



CONFERENCE INFORMATION PACKAGE

5th AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE – ACTION 2021

One Health, One Welfare – For a Better and Greener Tomorrow

Accra International Conference Centre (AICC),

Accra, Ghana

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THE AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE (AAWC)

Introduction

Lauded as the first and largest animal welfare conference in Africa, AAWC is an annual conference that brings together representatives of animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation organizations, NGOs, government officials and government-affiliated institutions, academics, researchers, media, policy makers, legal practitioners, community members, interest groups, development practitioners to discuss, explain and discern current issues affecting the sector. Issues are presented and plans are solidified in resolutions that are enacted over the next year. The conference observes the OIE Animal Welfare Standards, Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare and the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa as guidelines in discussions in installing policies, informing legislation and in decision making at workshops and conferences.





Conference Objectives

1. To assess the implications of COVID-19 pandemic and future zoonoses on human health, animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation and their threat to attainment of sustainable development.
2. To illustrate the progress in harnessing the link between animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation, human and animal health and sustainable development in Africa.
3. To establish a focused and well-informed caucus of animal welfare practitioners and stakeholders who are cognizant of prevailing developments in all aspects of this sector.
4. To assess the role of using natural solutions in achieving our desires for food security and tackling the challenges of development in Africa.
5. To illustrate progress towards mainstreaming Animal Welfare in the United Nations and Member States across Africa and championing the gains realized through the African Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW).
6. To establish the role of governments, individuals, organizations, and communities in achieving responsible use of animals, improving animal welfare, and supporting environmental conservation in Africa.

The 5th Africa Animal Welfare Conference – Action 2021

A greater focus on zoonoses is emphasized as not only necessary but critical at the time of the widespread Covid-19 pandemic. Themed One Health, One Welfare-For A Better and Greener Tomorrow, this conference will look into the increased use of antibiotics to mitigate animal health challenges as a hazard due to the emerging incidence of anti-microbial resistance. This affects and impacts negatively on human and environmental health. The rapid population increase in Africa has also put pressure on natural resources, endangering it through encroachment, pollution, and rapid infrastructural





development in protected and non-protected areas. This chain of events has led to human-wildlife conflicts and bush meat trade among other threats.

The conference aims to achieve enhanced sensitization, commitments and implementation by government and stakeholders, stronger support for animal welfare across Africa that will eventually result to a fresh resolve and commitment to pursue the implementation of the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa, the adoption of animal welfare as a thematic area of the United Nations, and build lasting and satisfactory collaborations, partnerships, and other engagements.

Topics of Focus

1. One Health, One Welfare as a Solution to Pandemics and Other Public Health Issues.
2. Environmental Health, Climate Change and Human Animal welfare: The Interlink?
3. The Interplay between Wildlife and Livestock Trade, One Health, One Welfare.
4. Animal and Environmental Law, Advocacy and Campaigns.
5. Trends in Education, Training, Research, and Innovation.
6. Animal Welfare and Sustainable Development.
7. Social Behavior Change.

ABOUT GHANA



Ghana is situated in West Africa in the coast of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bordered by Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Togo. Ghana is one of the eight countries that has the Prime Meridian passing through it.

Ghana is made up of 16 regions. It is one of the leading countries in Africa because of its considerable wealth.





Population Size

- 30.8 million inhabitants

Population

- 50% - Ashanti
- 17% - Dagbani/Mole
- 14% - Ewe
- 17% - Others (Ga, Gurma, Guan, Bissa)
- 2% - Non-African; White

Religion

- 75% - Christian
- 10% - Muslim
- 5% - Other religions

Currency

- Ghana Cedis

1 USD = 6.08 Ghanaian Cedi



National Animal

- The Golden Tawny Eagle

Transport

- Ghana's transportation and communications networks are centered in the southern regions, especially the areas in which gold, cocoa, and timber are produced. The northern and central areas are connected through a major road system.
- Two of the largest airports in Ghana are Accra Kotoka International Airport and Kumasi International Airport.
- People drive on the right side of the road
- There is a Ghanaian Bus Rapid Transit, known as Metro mass Transit L.T.D, and a Taxicab system connecting the Ghanaian big cities among themselves, and a





Minibuses system, known as *Tro Tro*, connecting big cities with the country's rural areas and small towns.

