GHANA PORTS AND HARBOURS AUTHORITY

PORT OF TAKORADI

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Dear Sir/Madam:

MANDATORY PORT HEALTH INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF DUNNAGES PRIOR TO REMOVAL FROM THE PORT

With compliments from the Director of Port.

Port Management has observed with concern that some dunnages discharged from vessels calling at the Port are being released directly to scrap dealers and other third parties without undergoing the necessary inspection and clearance procedures prescribed under International Health regulations.

This practice poses a significant biosecurity and public health risk as dunnages may harbour pests, insects, larvae, pathogens, or other invasive organisms capable of being introduced into the local environment. The uncontrolled movement of such materials could facilitate the spread of harmful species and create adverse environmental and health consequences within the Port and the broader community.

In order to strengthen compliance with applicable International Health requirements and safeguard the integrity of the Port environment, Management hereby directs as follows:

1. Any dunnage intended to be removed from the Port shall only be released upon the written authorization of the Vessel Master through the vessel's appointed Shipping Agent to the Port Authority for approval.

2. All such dunnages shall be presented to the Port Health Unit for inspection prior to removal from the Port.

3. Dunnages shall not be permitted to exit the Port unless they have been duly inspected, cleared, and certified by Port Health.

4. Security personnel at all Port gates shall verify the existence of the requisite approvals including Port Health clearance and certification before permitting any dunnage to be gated out.

5. Shipping Agents, Terminal Operators, Scrap Dealers and all other stakeholders are required to strictly comply with this directive.

This directive takes effect **immediately** and shall remain in force until further notice.

Your cooperation in ensuring full compliance is highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
FOR: GHANA PORTS AND HARBOURS AUTHORITY

ROBERT OPOKU, CMILT, CSP
PORT OPERATIONS MONITORING MANAGER
FOR: DIRECTOR OF PORT

Copy: The Harbour Master
The Port Operations Monitoring Manager
The Marketing/Pub. Affairs Manager
The Port Fire/Safety Manager
The Port Security Manager
The Dry Bulk Terminal Manager
The Oil and Gas Manager
The Manager, Port Health

Distribution

The Terminal Operators
The Ship Agents
The Scrap dealers
All Stakeholders/Port Users
Takoradi