

**Quarterly
Bulletin:
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***“Building
for
Posterity”***

The inaugural breakfast event of the Kingdom Business and Professionals' Forum took place on April 2024 at the Kairos Hall of Action Chapel International (ACI) Prayer Cathedral, Accra. It was a landmark event that brought together faith and business and government leaders committed to transformational and sustained growth by leveraging emerging opportunities while managing risks in today's business world. In total, over 500 participants attended the event in person from 8:00 am through 1:00 pm, which streamed live on ACI's social media channels and broadcast subsequently on Dominion Television, a pan-African Christian Lifestyle Network which broadcasts in 48 African countries.

The event kicked off with opening remarks from His Eminence Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams. He admonished participants to be mindful of the importance of partnerships, building capacity for blessing, being mindful of humanity and building for kingdom, and not for self.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Seun Salami (CFO, Nuveen Asset Mgt., USA) on "The Future of Business". The Nigerian-American global finance expert and fund manager highlighted the vital components for success in business and leadership in a thought-provoking delivery. He emphasized the need to know oneself, improve upon oneself, make use of diverse resources of people and opportunities available, building relationships for impact, all for the ultimate goal of humanity.

Next was a truly insightful address by Mr. Moses Baiden (Jnr.), (CEO, Margins Group) on "Navigating Tough Economic Times". The highly experienced and time-tested Ghanaian entrepreneur, shared perspectives on how professionals and businesses can purposely chart robust paths of growth and resilience even in challenging economic times. Words will fail to encapsulate the wealth of wisdom dispensed in this session, however, a few take-aways from his speech are captured below.

Then followed two animated panels on "Accessing Capital" and "Starting and Growing SMEs in Ghana: Challenges & Opportunities" moderated by Mr. Jude Addo (CEO, JA Group) and Mrs. Zena Eyeson (Senior Trader- Fixed Income, Currencies, & Commodities, Ecobank Ghana PLC) respectively. The two panels brought to the fore critical issues affecting business start-ups, growth, and resilience, including incorporation of businesses, access to finance, taxation, leveraging technology, building climate-smart businesses, among others. Panelists included Mrs. Jemima Oware (Registrar, Office of the Registrar of Companies), Mr. Martyn Mensah (International Management Consultant and Entrepreneur), Mrs. Abena Osei-Poku (Managing Director Ecobank Ghana PLC, and Regional Executive for Anglophone West Africa, Ecobank Group), Mr. David Ganesha Tetteh (Senior Consultant, Ghana Investment Support Program), Mr. Kwabena Owusu-Adjei (Chief Investment Officer, Third Way Capital), Mrs. Kosi Yankey-Ayeh (CEO, Ghana Enterprises Agency), Mr. Ebenezer Arthur (CEO, Wangara Green Ventures Fund), Mrs. Ayesha Bedwei Ibe (Director, Global Tax and Legal Services Leader, Tax Leader, PWC Ghana), and Mr. Samuel Amanor (Fintech & Innovation Founder).

Lady Rosa Whitaker Duncan-Williams closed the event with inspiring remarks that underscored the critical importance of the 3 Cs – the core values of Character, Courage, and Capacity – in building for posterity.

The depth and wealth of wisdom and experience shared by the speakers and panelists put the event at par with an ivy-league master class, as one participant put it.

Quotable Quotes!

"Be deliberate about this as long as you live; understanding and realizing that the reason for your being and why you are blessed and the reason you are here is always because of others, and until we find that kind of thinking and mentality in our Christian community and government circles, God have mercy on us". – Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams.

"Blessings can overwhelm you and you can turn your blessing into a curse if you don't understand the reason for it. Blessings have implications." – Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams.

"Productivity and capacity are not built overnight". If demography and productivity come together over the next two decades, Ghana will advance from good to great fueled by enterprises, innovation and an economy that is built to last." – Lady Rosa Whitaker Duncan-Williams.