Weather

In Accra, the wet season is mostly cloudy, the dry season is partly cloudy, and it is hot all year round. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 74°F to 91°F and is rarely below 73°F or above 93°F.

Based on the beach/pool score, the best times of year to visit Accra for hot-weather activities are from early July to late September and from late December to mid-January.

History

Ghana takes its name from a great medieval trading empire located North-West of the country today until its fall in the 13th century. In the 15th century the country traded with the Portuguese, Dutch, British, and other Europeans whose forts and castles can be seen today along Ghana's coast. The ancient infrastructure was used to protect their trade interests. For a time, the country bore the name, 'Gold Coast', as Gold was readily available as the central commodity for trade, which later shifted to slave trade in the 17th Century.

Governance

Ghana was the first country in the South of the Sahara to achieve independence from European colonial rule. Consisting primarily of The Gold Coast, Ghana gained independence on March 6, 1957. The drive to independence was led by nationalist and Pan African leader Kwame Nkrumah. Nkrumah viewed Ghana's sovereignty as being important not only for the Ghanaian people but for all of Africa, saying "Our independence is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of the African continent." Indeed, more than 30 other African countries, spurred by Ghana's example, followed suit, and declared their own independence within the next decade.

Ghana is a constitutional republic. The country is a beacon of democracy in Africa. It is one of the most democratic, transparent, and stable nations in the continent. The country takes pride in their regional kings who act more like figure heads, and they hold a high position of influence in society. One of the





most notable and powerful kings is Ahantahene Nana Otumfao Osei Tutu II who rules over Ashantiland.

Biodiversity in Ghana

Ghana has six ecological zones: Sudan Savannah, Guinea Savannah, Coastal Savannah, Forest/Savannah transitional zone, Deciduous Forest zone and the Rain Forest, zone. Total annual rainfall ranges from 780 mm in the dry eastern coastal belt to 2,200 mm in the wet southwest corner of the country. It is known for its lush forests and diverse animal life. It is home to elephants, hippos, baboons, crocodiles and its national animal, The Golden Tawny Eagle. This bird was chosen as a symbol of protection by strength.

Ghana is home to tropical high forests and savannahs. There are a total of 3,600 species of flora in the country representing the three major taxonomic groups. There is only one known gymnosperm, the West African cycad (*Encephalartos barteri*), which is indigenous to Ghana. Current records reveal that there could be as many as 221 species of amphibians and reptiles, 728 species of birds (15 species of waterbirds occur in internationally important numbers) and 225 mammalian species.

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS ON ARRIVAL IN GHANA

Ghana reopened to international flights in September 2020. Accra Kotoka International Airport is open for regular international passenger travel. Ghana's land and sea borders remain closed until further notice. As you head to Ghana to attend the Africa Animal Welfare Conference, there are key points of information that you need to be aware of:

SUMMARY

On arrival to Ghana, passengers are also required by the Government of Ghana to:

- Complete an [online health declaration form](#) pre-departure. All passengers may also be asked to complete hard copy self-declaration forms on the flight, confirming they are fit to travel and providing details to facilitate contact tracing.
- Wear a facemask throughout their flight and upon landing in Accra.



- COVID-19 protocols at the airport may be subject to change as the new screening process evolves. See the guidance from the [Ghana Civil Aviation Authority](#).
- All visitors are now allowed into Ghana via Accra, as long as they have a negative test and undertake a second test on arrival at Kotoka International Airport. **All visitors must have proof of a negative test and take a further test on arrival.** A Covid test within 72 hours of arrival in Ghana is needed
- Those already vaccinated need to take the Covid tests both in Nairobi and Ghana. Vaccination certificate is not required.
- For Kenyans, a mandatory Covid test must be paid for before departure. The test is USD 150 per person and should be paid through this link using a credit card <https://www.myfrontierhealthcare.com/home/ghana>. The payment receipts should be presented upon arrival in Ghana and have a mandatory Covid test (despite the one received in Nairobi). For those in other countries,





please check information on the Covid - 19 requirements in your respective country.

