



# DANQUAH INSTITUTE

*Media, Research & Policy Analysis Centre*

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## **SPECIAL INVITATION FROM DANQUAH INSTITUTE -- PUBLIC LECTURE ON INTERNATIONAL CORRUPTION**

The Danquah Institute has invited the world renowned international criminal law expert, **John Hardy QC**, to deliver two lectures on international corruption and money laundering next week.

We are extending an invitation to you to attend these lectures which we consider as important to our national development efforts.

The theme of the first lecture is: **“PROTECTING GHANA AND GHANA’S EMERGING FINANCIAL OFFSHORE CENTRE STATUS FROM MONEY LAUNDERING”**.

Venue: **BRITISH COUNCIL on TUESDAY, MARCH 9, at 9.30AM.**

It will be chaired by renowned criminologist and the Executive Secretary of Justice & Human Rights Institute, Prof. Ken Agyemang Attafuah. Ms Christine Addo, who is responsible for Barclay’s Offshore Project in Ghana will give a short presentation on preparations on that project. Mr Essel, Head of the Financial Intelligence Centre of the Bank of Ghana will also speak briefly on the regulatory arrangements being made in that regard.

The theme of the second lecture is: **“INTERNATIONAL CORRUPTION - HOW GHANA CAN COLLABORATE WITH UK AND OTHERS TO BEAT IT”**.

Venue: **K A BUSIA HALL, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10 at 5.00PM**

***(Please take note of the change in time from the previously announced 3.30pm to the new time of 5.00pm).***

Also to speak on day two is **Prof. Ken Agyemang Attafuah**, who will speak on a related topic: **'The INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION.**

The second day lectures will be chaired by Prof. Nii-Ashei Kotei, of the Faculty of Law.

The first lecture, which is on MONEY LAUNDERING, is targeting players in the financial sector, legislatures, policy makers, lawyers, judges, trade unions, and anti-corruption crusaders, among others. The second lecture will focus on how Ghana can tackle the

menace of INTERNATIONAL CORRUPTION brought on through unholy collaborations between public officials and multinational companies.

The lectures are organised by the Danquah Institute, in conjunction with the Law Faculty, University of Ghana, the Justice & Human Rights Institute and DI's media partners.

John Hardy is a UK-based barrister and part-time judge, who specialises in extradition, serious crime, money-laundering, human rights and mutual legal assistance.

The lectures are opportune in light of stated efforts by the new government to tackle corruption as have been apparent in various investigations undertaken in contracts signed by the previous government, such as Vodafone and Kosmos/EO Group. The Commission of Human Rights & Administrative Justice is holding its first public hearing on a case involving international corruption this month. The first lecture will, therefore, look at international corruption, with particular focus on multinational companies and how they connive with local officials on corruption. It will also look at international efforts to tackle it.

The lectures are also timely because Ghana is in line to become an offshore financial centre which comes with enormous investment opportunities but may also make Ghana more vulnerable to money laundering, although, money laundering happens in almost every country in the world.

In January, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) openly warned Ghana against going ahead with its planned status as a tax haven. Over the past four years, Ghana has been working on becoming an offshore financial centre the first country to offer such banking facility on mainland Africa.

The second lecture will seek to discuss the general global criminal activity of money laundering and how legislation, regulations, vigilance and enforcement may be strengthened to tackle this activity.

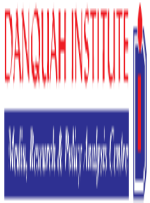
Moreover, specifically, we at the Danquah Institute are concerned about how the important prospect of Ghana's emerging status as the first financial offshore centre on the African continent is being bad-pressed by concerns of money laundering.

Thus, John Hardy's lecture on money laundering would seek to deal with this by showing how established financial offshore centres in Europe and elsewhere have dealt with this. His lecture will encourage Ghana to proceed with preparations towards this exciting prospect and to put in place the necessary measures to address the negative opportunities of international corruption and money laundering which every offshore facility faces.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GABBY ASARE OTCHERE-DARKO', written in a cursive style.