"Know thyself and enhance thyself – As leaders, we need to know that there are people at the other side of the decisions we make whether small or large. We need to be mindful of that!" Seun Salami

"When you wake up, think of what you can do for others and how you can be of value to others. That way your political capital will be deep when you need to fall on it" – Seun Salami

"Making change on a large scale requires access to capital, technology, and relationships. You only need the access not necessarily the skills" – Seun Salami.

"In this world, there are thinkers and there are doers and there are hybrids. Part of trying to solve large scale problems is to identify what the problem is, break it down into buckets to ensure execution, clearly identify what we are trying to optimize, put milestones around it and identify the right teammates; strategy with strategists and execution with exclusionists.

"Know your team. This way, you get things done!" – Seun Salami.

"One thing about business is that everything is possible if you think hard enough about it, understand the elements, have a mindset of solving problems and build the knowledge in order to navigate every environment... Always start by saying that everything is possible."- Moses Baiden Jnr.

"In tough economic times, character is important, values are important, ethics are important, and passion is important." - Moses Baiden Jnr.

"Business is a science, but it also has ethics. This is the connection between our Christian principles and business practices.... we need to understand the rules of both" - Moses Baiden Jnr.

"In adverse times, you pick good mentors who have been down the road. They can save you time and they can save you from making mistakes.... People who know where they are going will make your life easy in tough times and save you a lot of time." - Moses Baiden Jnr.

"In tough economic times we must be true to our vision, be true to our faith, be true to our passion, acquire international knowledge and build teams that allow us to navigate these times and produce products, solutions and services that are at a global level. We must learn, scale, connect and network among other people to produce at the highest level and not just at a local level ... these are all Biblical principles". - Moses Baiden Jnr.

The way to improve lending rates in the economy will be to "improve the fundamentals in the economy", "deliberate policy initiatives", "strengthening the credit reference bureaus", "leveraging partnerships schemes", and targeted schemes by government." – Mrs. Abena Osei-Poku

"If you are waiting for everything to line up before you start your business you never will! Innovate within the constraints of what you have" - Mr. Martyn Mensah

"Your need should not precede your proposition. Your mindset when approaching a fund for financing should be that of value proposition" – Mr. Martyn Mensah

"The people who give money look for those who can execute. Your business might be a start-up but your ability to execute is key to accessing capital" – Mr. David Ganesha Tetteh

"Money is power, and power must be intentional about empowering"- Mr. Kwabena Owusu-Adjei

"Registering a company is serious business and one must consider the right kind of business to register. Get a professional to help" – Mrs. Jemima Oware.

"As a business owner, you need to understand the basics of finance and accounting. For lack of knowledge people perish. As a business owner, ask for help and be ready to do the work" – Mrs. Ayesha Bedwei Ibe.

"Mindset is key in building transgenerational business..If we are going to take territories, we need Kingdom businesses." – Mrs. Kosi Ayeh-Yankey

"Innovate or die". "The Bible is full of Christ intelligence, if when applied to business can sky rock" – Mr. Sam Amanor

"Green attracts willing capital" – Mr. Ebenezer Arthur.

"Together, we can make a difference with Kingdom Business Forum" - Sheila Azuntaba – Member, Interim Executive Council

"Everything is possible if you put your mind to it". Elsie Addo Awadzi – Chair. Interim Executive Council

We hope you found this newsletter helpful. Follow our website for future editions of our newsletters and notice of upcoming events.

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is a non-denominational, non-political network of Christ-minded entrepreneurs, professionals, leaders, and emerging leaders connected by a common commitment to personal, professional, and business excellence and growth. Under the distinguished patronage of Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams and Lady Rosa Whitaker Duncan-Williams, the Forum seeks to build a strong and dynamic business and professional community that empowers and supports them to create sustainable inter-generational wealth and value, and through that be able to better support the work of God's Kingdom and impact society.

