical care is required for proper diagnosis and treatment.

Recommendation

With the advent of Christmas festivities which is normally characterized by high alcohol consumption at a single or multiple sittings with high vehicular crashes and high fatalities is highly dangerous for our society. For highway drivers and trotro operators, it increases the risk of over-speeding, blurry vision, poor judgement leading to severe crashes resulting in avoidable deaths, amputations and loss of ability to cater for families.

The Alcohol Policy Alliance – Ghana, GhanAPA is making a desperate call to all caring and responsible Ghanaians to heed to our warning and avoid Alcohol for good.

Finally, GhanAPA is through this ***Press Release*** calling on the Minister of Health, the Attorney-General and the Parliament of Ghana ***to swiftly pass the Alcohol Control Legislative Instrument in Ghana in 2023 to save many innocent Live, especially young persons below 25 years.***

We thank you all.

ACTIVITY 4: HELD GHANAPA 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 24th August 2023
- ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): Kanda Main Library, Nima, Accra
- iii. Objective(s) and purpose: To restructure the GhanAPA Board with a purpose to strengthen it meet the challenges of the Annual Programme of Work.
- iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity): According to the Article 14 of the Constitution of GhanAPA, there shall be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Alliance to be held each year. The AGM is an assembly of all registered member institutions.
- v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):



Draft AGM Program Outline 2023

No.	TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
1	09:00 am - 09:30 am	Registration	Secretariat
2	09:30 am - 09:35 am	Opening Prayer	Volunteer
3	09:35 am - 09:45 am	Welcome address	Coordinator
4	09:45 am - 10:00 am	Address by GhanAPA Chairman	GhanAPA Chair
	10:00 am – 10:15 am	SNACK BREAK	
5	10:15 am - 10:45 am	Reading and adoption of Minutes of 2022	GhanAPA Chair
6	10:45 am - 11:30 am	Restructuring of GhanAPA Administration	GhanAPA Chair
7	11:30 am – 11:45 am	WAAPA Accra Conference	GhanAPA Chair

8	11:45 am – 12:30 pm	Presentation of 2023 Program of Work	Coordinator
9	12:30 am – 03:30 pm	Presentation and Discussions of the draft Alcohol Legislative Instrument & Next Steps	WAAPA Secretariat
10	03:30 pm – 04:00 pm	The Way Forward for pursuing the L.I.	WAAPA Secretariat
11	04:00 pm	Closing and Lunch	Volunteer

Minutes of AGM held at Kanda Main Library on Thursday 24th August 2023

Present

No	Name of Participant	Organization	Contact	E-mail
1	Benjamin Anabila	Institute of Leadership & Development (INSLA)	024837 6320	benjaminanabila@gmail.com
2	Sulley Sumani	Action for Integrated Development (AID)	024263 7020	sulleysumani60@yahoo.com
3	Michael Nartey	Aid for Needy Children Foundation (ANCF)	024443 9652	michaelnartey2020@yahoo.com
4	Jonas Nartey	Ghana Blue Cross (GBC)	024972 1357	achiesco@yahoo.com
5	Solomon Foli	Vision for Alternative Development (VALD)	026085 9655	foli@valdghana.org
6	Francis Kasu	CFF – Ghana (CFF)	054146 6205	delademkasu@gmail.com
7	Nafisa Ibrahim	Federation of Zongo Ladies (FZL)	024781 6175	Inafisa347@gmail.com
8	Mariam Salifu	Mothers' Clubs in Development (MCD)	024982 2692	mothersclubgh@yahoo.com
9	Abdul-Fatah Adam	Federation of Youth Clubs (FYC)	024480 4501	iamfatahgh@gmail.com
10	Lilian Alang	El-Yahweh Club (EYC)	024917 7834	lilyalang@gmail.com
In Attendance				
11	Issah Ali	WAAPA Coordinator	024405 7650	Issahali@waapalliance.org
13	Deborah Agbondo	WAAPA Secretariat	0545448348	deborasagboado@waapalliance.org

A roll call was first carried by the Coordinator; Sulley Sumani to ensure a quorum has been achieved. Eight Organisation responded by registering on the Participants Registration Form and also standing and answering to their names being called. The rest join the meeting later

Opening

When the Coordinator reported to the plenary that a quorum was achieved, the Chair declared the meeting opened at 10:20 am and Solomon Foli said the opening prayer. The Chair called on the Coordinator to deliver his welcome address.