- This costs \$50 per passenger for Ghanaians and citizens of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and \$150 for everyone else, with results available within 30 minutes. Payment must be made online prior to boarding the flight to Ghana.
- In April, Ghana began digital verification of Covid-19 test results, to combat the circulation of fake results.
- Anyone testing positive on arrival will immediately be transferred to hospital for further assessment. Non-residents required to isolate in a government health facility must do so at their own cost, while for Ghanaians the cost will be covered by the state.
- All passengers must complete an online health declaration form and may be asked to do so again on board before landing. Please see the link below to a form that needs to be fill in before arrival in Accra. <https://www.ghs-hdf.org/hdf/fill.php?l=en>

Transit Restrictions

- Passengers are not permitted to transit through Ghana for more than one calendar day.

Form Requirements

- All passengers must submit a completed Health Declaration Form online prior to departure [here](#). No paper copies are permitted.

Test Requirements

- Passengers must hold a negative RT-PCR digital test certificate obtained within 72 hours prior to arrival. Digital test certificates must be based on the [African Union's Trusted Travel Guidelines](#) and the United Nations Development





Programme sponsored [Global Haven](#) Program. Passengers entering or transiting through Ghana from countries not yet part of the Trusted Travel initiative should use Global Haven for Covid-19 test results.

- This does not apply to Ghanaian residents who have departed Ghana and return within 1 week.

Quarantine and Testing on Arrival

- Passengers will be subject to temperature screening and a Covid-19 test on arrival. Passengers must present proof of payment (receipt) before boarding for the test on arrival. Payments must be made online [here](#). Passengers who receive a positive test result must quarantine for 7 days and will receive treatment at a designated health facility or isolation center.
 - Passengers aged under 5 years, passengers in transit and air crew members will not be required to take the test on arrival.
- Ghanaian residents who have departed Ghana and return within 1 week will not be required to hold a negative test result prior to departure but will be subject to Covid-19 testing on arrival.
- Nationals of Ghana who are not holding a negative test result must quarantine for 14 days on arrival.

Exit Restrictions

- Passengers departing Ghana will be subject to screening prior to departure. Passengers whose body temperature is above 38°C may not be allowed to travel.
- Only test results or test certificates bearing Trusted Travel or Biomars codes will be considered as valid for departure from Ghana. Passengers departing Ghana with a negative Covid-19 test result will not be permitted to travel if their test results do not include Trusted Travel or Biomars codes.

The Ministry of Health has mandated the use of facemasks in public. The police are enforcing this directive.





Restaurants are operating with appropriate social distancing precautions. Concerts, theatrical performances, and parties are banned. Large sporting events, political rallies, and festivals are suspended until further notice. Nightclubs, bars, beaches, and cinemas also remain closed until further notice. Religious services may operate at full capacity for up to two hours per service.

Useful Links

[Ghana Health Service](#)

[Ministry of Health declaration form](#)

VISA POLICY FOR GHANA

The visa policy of Ghana determines the requirements and restrictions for nationals of all other countries who are planning a trip to Ghana.

Ghana visa law states that there are a few different types of visa that allow travelers to enter the country. The type of visa a visitor to Ghana needs will depend on their nationality, the amount of time they intend to spend, and the purpose of the visit.

Citizens of the majority of countries in Africa, as well as some Caribbean territories, can travel to Ghana without a visa or with a visa on arrival, which may be obtained from a border entry checkpoint in the country.

The period of time a visa-exempt foreign citizen can spend in the country depends on their nationality and ranges from 60 to 90 days.

At the moment, citizens from almost every country outside of Africa must apply for a visa at the nearest Ghanaian diplomatic mission before departure, which will allow them





different lengths of stay and purposes depending on their needs. An embassy travel document may be issued as either a tourist visa, work visa, student visa, or business visa, among others.

The Ghanaian government has also announced the upcoming launch of the Ghana eVisa,, an electronic visa which will expedite the application protocol and remove the need to obtain a visa from an embassy or consulate.

Once implemented, eligible citizens will be able to obtain this new type of visa by completing an online application form., to receive an approved eVisa for Ghana sent by email.

