



MINORITY CAUCUS

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

Parliament House – Accra (Ghana)

13th September, 2026.

PRESS STATEMENT

THE NDC GOVERNMENT MUST ACCOUNT FOR THE NATION'S DESCENT INTO A NARCOTICS TRANSIT HUB

The Minority in Parliament has watched with grave alarm as, over the past eighteen months, Ghana has repeatedly featured in major narcotics trafficking cases both at home and abroad. We set out below the chronology of these incidents, beginning with the seizures made on our own soil.

Local seizures. On 4th March 2025, the National Intelligence Bureau intercepted a tipper truck at Pedu Junction in Cape Coast carrying over 3.3 tonnes of cocaine concealed beneath sand, en route from Takoradi to Accra, with an estimated street value exceeding US\$350 million. Within the same period, a second consignment of an estimated 120 slabs of cocaine, valued at approximately US\$150 million, was intercepted along the Takoradi–Cape Coast highway. On 5th August 2026, the Tema Regional Police Command seized 866 parcels of suspected cocaine concealed in sacks of gari at a warehouse within the Tema Harbour enclave, valued at US\$6.9 million. Alongside these seizures, two troubling incidents remain unresolved: the landing at Kotoka International Airport, on or around 20th March 2025, of aircraft alleged to be carrying narcotics and undeclared US currency from Gran Canaria; and the MV Sankofa affair of July 2025, in which a vessel found sailing under a forged flag and liable to a fine of almost GH¢12 million was released by the Ghana Maritime Authority after payment of only a fraction of that sum, without full inspection of its cargo, only to be arrested days later in Senegal carrying narcotics.

Foreign seizures linked to Ghana. On 18th June 2026, Australian customs authorities seized 320kg of methamphetamine, valued at a further US\$261 million, concealed in a charcoal consignment traced to Ghana. On 10th September 2026, Reuters reported that French customs officers at the port of Dunkirk seized nearly 3.9 metric tonnes of cocaine, valued at over US\$260 million, concealed in a container of plastic waste that had departed our shores.

Taken together, high-profile seizures linked to Ghana under this NDC administration now stand at well over US\$1 billion in under two years.

International drug enforcement agencies have long estimated that only around one in every ten consignments of trafficked narcotics is ever intercepted. Ghanaians must be allowed to draw their own conclusions about what that widely cited detection rate means for the volume of narcotics that may be moving through our ports, airports, and waters undetected.

Equally troubling is what has happened to the local cases after the cameras leave. In the Pedu Junction matter, more than a year after the seizure, it is only the driver, a housemaid, and a small handful of peripheral suspects who have been arraigned and remain on bail, while the actual financiers and high-profile dealers behind a US\$350 million cocaine shipment remain unidentified and unpunished. This pattern — in which couriers, drivers, mates, and freight-forwarding agents are paraded before the courts while the true owners of these consignments walk free — raises serious questions about the seriousness, independence, and reach of investigations under this Government.

The frequency and scale with which narcotics-related incidents are happening under the watch of the Mahama-led NDC Government, and the silence of the very agencies mandated to stop it should be of grave concern to all well-meaning Ghanaians. Ghana's port authorities have offered no public account of the Dunkirk seizure. NACOC has been conspicuously quiet. The Ghana Maritime Authority has never explained the irregular discount and release granted to the MV Sankofa.

Accordingly, the Minority in Parliament demands a full-scale, independent Parliamentary inquiry into the possible complicity, negligence, or failure of oversight on the part of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Transport, NACOC leadership, the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, the Ghana Immigration Service, and the Bureau of National Investigations, in respect of the incidents cited above. As part of that inquiry, we demand that the sector Ministers and the heads of these agencies be summoned to appear before Parliament to give full and public account of:

1. The status and outcome of investigations into every seizure listed above, including why prosecutions to date have targeted only low-level couriers and not the financiers and principal traffickers behind these shipments;

2. The circumstances surrounding the release of the MV Sankofa, including who authorised the reduced fine and the decision to allow the vessel to sail without full inspection;
3. The concrete measures being taken to secure Ghana's ports, airports, and territorial waters against continued exploitation by international drug cartels.

Ghana's international reputation, and the safety of our young people from the scourge of narcotics, cannot be held hostage to official silence or political convenience. The Minority will not relent until the truth is known and those found responsible are held accountable.

SIGNED

HON. REV. JOHN NTIM FORDJOUR,
RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE & INTERIOR