Welcome Addresses

The welcome address to all participants to the Annual AGM was read by the National Coordinator.

2. A special welcome was also extended to the Ghana Blue Cross that has been invited by GhanAPA to the AGM to see if the Blue Cross could join the Alliance as the Organisation is known to be in Alcohol issues for a much longer period since as the Coordinator puts since the 1990s. He said the West Africa Alcohol Policy Alliance (WAAPA) Coordinator will give a detail briefing on our invitation to the Blue Cross to partner with us because their experience.

The Chair then asked Mr. Issah Ali, the WAAPA Coordinator, to elaborate on the recommendation from our international partners to form a strong partnership with the Ghana Blue Cross. In his response Mr. Issah Ali gave a detail account about how the blue Cross has joined or about joining National Alcohol Policy Alliances in the sub-region including Burkina Faso, Chad, Nigeria and other countries. After Issah's lecture the Chairman asked that we need to admit Ghana Blue Cross into our Alliance and if there is any member who is against should raise his hand. Abdul Fatah raised his hand and supported. Foli said after Issah's talk he is okay. Chairman said from now we have admitted into the GhanAPA. He said blue cross is joining as a strategic partner/member and we could partner them with our resources.

Issah said at the regional level WAAPA will start issuing membership Certificates to institutional members.

Presentation of Previous minutes of 2022

The Chair asked members to go through the Minutes of 2022 AGM and after that asked for corrections of the minutes page by page.

Corrections and Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

1. Issah said the registration of participants should be by member Organizations and not names of individuals
2. Foli was next to asked about Kasu was requesting for admitting members from outside the national capital to the regions.

3. The WAAPA Coordinator said the current funds from the donor was meant to cover advocacy for policy development and which is centered in the national capital but can is not enough to go the regions to cover community implementation. He advised that we widened our fund raising effort to rake in funds so that we could extend our membership drive into the regions out of Accra

4. Fatah moved for the acceptance the previous minutes and was seconded by Mr. Sulley Sumani. The minutes were then adopted.

Presentation of 2022 Annual Report

The Chair said in the middle of 2022 due to some challenges the previous Coordinator resigned and was replaced by Mr. Sulley who was then an Adviser to the Board. The Chairman also said as he was privy to all the issues and so he produced the 2022 Annual Report but from now on the new Coordinator shall produce the 2023 Annual Report.

The Chair said the main challenge during the year was the resignation of the legal officer at the Ministry of Health (MoH) in 2022. The lawyer who was involved in drafting of the LI left and was replaced by a new lawyer, Alhaji Inua in 2022 and who abandoned the previous work done on the LI and started a new draft all over again. Issah said the Deputy Minister of Health Alhaji Seini was invited to the WAAPA Accra Conference and he honored the invitation and gracefully launched the WAAPA 5-year Strategic Development Plan. He said it was the Baraka Institute that started funding the development of the LI but when it funds became exhausted; WAAPA through GhanAPA took over before the Ghana Non-Communicable Diseases (GhNCDA) continued funding the development of the LI. So WAAPA advised GhanAPA not to continue funding as it would amount to duplication of resources.

Adoption of the Report: Nafisa moved for the acceptance of the Report and was seconded by Lilian.