Tourist Visa Policy for Ghana

- The tourist visa policy of Ghana states that the majority of foreign nationals are required to apply for a visa to visit the country for tourism purposes.
- There are currently only around 20 countries who can travel to Ghana visa-free for tourism, the majority located in Western Africa. Please find out if your country is on the list.
- All other foreign citizens planning to travel to Ghana for tourism purposes are required to obtain an approved tourist visa to do so, either a consular visa or a visa on arrival.
- Over 30 African nationalities are able to travel to Ghana and apply for a visa on arrival at an immigration checkpoint, which will grant them a short length of stay for tourism.





- However, the Ghana visa on arrival application process often involves waiting in long lines to receive a form to complete from an immigration officer.
- At the moment, nationals of around 190 countries are required to obtain a tourist visa before arrival in Ghana. This visa must be applied for in person at the nearest embassy or consulate of Ghana.
- However, it is expected that the Ghanaian government will soon implement an online tourist visa application, for which some of the embassy visa or visa on arrival eligible countries may be able to apply. This will greatly expedite the process of obtaining a visa for tourism for Ghana.

Visa on Arrival

- The visa on arrival is a type of visa that travelers from over 30 African Union countries can obtain once they arrive in Ghana at a designated immigration checkpoint.
- This travel authorization allows holders to spend up to 30 days in Ghana for tourism or business purposes.
- Once eligible citizens arrive at a entry point of Ghana they will have to go directly to a border checkpoint to wait in line until an immigration officer hands them a visa on arrival form to complete. This application form must be filled in with personal, passport, and travel information.
- To receive an approved Ghana visa on arrival, the applicant will also have to pay a visa on arrival fee after completing the form.





- Visitors are advised that the process of obtaining a visa on arrival can involve standing in long queues and a significant amount of waiting time.
- Visa on arrival citizens who wish to visit Ghana for more than 30 consecutive days are required to apply for a Ghanaian embassy visa.

Check the list below to find out if your nationality is eligible for a visa on arrival according to the visa law of Ghana.

Visa on Arrival: Country list

Algeria	Egypt	Rwanda Sao Tome and Principe
Angola	Equatorial Guinea	
Botswana	Eritrea	
Burundi	Ethiopia	Seychelles
Cameroon	Gabon	Somalia
Central African Republic	Lesotho	South Africa
Chad	Libya	South Sudan
Comoros	Madagascar	Sudan
Congo	Malawi	Tanzania
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritania	Tunisia
Djibouti	Mozambique	Uganda
	Namibia	Zambia

Visa Not Required

As determined by the government of Ghana, nationals of a select few countries can travel to, enter, and remain in the country visa-free for short stays.





Currently, there are approximately 20 countries, almost all of them in Africa, that are visa-exempt according to Ghanaian visa law.

Citizens of these countries are allowed to enter Ghana visa-free for tourism or business purposes by presenting a valid passport, for a stay of between 60 and 90 days depending on nationality.

However, if these same individuals with Ghana visa-exemption wish to visit for longer permitted lengths of stay, or for other purposes, it is necessary to obtain an embassy visa from their nearest government office of Ghana.

Please note that visitors holding a Dual Nationality Card issued by Ghana do not need to obtain a visa in advance, but they are required to obtain a pre-arranged visa on arrival.

Browse the list below to see if your nationality is visa not required for Ghana.

Visa Not Required: Country list

Benin	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Liberia	Singapore
Cape Verde	Mali	Swaziland
Gambia	Mauritius	Togo
Guinea	Niger	Trinidad and Tobago
Guinea-Bissau	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
Ivory Coast	Senegal	





Further information on Embassy or Consular Visa Required can be found here <https://www.onlinevisa.com/visa-policy/ghana/> The highlighted information above is found here.

