

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE  
VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY ON THE OCCASION OF SIGNING THE M.O.U.  
FOR ABB-VRA TRAINING COLLABORATION AGREEMENT HELD ON  
MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017, AT THE ELECTRO VOLTA CONFERENCE HALL,  
VRA HEADOFFICE, ACCRA, AT 2.00 P.M.**

**THE SWISS AMBASSADOR, HIS EXCELLENCY, MARKUS DUTLY  
MANAGING DIRECTOR AND OFFICIALS OF ABB-GH  
CHAIRMAN, SWISS-GHANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SWISS-GHANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GRIDCO  
MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEDCO  
GENERAL MANAGER, CENPOWER  
PRESIDENT, SOCIETY OF VRA ENGINEERS  
OPERATIONS MANAGER, TICO  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GHANA EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION  
DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

It is my greatest pleasure to deliver the keynote address on this occasion of signing the Training Collaboration Agreement between the Volta River Authority and the ABB of Switzerland, the first of its kind in the history of this Authority.

I am particularly delighted to state that the agreement we are witnessing today is a novelty and another significant milestone in the partnerships that have existed between the VRA and the ABB, for decades, as this aims at transferring technical capabilities and expertise to the VRA Academy, and by extension to Ghana's largest power utility.

Collaborating with ABB, a leading power and automation technology group in the field of "Power and Automation" is critical to our quest to become the ***Model of Excellence for Power Utilities in Africa***. We therefore want to assure our partners of our commitment to ensuring that this agreement is followed through to the mutual benefit of our organizations.

As we speak, the maiden training programme has been launched at the VRA Academy at Akuse, in the Eastern Region of Ghana, and is currently ongoing.

I have no doubt in my mind that by the end of this initial two-year agreement, we would have succeeded in making the VRA Academy the preferred technical training institution for power utilities in the sub-region.

This will serve as the platform for acquiring state-of-the-art knowledge and skills in power and automation technologies by critical staff in the industry.

As we formally sign this document to establish the new strategic partnership between our organisations, I look forward to fully exploring the opportunities that this new relationship with ABB will offer. This is because our partnership now goes beyond purchasing and supply of goods and services; to breaking new frontiers in research, manufacturing, consultancy and improved productivity and performance, to the mutual benefit of our two organizations.

**Thank you.**