Restructuring of GhanAPA Administration

On the above, the Chairman said that during the resignation of Abdul-Fatah Adam as the National Coordinator, Alhaji Sulley Sumani was brought in as a replacement. The Chair said currently, there were only 3 active Board members; namely the Chair, the National Coordinator and the Treasurer. So he asked the AGM to make replace and confirm the new National Coordinator; Alhaji Sulley Sumani. He further suggested the AGM increase the number of Board members to seven (7) or maintain the five (5). Alhaji Sulley Sumani suggested that with dwindling funds of twelve (12) active member Organizations it was not prudent to increase the number to 7 and therefore suggested the maintenance of five (5). A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to replace the two (2) inactive members. The Chair strongly suggested the addition of one female for gender considerations. Hajia Mariam nominated Nafisa and Nafisa

also nominated Hajia Mariam. Upon further discussions and the fact that both nominees declined the nominations due to one reason or another, Nafisa was finally elected unanimously by 10 votes in favour and none against. Richard Kasu was also nominated by Abdul Fatah Adam and vote was also 10 in support and none against. In summary, Alhaji Sulley Sumani, Michael Nartey and Nafisa Ibrahim were unanimously voted and confirmed to replace Abdul Fatah Adam, Labra Masawudu Musah and Amanobia Dodoo.

Presentation of 2023 Program of Work/Plan of Action

The Coordinator was asked by the Chair to take participant through the 2023 PoW which is for a period of 6 months (July to December 2023).

Remarks/Discussions

After its reading Issah said it was not in conformity with the standard format for PoW, which is supposed to be in a Logical Framework. The Coordinator agreed to make the changes. Abdul-Fatah said the previous Plans were in conformity and we should check on that. That was also acknowledged.

Presentation and Discussions on the Final Draft Alcohol Legislation Instrument (LI)

The WAAPA Coordinator took participants through the entire draft LI and highlighted on some salient points which he thinks participants should study, research so that when we meet the Parliamentary Select Committees for Health and of Subsidiary Legislation we will make suggestions for amendments before the LI is laid in Parliament.

Next Steps

Following discussions, participants agreed that the GhanAPA should engage the Ghana Blue Cross and request for funds to hold a one-day workshop for participants. The workshop will give ample time to make discussions of the draft LI to enable GhanAPA make meaningful contributions to the LI hearing during engagements with the lawmakers.

Way Forward

The Chair said we would prepare an Advocacy Flier on the GhanAPA to share with the lawmakers when we engage members of the two Sub-committees of Parliament to make inputs into the final drafts of the LI.

Request for Community Counseling Services

A member Hajia Mariam narrated a pathetic situation of 3 brothers in her community who have alcohol addiction challenges and are completely a societal burden need serious rehabilitation. Hajia Mariam made a passionate appeal to the Blue Cross representative to seek support from the Organization in rehabilitating the trio. In answer, the Blue Cross said to will consider the appeal

and see how they will train about 2 volunteers in Hajia Mariam's community to help in the therapeutic treatment process to reduce cost of transportation from Mamobi to Gbawe.

Group Photograph

A group photograph of the participants was taken and which is at the top of this report.

Closing

The Chair thanked all participants from the various Organizations for the sacrifices they have made to attend the AGM. Mr. Solomon Foli again said the closing prayer at 2:27

vi. **Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:**

- The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution to reduce the number of members of the Board of Directors from seven (7) to five (5).
- Two (2) new board members were elected to join three (3) members to bring the membership to five (5).

Board Members of GhanAPA

The five- member Board of GhanAPA who were elected at AGM of 24th August 2023

No	Name of Officer	Organization	Position
1	Benjamin Anabila	Institute of Leadership & Development (INSLA)	Chairman
2	Sulley Sumani	Action for Integrated Development (AID)	National Coordinator
3	Michael Nartey	Aid for Needy Children Foundation (ANCF)	Treasurer
4	Francis Kasu	CFF – Ghana (CFF)	Member
5	Nafisa Ibrahim	Federation of Zongo Ladies (FZL)	Member

vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

The National Coordinators role has effectively absorbed that of the position of Secretary is abolished