PLACES TO VISIT IN GHANA

Busua Beach





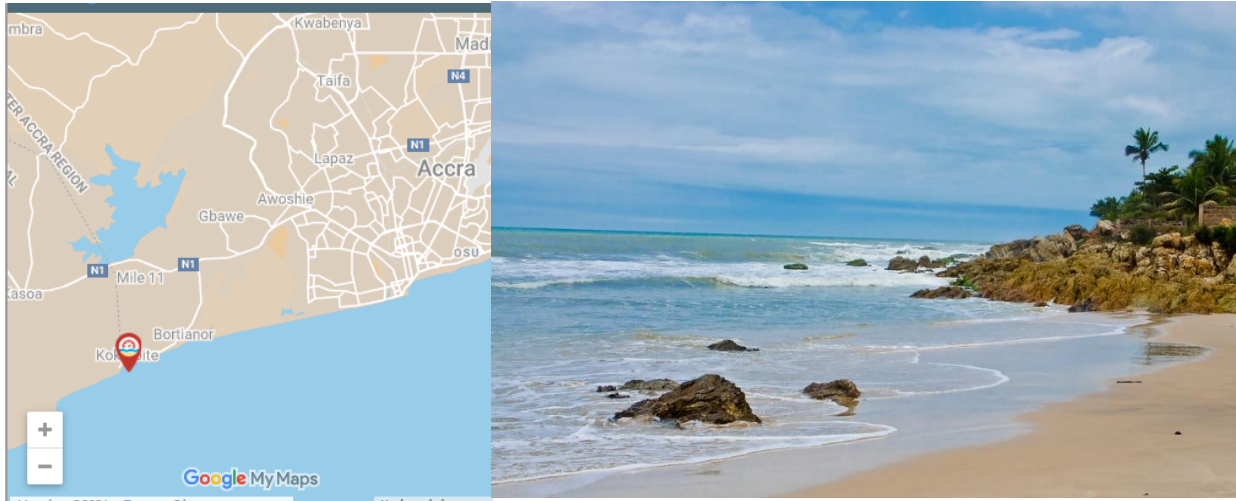
Busua Beach is located in the Ahanta West District of the Western Region in Ghana, about 30 kilometers west of the regional capital, Sekondi-Takoradi in the Gulf of Guinea. Flanked on the west by the Busua Lagoon, the beach is generally regarded to offer some of the safest swimming in the country, though (as with anywhere along the Ghanaian coastline) tides and currents can be unpredictable, so take local advice before you swim, and don't venture out deeper than the locals do. While facilities are generally geared towards low-spending volunteers and backpackers, Busua does also cater to a more upmarket crowd, with the Busua Beach Resort in particular being a popular weekend retreat for expats associated with the mining industries in Tarkwa and Takoradi.

Busua is the traditional seat of the Ahantamanhene, paramount chief of the historically important Ahanta Kingdom, which made its first recorded appearance on a map drawn by an anonymous Dutch sailor in 1629 and extends over most of the coastal belt between Shama and Essiama.





Kokrobite Beach



Kokrobite is located 30km (19mi) west of Accra. Kokrobite is a town along the Atlantic coast, 30 km (19 mi) to the west of Accra the capital city of Ghana.[1] It is known for traditional sea fishing, its white-sand beaches and its lively nightlife. Kokrobite is a popular destination for tourists, backpackers and international volunteers seeking beaches and a break from the busy capital city.

Kokrobite is a beach on the Ghanaian Coastal Plain. Kokrobite Beach feels as if it is a world away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. It's an ideal place to spend a few days relaxing while soaking in the view of this tropical beach.

Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Wildlife Sanctuary

The sanctuary is located in the Nkoranza North District of Bono East Region. Boabeng Fiema monkey sanctuary is the famous example of traditional conservation of Forest with wide varieties of tree species engulf with birds and other animals, this is the place where two different species of monkeys, regarded as sacred happily live, eat and share their peace of minds with human beings.

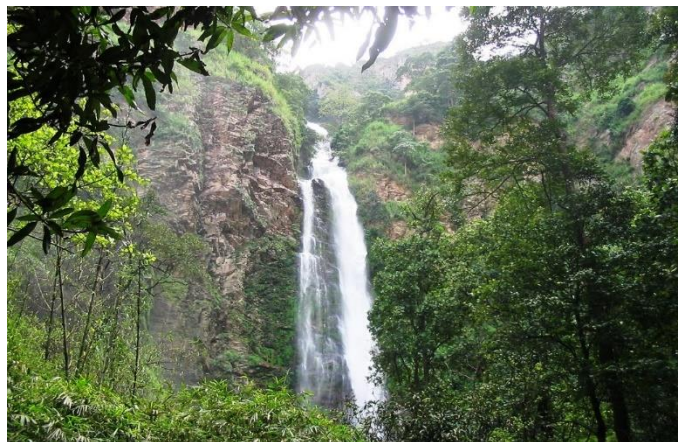




Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Wildlife Sanctuary is found at Boaben and Fiema, twin communities 22 kilometers away from the Nkoranza North District of the Bono East region, Ghana. The 4.4-kilometer square (km²) forest, believed to have been created in the 1970s, houses many trees, birds, reptiles, deer and monkeys, two of which are the Geoffery's Pied Colobus and Campbell Mona monkey.

