



**Accra, 22 November, 2011**

**Press Release**

## **THE DAWN OF A NEW FRONTIER IN GLOBAL SOCIAL WORK AND DEVELOPMENT**

The complexities of an ever-changing landscape of widening and worsening social infrastructure have created a heightened need for global collaboration to redress social inequities. Consequently, a worldwide movement representing the entire spectre of Social Work Practice, Social Work Education and Social Development Work have convened together in Ghana for this purpose.

In Accra-Ghana, from the 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011, a high-powered delegation of three international organizations will be meeting to finalise the *Global Agenda* document for onward submission to the UN Secretary-General in March 2012 in New York, as well as to continental, regional and national governments. Since 2010, delegates and members of the three international organizations – **International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW)**, **International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW)**, and **International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)** – have researched and globally consulted to produce the draft Global Agenda document that seeks to address the social work and social development challenges in our societies.

The Accra meeting will finalise the **Global Agenda Document** on the themes *Social and Economic Inequalities within Countries and Regions; Dignity and Worth of the Person; Environmental Sustainability; and Importance of Human Relationships*. The finalized Agenda Document will also be presented at the Joint International Conference of the three organisations in Stockholm, Sweden, June 2012 (see [www.adpgh.org](http://www.adpgh.org) and [www.globalsocialagenda.org](http://www.globalsocialagenda.org) for further details).

The seven-member delegation will also be meeting with the Minister and key officials of Ghana's Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare to share with them the summaries on global consultations, the way forward after the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015, and what possible roles Ghana, as one of the acknowledged countries that promote and support international development cooperation, could play in partnership with civil society.

The Executive Director of African Development Programme, currently the global Vice-President of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) will be leading the delegation to meet with the Minister and senior officials at the ministry.

As the world confronts the problems and challenges of social development, social work practice and education, the Accra meeting of the *International Coordinators* that will finalise the **Global Agenda Document** signifies the dawn of a new frontier in social work and social development that will lead a concerted effort towards alleviating the ills of society.

**(SIGNED)**

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