ACTIVITY 5: WORKSHOP TO REVIEW DRAFT ALCOHOL CONTROL LEGISLATION 2023

Workshop Programme (21st to 22nd November 2023

Participants/Attending Institutions

Present

No	Name of Participant	Organization	Contact	E-mail
1	Benjamin Anabila	Institute of Leadership & Development (INSLA)	024837 6320	benjaminanabila@gmail.com
2	Sulley Sumani	Action for Integrated Development (AID)	024263 7020	sulleysumani60@yahoo.com
3	Michael Nartey	Aid for Needy Children Foundation (ANCF)	024443 9652	michaelnartey2020@yahoo.com
4	Jonas Nartey	Ghana Blue Cross (GBC)	024972 1357	achiesco@yahoo.com
5	Solomon Foli	Vision for Alternative Development (VALD)	026085 9655	foli@valdghana.org
6	Francis Kasu	CFF – Ghana (CFF)	054146 6205	delademkasu@gmail.com
7	Nafisa Ibrahim	Federation of Zongo Ladies (FZL)	024781 6175	Inafisa347@gmail.com
8	Mariam Salifu	Mothers' Clubs in Development (MCD)	024982 2692	mothersclubgh@yahoo.com
9	Abdul-Fatah Adam	Federation of Youth Clubs (FYC)	024480 4501	iam fatahgh@gmail.com
10	Lilian Alang	El-Yahweh Club (EYC)	024917 7834	lilyalang@gmail.com
In Attendance/Facilitator				
11	Issah Ali	WAAPA Coordinator	024405 7650	Issahali@waapalliance.org
12	Debora	WAAPA Secretariat	054 544 8348	
		Total number		22 participants

- i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 21st -22nd November 2023
- ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): Kanda Main Library, Nima, Accra
- iii. Objective(s) and purpose:
 - ✓ To study the draft Legislative Instrument (LI) and identify weak areas of the document

- ✓ To make suggestions for changes to the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSCSL) when the draft is laid before parliament for inputs
- ✓ An LI without ambiguous articles which could be exploited by big Alcohol Industry

iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

The leadership of the 10 member GhanAPA has spent a lot of resources to sponsor the Technical Working Group and the legal team of the Ministry of Health (MoH) to complete the drafting of the 2023 Alcohol Control Legislative instrument (LI) and subsequent meetings to develop Forms attached to the LI in 2022. The legal officer of the MoH was to submit the draft to the Attorney-Generals' Department (AGD) for its finalization before it is returned to the MoH for submission to the PSCSL for passage into an LI

v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):

The 2-day session for the Review Workshop was used to go through the draft LI and facilitated by Mr. Issa Ali., Coordinator of the WAAPA. Participants exhausted the review in the second day the workshop went into three groups to document GhanAPA's inputs to be submitted to the PSCSL to improve upon the quality of the LI for the benefit of all Ghanaians , especially those are under threat of alcohol harm.

vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:

Recommendation by Group One of Alcohol Policy Alliance

Alcohol Control Regulation 2023

No.	Clause	Original Text	Recommendation	Sources Of Reference
1.	18	"A child shall not be involved in the sale, importation, manufacture, distribution or export of any alcoholic drink"	A young person below the age of 21 shall not be involved in the sales, importation, manufacture distribution or export of any alcoholic drink	Constitution of Ghana: Labour Act 651 of 2003: National Alcohol Policy 2016: Foreword (Children's Act 560 of 1998)

2	19 (2)	“Where a person who supplies or sells alcoholic drinks is not certain about the age of a person to whom the alcoholic drink is to be supplied or sold, the person shall take reasonable steps to ascertain the age of that person”	(Where a person who supplies or sells alcoholic drinks is not certain about the age of a person to whom the alcoholic drink is to be supplied or sold, ‘the person shall take steps to ascertain the age of that person ’as prescribed by the authority)	Look for practices in other country laws
3.	20		<u>NEW INSERTIONS</u> <u>Online Sales of Alcoholic Drinks:</u> A person who sales an alcoholic drink online or sale portal shall demand a proof of an acceptable means of identification as may be determine by the Authority to ascertain purchase.	Add evidence on the impact of online sales during covid-19

Group Two

NO	Clause	Original Test	Recommendation	Remark/reference/source
5	STAFF OF THE UNIT	The Chief Executive Officer shall assign officers with requisite competence and skills for the effective and efficient performance of the functions of the Unit.	We recommend the inclusion of active and relevant CSOs.	CSOs are the bridge between the community and duty bearers hence their meaningful involvement in this Unit Move and strengthen Clause 40

7	REQUIREMENT OF A LICENSE	“A person shall not import, manufacturer, distribute or export alcoholic drinks unless that person obtains a license from the Authority.”	<p>a. It should be manufacture and not manufacturer</p> <p>b. We recommend the inclusion of the Retailers.</p> <p>(A person shall not import, manufacture(r), distribute, export or (retail) alcoholic drinks unless that person obtains a license from the Authority).</p>	<p>Retail is critical part of the supply chain and must not be omitted.</p> <p>Add some literature to support the above statement</p>
---	--------------------------	---	---	---



- vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity
- viii. The specific policy changes desired to be inputted into the Final LI during Parliamentary hearing is as above..