Wli Waterfalls

The Wli falls (pronounced 'vlee') The Wli waterfalls is the highest waterfall in West Africa located in Ghana. The falls is known locally as Agoomatsa waterfalls - meaning, "Allow Me to Flow." It is located in the Hohoe municipality of the Volta Region, the land of the Ewe culture. It is a well-known and beautiful tourist site near the village of Wli in the Hohoe municipality of the Volta Region. It lies approximately 280 kilometers from the capital Accra and houses the Agumatsa Wildlife Sanctuary. This sanctuary accommodates more than 200 bird species and 400 butterfly species.



Visitors can hike through the lower falls with a tour guide. It is a fairly relaxing walk which crosses 2 rivers 8 times on bridges. Visitors additionally have the option to climb the fairly challenging steep hills, along the upper path of the falls. The destination





houses shrines of lesser gods believed to have brought ancestors to the village from Togo. Tour guides explain the full history and places of interest in the village.

Lake Bosomtwe

Lake Bosomtwe is the only true inland lake in the country located in the Ashanti region. It is an awesome place to relax and enjoy nature. The lake has no surface outlet and was formed in a meteorite impact crater with an area of 19 square miles (49 square km) and a depth of 230–240 feet (70–73 meters). The lake is surrounded by lush mountains and fed by small streams that tumble down the crater's steep sides (500–1,400 feet [150–425 meters] above water level).



Situated in the Ashanti region of Ghana, Lake Bosomtwe is one of six UNESCO designated biosphere reserve sites. It is one of three of such internationally recognized sites in the country – Bia in the Western, and Songhor in Greater Accra Region.

Umbrella Rock

The Umbrella Rock is a rock found at the site of the Boti Falls in Yilo Krobo District, Ghana. As the name implies, the overhang on the top is large enough to cover 12 to 15 people at once. Even though the pivot on which the top rock lies on might seem small, it's very strong. Yearly, many tourists travel to Boti Falls for its natural beauty, and the umbrella rock is visible through much of the trek to the falls.





Lake Volta

Lake Volta dominates the territory of the West African state of Ghana. Formed by the construction of the Akosombo Dam over the River Volta in the mid-1960s, it has an area of 8 482 sq km. Lake Volta is used to generate electricity and provide inland transportation, and its waters are also used for irrigation and fishing.



The lake's creation involved the inundation of 15,000 homes and of 740 villages and the resettlement of 78,000 people. The lake is navigable and provides a cheap route linking Ghana's northern savanna with the coast. It also is a major fishing ground and provides irrigation water for farmland in the dry Accra Plains lying immediately below the damsite.





Independence Arch



Independence Square (also known as "Black Star Square") is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Ghana. It was built in 1961 and it contains monuments to Ghana's independence struggle, including the Independence Arch, Black Star Gate, and the Liberation Day Monument. The Independence Square is the second largest City Square in the world after the Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China. With a capacity of about 30,000 people, the Black Star Square is a site for Ghana's Independence Day parades which falls on the 6th of March every year and for all major national public gatherings and national festivals.





As of 2011, the Independence Arch is guarded by several soldiers who prohibit people of taking close up pictures of the Arch and asking visitors for official permission, but you are free to take pictures of the area. There is also a fascinating view of the Guinea Gulf.

CONTACTS

Africa Network for Animal Welfare

P.O. Box 3731 - 00506

Nairobi, Kenya

Tel : +254 (0)20 600 6510

Mobile - +254 (0) 727 23 4447

Email - info@aawconference.org

Key Contact Persons

Josphat Ngonyo: +254 (0)722 243 091

Josiah Ojwang': +254 (0)733 832619

Edith Pendo: +254 (0)717 798073

In Ghana

David Nyoagbe: +233 244254186

