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PRESS RELEASE

April 25, 2024

### ADDRESSING CHALLENGES FACED BY THE IMPORTERS OF DIAPERS AND TOILETRIES IN GHANA.

It has been brought to our attention, following the grievances raised by importers of diapers and toiletries entering the country, that they are experiencing unwarranted treatment reportedly being facilitated by the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), thereby hindering the smooth importation of these products into the nation.

Consequently, importers are facing notable financial losses that significantly impact their usual investment activities in this sector. In light of these circumstances, we aim to address this pressing matter and hereby notify all merchants that their complaints have been duly acknowledged and addressed through a thorough investigation conducted in collaboration with the FDA.

We have formulated specific recommendations for traders engaged in the importation of goods associated with food and pharmaceutical products.

It is crucial that import activities into the country are closely monitored and regulated to prevent potential financial setbacks resulting from non-compliance with regulatory protocols set forth by the FDA to protect public health and safety of the citizens of Ghana. Any deviation from these regulations could lead to the risk of unauthorized products being confiscated.

Therefore, adherence to standardized procedures is paramount. Traders and importers must themselves engage with the FDA to ensure compliance with the requisite standards and payments obligations prior to importing any merchandise.

With reference to diapers, FDA's regulatory oversight that ensures that the diapers are registered prior to importation is to guarantee that these diapers are safe, of the required quality and would not pose harm or danger to the babies and children on whom they are used. Poor quality diapers are a source of infection and other health hazards to babies as they contain some compounds that may be risky for children's health.

Traders are strongly advised to liaise directly with FDA to initiate registration processes including testing of products to make sure they are safe and of the right quality. Entrusting third-party agents with comprehensive oversight may pose financial risks, and traders themselves need to fully understand and adhere to the regulatory frameworks established within the country.

...Voice of the Traders

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