(Add more activities carried out by National Alliance even not supported or funded by WAAPA and FORUT)

ACTIVITY 6: FIRST MEETING OF GHANAPA’S BOARD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2023

After the re-organisation of the GhanAPA’s Board on the 24th August 2023, the Board held its First meeting on 18th October 2023

- i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 18th October 2023
- ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): Kanda Main Library, Nima, Accra
- iii. Objective(s) and purpose:
 - ✓ To study the draft Legislative Instrument (LI) and identify weak areas of the document
 - ✓ To make suggestions for changes to the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSCSL) when the draft is laid before parliament for inputs
 - ✓ An LI without ambiguous articles which could be exploited by big Alcohol Industry
- iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

According to the GhanAPA’s Constitution the Board should meet at least once in a quarter. Which means that, the GhanAPA Board should meet at least four times in one year? However, due to the reorganization of the Board we have been able to meet two times in the second half of the year.
- v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):

Agenda for First Board Meeting of 18th October 2023

Time: 2:00 pm to 04:00pm

- Opening
- Discussion on Core Mandate and Objective of GhanAPA
- Roles for each executive portfolio in GhanAPA.
- GhanAPA Relationship with WAAPA Secretariat
- Discussion on the PoW for 2023
- Recommended Changes to PoW and Bottlenecks
 - a. Advocacy material
 - b. Workshop on inputs into LI 2023 & Request for Blue Cross Support

- c. WAAPA proposal to sponsor Advocacy Material
- Recommended Activities for 4th Quarter 2023
- AoB.

vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:

Minutes of GhanAPA First Board meeting for 2023 at the Kanda Library on 18th October 2023

Present

i. Mr. Benjamin Anabila	Chairman
ii. Mr. Sulley Sumani	Coordinator
iii. Mr. Michael Kwadjo Nartey	Treasurer
iv. Mr. Richard Kasu	Member
v. Ms. Nafisa Ibrahim	Member

Opening

The Chair declared the meeting opened at 1:45 with a prayer by Michael Nartey.

Discussions

The Chairman stated that after the re-organization of GhanAPA Board we are holding our first meeting for 2023 and it is expected that all of us would contribute to make GhanAPA a success story.

The Chairman first read the mandate of GhanAPA in our Constitution and then proceeded to then read the roles of each of the executive positions spelt out in the Constitution for each member of the Board to his/her role.

On GhanAPA relationship WAAPA's Secretariat, the Chairman said Ghana was hosting the secretariat in Accra and WAAPA has the same Coordinating role just like any other country.

The Programme of Work (PoW) discussed is attached. The recommended changes to the PoW were in the areas of:

- a. To appeal to the blue Cross to fund a workshop to study the draft LI 2023, and if, not successful in raising the necessary funds
- b. To use the funds allocation for Advocacy material to organize a workshop on inputs into LI 2023
- c. The Coordinator reported that WAAPA has agreed to support the printing of Advocacy Material

d. The recommended Activities for the 4th Quarter 2023 was to hold the GhanAPA Board Last Meetings

e. The last item was Any Other Business (AoB) which saw the National Coordinator said GhanAPA will add the new Board members unto Registrar of Companies register

Closing: The meeting came to close at 4:45 pm with a prayer by Sulley

vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

ACTIVITY TITLE 7: SECOND MEETING OF GHANAPA'S BOARD

Present

i. Mr. Sulley Sumani (Coordinator) - Acting for Chairman

iii. Mr. Michael Kwadjo Nartey Treasurer

v. Ms. Nafisa Ibrahim Member

i. Date (Day/Month/Year): 12th December 2023

ii. Venue (Hall/Location/Country): Kanda Main Library, Nima, Accra

iii. Objective(s) and purpose:

