



# GHANA HEALTH SERVICE

REGIONAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE - NORTHERN

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Date: Friday, January 31, 2025

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
GHANA HEALTH SERVICE  
ACCRA

## NOTIFICATION OF SUSPENSION OF USAID SUPPORT FOR SUPPLY CHAIN ACTIVITIES AND ITS IMPACT ON HEALTH COMMODITY AVAILABILITY IN THE THREE NORTHERN REGIONS

I write to formally inform you of the suspension of USAID support for the Global Procurement Supply Chain activities through Chemonics, including the Last Mile Distribution (LMD) of health commodities. As a result, SkyNet Express, the logistics company engaged in transporting health commodities to service delivery points, has been directed to freeze its services for ninety (90) days.

This development follows an Executive Order issued by the U.S. President Donald Trump, leading to a global freeze on U.S. foreign aid. The immediate consequence is a significant disruption to the health supply chain, particularly in the Northern, North East, and Savannah Regions, which rely on the Northern Regional Medical Stores for commodity distribution.

The suspension directly impacts the following key areas:

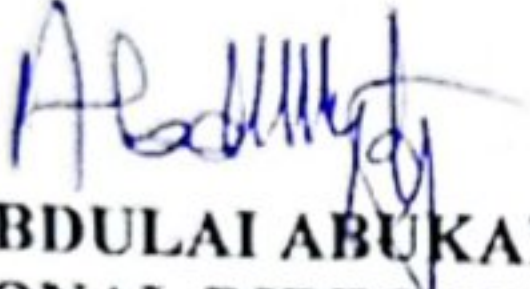
- Last Mile Distribution (LMD):** The halt in distribution services poses a severe risk of stockouts for essential medicines, vaccines, and other critical health commodities, potentially disrupting healthcare service delivery in the three northern regions.
- Procurement and Supply Chain Management Support:** The withdrawal of technical assistance and logistics coordination provided through Chemonics will weaken inventory management, tracking, and reporting systems, making it more difficult to ensure continuous supply.
- Public Health Programme Implementation:** Several health programmes reliant on USAID-funded commodities including maternal and child health, malaria prevention and treatment, family planning, and HIV/AIDS services, are likely to experience shortages, affecting service delivery and patient care outcomes.

In response to this urgent situation, the Regional Health Management Team (RHMT) convened an emergency meeting with District Health Management Teams (DHMTs) and Budget Management Centre (BMC) heads to assess the impact and explore mitigation strategies. After extensive deliberations, it was agreed that in the interim, SkyNet Express, which was previously engaged by USAID for LMD, could serve as a stop-gap measure to maintain scheduled distributions for the year 2025 while long-term solutions are explored.

Given the gravity of this issue, we urgently seek your guidance on possible interventions to bridge supply chain gaps and ensure uninterrupted access to essential health commodities. Additionally, we request further

engagement with key stakeholders and development partners to explore contingency measures, including alternative funding sources and distribution mechanisms, to sustain critical health services.

We appreciate your leadership in addressing this pressing matter and look forward to your urgent direction on the next steps.



**DR. ABDULAI ABUKARI**  
**REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICE**  
**NORTHERN REGION**

**CC:**

- All Senior Managers, Regional Health Directorate, Tamale
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