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Mr. Sulemana Braimah

February 4, 2026

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER MINISTRY OF HEALTH ACCRA, GHANA

Dear Sir,

RE: INVITATION TO ATTEND TO THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE ON ALLEGED UNETHICAL MEDICAL PRACTICES AT KORLE BU TEACHING HOSPITAL (KBTH) AND GREATER ACCRA REGIONAL HOSPITAL (GARH)

I bring your warm compliments from the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), the organisation that runs *The Fourth Estate*, a public interest investigative journalism project.

I refer to your letter dated February 4, 2026, inviting The Fourth Estate to meet the Committee you have set up to investigate alleged unethical and exploitative practices among some doctors in some of Ghana's topmost hospitals, as contained in our recent investigative report titled *Medical Kalabule*.

We publicly commended your decision and reaffirmed our willingness to cooperate with any credible process that is aimed at uncovering the truth, holding perpetrators accountable and reforming our health sector for the benefit of all, especially the poor and marginalised.

Our earlier pledge to be of assistance to any credible process in the interest of the public is consistent with our previous actions, commitment and sacrifice to help make our country better.

Indeed, when we investigated what has now become the SML scandal, we submitted a petition to the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP). Our team members at the time supported further investigations of the issues. When we investigated the issue of ghost names at the National Service Authority and published what has famously become known as the NSS Scandal, we submitted petitions to both the OSP and the then ORAL Committee. At different times, both the Special Prosecutor and the Attorney General have acknowledged our role in investigations into the SML and the NSS scandals.

Recently, we appeared before a Committee constituted at the direction of His Excellency the President to investigate a terrible contract between the National Lottery Authority (NLA) and a private company, KGL. The President's directive was based on our revelations on the said contract.

We have always been and will remain committed to supporting every credible investigative process prompted by our journalistic reporting, to help improve systems, and enhance accountability and service delivery for the people of Ghana.

Ordinarily, therefore, we would have had no hesitation in attending to your Committee to provide any explanation that may be required from our work. On the contrary, we would have been extremely happy to do so.

However, we have deep concerns about the composition of the Committee and other issues as outlined below, among others:

1. Some members of the Committee are heads of health facilities or heads of departments within health facilities where similar unethical and exploitative practices have been occurring. Indeed, since our publications, we continue to receive evidence of such practices from patients of major hospitals across the country. We do not think it is appropriate for persons from facilities where such issues have been occurring to investigate such issues within their own facilities. This situation creates both actual and perceived conflicts of interest and raises serious concerns about the Committee's independence and its ability to conduct an impartial inquiry. For victims, whistleblowers, and the wider public, this significantly undermines confidence in the process.
2. At the heart of the issues raised in our publications are practices by some doctors that are deemed unethical and exploitative. Curiously, your Committee does not include a nominee or representative from the Ghana Medical and Dental Council, the regulatory body that is mandated by law to oversee adherence to professional standards and practices among Doctors in Ghana. Why would any credible investigative process to enquire into allegations of unethical practices among Doctors in Ghana not involve the body mandated to oversee and ensure professional conduct among doctors in Ghana?
3. Another major issue raised in our investigative report is how patients are referred to various pharmacies to procure items, often at inflated costs. The patients are often not given the items paid for, but are promised that they will be delivered directly to the hospitals. Again, despite this significant issue of the involvement of pharmacies, your Committee did not include a nominee or representative from the Pharmacy Council of Ghana, the body that is mandated by law to oversee the professional conduct of pharmacists.
4. Since our publications, we continue to receive several credible reports with evidence of similar practices in other facilities across the country. We are actively continuing our investigations and will soon be revealing more.
5. Our investigations indicate that the issues exposed are widespread and systemic. The extent and gravity of the issues and the implications on healthcare delivery are such that they cannot be comprehensively investigated within the short period of time which your Committee is expected to conclude its work.

Given the above reasons, among others, we hold the view that the Committee may come to a conclusion that may fall short of addressing the issues comprehensively and risk regurgitating concerns that the hospitals lack implants and doctors desperately trying to save lives, as required of them, are left with no choice but to refer their patients to where they can find such items.

Based on the above concerns and additional pieces of evidence being made available to us on a daily basis, we have decided to formally submit a petition with our evidence to the Office of the Special Prosecutor and other statutory investigative bodies.

On the basis of this, we wish to respectfully state that we are unable to attend to your Committee.

As we have always demonstrated, the MFWA remains fully committed to pursuing public interest through investigative journalism and will always fully cooperate with and support credible, independent accountability processes of the state.

Thank you very much for the honour of inviting us.

Yours Sincerely



Sulemana Braimah
Executive Director

Cc:

Honourable Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Chief Director, Ministry of Health
Chairman, Investigation Committee