Gabby Asare Otchere-Darko,  
Executive Director  
Tel:026-4314312



**DANQUAH INSTITUTE**

*Media, Research & Policy Analysis Centre*



**PRESENTS**

# **LECTURES ON INTERNATIONAL CORRUPTION AND MONEY LAUNDERING**



**Main Speaker: John Hardy QC**  
*International Criminal Law Expert*

**Date:** Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Venue:** British Council Conference Room

**Theme:** Protecting Ghana's Emerging Financial Offshore Centre Status from money laundering

**Date:** Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Venue:** K. A Busia Hall, University of Ghana

**Theme:** International Corruption – How Ghana Can Collaborate with UK and Others to beat it

## **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the first lecture is to educate the financial sector, the business community, policy makers, the general public and the international community about the prospect of Ghana's offshore status and measures that need to be taken to safeguard this new and exciting national status against money laundering. The objective of the second lecture is to contribute to the efforts of Government and the nation, at large, against the challenges of international corruption and its retarding role on national development. In addition to these lectures, we seek to embark on public education, by creating awareness and interest on the subject offshore banking in Ghana through a series of radio, television interviews, discussions and newspaper publications.

## **INVITED GUESTS**

Members of the Executive, Members of Parliament, bankers, lawyers, judges, academics, students, civil society groups, journalists, trade unionists, representatives from the Serious Fraud Office, Criminal Investigations Department, and The Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice.

## **PROFILE OF MAIN SPEAKER**

**JOHN HARDY QC**



Call 1988 QC 2008

Since taking silk in April 2008, John Hardy QC has been instructed in a number of lengthy and complex fraud prosecutions as well as continuing his criminal practice, particularly in extradition where his expertise spans over 15 years. John has appeared in a number of cases in the House of Lords as a junior (twice as leading junior).

John makes frequent appearances in the Divisional and Administrative Courts representing both foreign governments and defendants in Habeas Corpus and Judicial Review proceedings in extraditions, as well as prosecuting authorities and defendants in domestic Judicial Reviews and cases stated.

He also appears for both prosecution and defence in major criminal trials and has extensive experience in money laundering cases as well as appearing in licensing matters. He is also highly experienced in disciplinary tribunal work (for example the GMC and police discipline cases) and he also has significant expertise in dealing with regulatory offences.

John is also in demand as an expert witness on matters of United Kingdom extradition and criminal law in foreign jurisdictions, as well as being a regular contributor to lectures and seminars around the world. He has given evidence in a murder case in the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver, as well as in the Dublin District Court. He has given presentations, lectures, and addresses on a wide variety of subjects, including extradition, constitutional law, and general crime with an emphasis on bribery and corruption, and money-laundering, in (amongst others) the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Spain, and Ukraine.

## PRESS RELEASE

02/03/10

### **UK EXPERT TO LECTURE GHANA ON MONEY-LAUNDERING**

The Danquah Institute has invited the world renowned international criminal law expert, John Hardy QC, to deliver two lectures on international corruption and money laundering next week.

The first lecture, which is targeting players in the financial sector, legislatures, policy makers, and anti-corruption crusaders, among others, is on money laundering and takes place at the British Council on Tuesday, March 9, at 9.30am.

The second lecture, which will focus on how Ghana can tackle the menace of international corruption brought on through collaborations between public officials and multinational companies, will take place at the K A Busia Hall, University of Ghana, Legon, on Wednesday, March 10 at 5.00pm.

The lectures are organised in conjunction with the Law Faculty, University of Ghana, the Justice & Human Rights Institute and DI's media partners.

John Hardy is a UK-based barrister who specialises in extradition, serious crime, money-laundering, human rights and mutual legal assistance.

The lectures are opportune in light of stated efforts by the new government to tackle corruption. The Commission of Human Rights & Administrative Justice is holding its first public hearing on a case involving international corruption this month.

The lectures are also timely because Ghana is in line to become an offshore financial centre which comes with enormous investment opportunities but may also make Ghana more vulnerable to money laundering, although, money laundering happens in almost every country in the world.

In January, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) openly warned Ghana against going ahead with its planned status as a tax haven. Over the past four years, Ghana has been working on becoming an offshore financial centre – the first country to offer such banking facility on mainland Africa.

But, the OECD, which comprises of 30 of the world's high income economies, fear it could facilitate money laundering in Africa. Jeffrey Owens, head of the OECD's Tax Centre, said: "The last thing Africa needs is a tax haven in the centre of the African continent."

This OECD stance has been criticised by others as 'most hypocritical'. There are more than 60 tax havens across the world, with many of them within the OECD.

The key feature of offshore banking is that interest rate is generally paid by offshore banks without any tax deduction.

It can help a country like Ghana source investment and create growth in our economy, and can help redistribute world finance from the developed world to the developing world.

Ghana is fast becoming regional financial hub, taking advantage of its emergence as an oil producer, with a stable political environment.

Barclays Bank has been advising Ghana's government on establishing its financial centre.

John Hardy's lecture on money laundering would focus on how, whilst going ahead with its offshore financial centre programme, Ghana can protect it from money laundering.