

# The 64th Independence Anniversary of the Republic of Ghana

Saturday, 6th March, 2021 marks 64 years since Ghana, the first country south of the Sahara attained independence.

With a population of nearly 30 million, Ghana continues to be a trailblazer in the pursuit of accelerated development in the subregion through ECOWAS, and Africa through the African Union. The coming into being of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA) which is headquartered in Accra, Ghana, seeks to push further the boundaries of intra Africa trade with the potential of a single market for goods and services across 54 countries; allow free movement of business travellers, investment and ultimately create a united customs union to streamline trade on the continent. The expected impact on bilateral relations with countries outside the continental foothold cannot be overemphasized .

The successfully organized Russia-Africa Summit in Sochi, from 22nd to 24th October, 2019 which witnessed high-level interaction between President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo and President Vladimir Putin undoubtedly provided the well needed tonic for the invigoration of the relations between Ghana and Russia which dates back to 1960. Envisaged in this regard is the increase in the level of trade and investment in various fields such as Agriculture, Mining, Construction, Oil & Gas, Science and Technology, Education, and Health.

Ghana's approval of the Sputnik V vaccine for use against the coronavirus pandemic underscores the importance of the relations between the two countries.

As we mark another milestone in our country's history, it is

our sincere hope that Ghana's relations with Russia would be re-energised through cooperation, at all levels for the benefit of our two countries and the people

Long live Ghana-Russia relations.