To take stock of the Programme of Work for 2023 and to Prepare the required End of Year Annual Reports for the WAAPA Secretariat

iv. Background (Provide brief description of the activity):

At the end of each Programme year GhanAPA is obliged to prepare an Annual report for its funders and Partners.

v. Session and Discussions (Provide details description of the session):

Agenda for Meeting

Post-review of 2023 Programme of Work

Opening

The Acting Chair declared the meeting opened at 02:15 pm with an opening prayer by Madam Nafisa Ibrahim.

Mr. Michael Nartey stood in for the Secretary and read the previous minutes of 18th October 2003 and corrections were made The Chairman asked the meeting to go through the GhanAPA Concept Note and 2023 PoW for discussion on achievements and impacts. The discussions recalled that the

year started in the second half the year, that is, on 1st July 2023 with the signing of 2023 Grant Agreement with WAAPA with a grant amount of USD2,500.00

vi. Outcomes, suggestions, recommendations and Next steps:
After detail discussions the meeting resolved to complete the three (3) Annual Reports and submit on time. They are:

- a) Annual Narrative Report
- b) Annual Financial Statement, and
- c) Annual Audit Report

vii. List specific policy change(s) and or progress that came about as a result of this activity.

The successful conclusion of the year under review and the achievements chalked collectively will all contribute to sustainable development in Ghana.

General feedback

- i. How many times was the National Alliance contacted or consulted by government officials on alcohol policy in 2023?

Answer: When the draft Legislative Instrument was completed a copy was given to GhanAPA through the Technical Working Group which was constituted on the campaign of GhanAPA

.....

- ii. Kindly provide information on the submissions made to government by National Alliance.

GhanAPA is through three ***Press Releases*** called on the Minister of Health, the Attorney-General and the Parliament of Ghana ***to swiftly pass the Alcohol Control Legislative Instrument in Ghana in 2023 to save many innocent Live, especially young persons below 25 years.***

.....

- iii. How many times did National Alliance receive technical assistance, advice or recommendations from WAAPA Secretariat in 2023?

GhanAPA has continuously throughout t

the year collaborated with and received technical and funding support from WAAPA. WAAPA facilitated the 2-day workshop for the review of the 2023 draft Alcohol Control Legislation (LI) to ensure quality in the final LI.

WAAPA recommended the Blue Cross Society as a reliable partner who will support enhance the overall capacity to undertake our mandate

.....

- iv. Kindly explain if National Alliance has identified any funding institutions in 2023.

GhanAPA identified the Blue Cross Society as a working partner and who could have resources to support GhanAPA in the future.

.....

- v. Kindly explain if National Alliance has submitted any project proposals to donors and partners for funding support in 2023.

GhanAPA requested for support from the Blue Cross Society to undertake a workshop for review of the draft LI 2023

.....

- vi. List the activities conducted by National Alliance without WAAPA funding.

NIL

.....

Attachments

- i. List of Participants: Indicate the Activity Title on top of the Participants List. Each activity must have its own participants list. The list should include Names, Organization's, Phone numbers, email addresses and signatures.
- ii. Photographs: 3 (three) photographs/pictures/images from different directions must be attached for each activity.
- iii. Media reportage and online links: Attach the media reportage and or the online links. Indicate the activity title for each media story.
- iv. ADD and GGCS Scale Indicator Sheets: Complete the 2023 Scales

- v. Adopted Policy, Draft Policy or Draft Legislation or Adopted Multi-Sectorial Action Plan and other Materials: Attach copies of any of the listed draft documents and materials developed in the year under review.
- vi. 2023 Audited Financial Report and Management Letter: Each National Alliance must submit an independent Audited Financial Report and Management Letter for 2023.

DEADLINES

- 1. Narrative Report and any related materials should be submitted by: 31st December 2023.**
- 2. Audited Financial Report and Management Letter should be submitted by: 31st January 2024.**



