



NATIONAL ANTI-ILLEGAL MINING OPERATIONS SECRETARIAT (NAIMOS)

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PRESS RELEASE

NAIMOS REBUTS FALSE REPORT OF ALLEGED SHOOTING AT AKYEM HEMANG

The attention of the National Anti-Illegal Mining Operations Secretariat (NAIMOS) has been drawn to a publication by Neil Nii Kanarku on Citi Newsroom, also carried on GhanaWeb on 28 August 2026, which alleges that NAIMOS personnel were involved in the shooting and death of a young man at Akyem Hemang in the Eastern Region. NAIMOS wishes to state categorically that the allegation is false. The Secretariat did not conduct any operation at Akyem Hemang or within the area in question, and no NAIMOS personnel were deployed within that jurisdiction at the material time.

For the avoidance of doubt, NAIMOS also wishes to clarify that its operations are centrally coordinated and authorised by the Secretariat and are carried out in collaboration with personnel from recognised security and intelligence agencies, including the Ghana Police Service, the Ghana Immigration Service, the Bureau of National Intelligence and the Narcotics Control Commission, among others.

NAIMOS is deeply concerned that such a serious allegation, involving the loss of human life, could be published and attributed to the Secretariat without verifying from NAIMOS. A simple enquiry with the Secretariat before publication would have established that no NAIMOS operation took place in the area. The publication of unverified allegations of this nature is irresponsible and damaging, as it has the potential to create unnecessary hostility between communities and security personnel and to undermine ongoing national efforts against illegal mining.

NAIMOS therefore strongly condemns the false attribution and calls on Citi Newsroom and any other media organisations that have carried the allegation to immediately retract the report, correct the record and issue an appropriate apology to NAIMOS. The Secretariat further cautions that the activities of persons in uniform, or any anti-illegal mining operation not authorised or sanctioned by NAIMOS, must not be automatically attributed to NAIMOS. The mere presence of uniformed personnel at a location does not constitute a NAIMOS operation.

NAIMOS assures the public that its personnel remain professional and committed to their duties. Every day, officers and personnel deployed under the Secretariat work in difficult conditions to protect Ghana's water bodies, forests and lands from the destructive effects of illegal mining. The Secretariat therefore appeals to the media and the general public to act responsibly, verify information before publication, and continue to support the taskforces working to safeguard the country's natural resources.

Signed

Director Research, Evaluation and Public Affairs.

Note to Editors:

For favour of publications, please.

Cc:

All Media Houses.