



MINORITY CAUCUS

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

Parliament House – Accra (Ghana)

29th June, 2025

PRESS STATEMENT BY THE MINORITY CAUCUS IN PARLIAMENT ON THE ARREST AND BAIL CONDITIONS OF ALHAJI ABDUL HANNAN WAHAB

The Minority in Parliament has taken serious note of the arrest and subsequent bail conditions imposed by the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) on Alhaji Abdul Hannan Wahab, the immediate past CEO of the National Food Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) and the New Patriotic Party's Parliamentary Candidate for the Pusiga Constituency in the 2024 elections

On Wednesday, 25th June 2025, EOCO conducted a coordinated arrest operation in both Accra and Tamale, picking up Mr Wahab and his wife as though they were fugitives. They are being investigated for alleged tax evasion, money laundering, and causing financial loss to the State. These are still allegations and no charges have been proven.

Following this questionable mode of arrest, what is even more troubling are the bail conditions subsequently imposed. Mr Wahab was granted bail in the amount of GHS 50 million with two sureties, both of whom must be justified, meaning they must provide proof of assets matching the full bail amount. His wife was similarly granted bail at GHS 30 million, also with two sureties, one to be justified.

We find this unacceptable.

Bail is not supposed to be a punishment or a pre-conviction sentence. It is a legal instrument meant to ensure an accused person's availability for trial, not to punish or intimidate. Section 96 of the Criminal and Other Offences (Procedure) Act, 1960 (Act 30), and the ruling in the case of Kpebu No. 2 v Attorney-General, both make it clear: bail conditions must be reasonable. They must consider the financial capacity of the accused and the nature of the offence.

These conditions, by all standards, are excessive. What is the justification for bail conditions that amount to financial punishment before trial? Where in our laws does it say someone must risk bankruptcy just to secure their freedom while under investigation?

Mr Wahab is not a flight risk. His track record of public service speaks for itself. He has served this nation with the utmost honour and diligence. He is a family man, not a criminal. The manner in which he and his wife were treated is not only harsh, it is humiliating. It sends a worrying signal that people who have served under a past administration will be targeted once power shifts.

We believe this is not about justice—it is political persecution. It is part of a broader pattern under the current NDC administration to use state institutions to intimidate perceived political opponents.

The EOCO we know should serve Ghana, not political interests. This is why we urge the Acting Executive Director, Mr Raymond Archer, to act with integrity. He must remember that how he handles this will define his legacy. Posterity is watching. Ghana is bigger than any political party, and the abuse of institutional power will not be forgotten. You may control the present, but history will judge your conduct.

To be clear, the Minority is not against accountability. If anyone is suspected of wrongdoing, the law must take its course. But what we are against is the misuse of investigative powers to score political points. That is not democracy. That is persecution.

When institutions are weaponised to settle political scores, we damage the foundations of our democracy. What was wrong yesterday remains wrong today, regardless of who is in government.

We therefore call on civil society, religious leaders, the media and all well-meaning Ghanaians to speak out. Let us demand that our justice system be fair, not fearful. Let us resist the creeping abuse of power. Justice must not depend on political colours.

We demand the immediate review of the bail conditions imposed on Mr Wahab and his wife. The bail must be reasonable, fair, and consistent with the law, not an indirect punishment. Mr Wahab must be released on terms that uphold both his dignity and the principles of justice.

Ghana must rise above this politics of revenge and retaliation. No public servant should be punished simply for serving under a different administration.

Let us protect the integrity of our state institutions and free them from political abuse. Enough of the political harassment, persecution and intimidation!

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Signed

**Hon Patricia Appiagyei
Deputy Minority Leader**