



17 June 2026.

**Official statement from President John Dramani Mahama,
the government and people of Ghana to the Black Stars.**

Our gallant Black Stars,

As you stand on the threshold of your first match against Panama in Toronto, the Government and the over thirty million people of Ghana stand firmly behind you. This fifth World Cup appearance is a testament to the resilient spirit of our nation.

You carry more than a ball. You are carrying the hopes, dreams, and heritage of a people. From the streets of Chorkor to the plains of Bole, every Ghanaian heart beats in sync with yours.

To our vibrant diaspora in Toronto and across North America, we charge you to be the "12th Man". Let the red, gold, and green illuminate the stands, and let our drums remind our boys that wherever a Ghanaian stands, home is never far away.

At home, the Government has ensured that no citizen is left behind. We have successfully secured official television broadcast rights, ensuring that every tackle and every goal is beamed into homes from Axim to Bawku, and from Ho to Hamile. This is our gift to a nation that lives and breathes the beautiful game.

Play for the flag.

Play for the children dreaming of greatness in your footsteps.

The world is watching, and we are confident that the Black Star will shine brighter than ever before on this global stage.

Go Black Stars!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Felix Kwakye Ofori'.

Felix Kwakye Ofori (MP)
Spokesperson to the President,
Minister, Government Communications.