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REPUBLIC OF GHANA

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR
YANTRABI ROAD, LABONE
P. O. Box M 60
ACCRA

Tel:

10th February, 2020

PRESS STATEMENT


RE: REFERRAL OF ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBERY OF GHANAIAN OFFICIALS IN THE MILITARY AIRCRAFT DEAL

The Office of the Special Prosecutor on Monday, 3rd February 2020 at 14:32 hours received from the Secretary to the President letter No. OPS 307/20/87 dated Sunday 2nd February 2020 referring allegations of bribery of Ghanaian Officials in the military aircraft deal disclosed in two deferred prosecution agreements and judgments on 31st January 2020 in the United Kingdom and the United States of America respectively, implicating Airbus SE, certain individuals and Ghana Government public officials for consideration and possible action.

The Special Prosecutor has determined that the said referral and the deferred prosecution agreements and judgments accompanying them raise reasonable suspicion of the commission of corruption and corruption-related offences of bribery of public officers and the use of public office by public officers for private profit, which are offences falling within the mandate of this Office under the Office of the Special Prosecutor Act, 2017 (Act 959). A preliminary investigation was accordingly opened on 4th February 2020 by this Office into the allegations contained in the judgments referred to this Office aforesaid.

The relevant domestic public institutions which can assist the on-going investigation have been contacted to provide information and documents under Act 959. Contacts have also been initiated with the appropriate foreign authorities as provided by law for information and documents to assist the on-going investigation.

The Office of the Special Prosecutor appeals to the public not to speculate or politicize the disclosures made in the deferred prosecution agreements and judgments so as to allow this Office to treat the suspected crimes as *suspected crimes simpliciter* and nothing more, pending the conclusion of the investigation.


MARTIN A. B. K. AMIDU
(SPECIAL PROSECUTOR)