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- 40 Registrar
HIGH COURT
ACCRA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF JUDICATURE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
(CRIMINAL DIVISION)
GREATER ACCRA REGION
ACCRA- A.D. 2025

Case No. CR/0407/2025

THE REPUBLIC

V.

- 1 CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN
ONUAWONTO BISSUE
- 2 2 ANDY THOMAS OWUSU

=====

CHARGE SHEET

=====

COUNT ONE

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(a) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 22 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), corruptly abused your office for private profit or benefit by receiving for yourself an amount of Fifteen Thousand cedis (GH¢15,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, through one ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal



of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT TWO

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(a) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 30 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), corruptly abused your office for private profit or benefit by receiving for yourself an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GHC10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT THREE

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(a) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 8 February 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), corruptly abused your office for private profit or benefit by receiving for yourself an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GHC10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, through one ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification



of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT FOUR

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(b) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 22 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, not being a public officer, acted in collaboration with **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE**, who was holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the said **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE** to corruptly abuse his office for private profit or benefit, by receiving the sum of Fifteen Thousand cedis (GHS15,000.00) for himself from one **BENJAMIN ADJAPONG** through you and by your facilitation, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT FIVE

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(b) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 30 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, not being a public officer, acted in collaboration with **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE**, who was holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the said **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE** to corruptly abuse his office for private profit or benefit, by



receiving the sum of Ten Thousand cedis (GHS10,000.00) for himself from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT SIX

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PROFIT, contrary to section 179C(b) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 8 February 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, not being a public officer, acted in collaboration with **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE**, who was holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the said **CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE** to corruptly abuse his office for private profit or benefit, by receiving the sum of Ten Thousand cedis (GHS10,000.00) for himself from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT SEVEN

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION BY A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to sections 239(1) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).



PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 22 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), committed corruption by a public officer in respect of the duties of your office as a public officer, by directly and indirectly agreeing to permit your conduct to be influenced in the discharge of your duty by receiving a gift in the nature of an amount of Fifteen Thousand cedis (GHC15,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, through one ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT EIGHT

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION BY A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to sections 239(1) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 30 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), committed corruption by a public officer in respect of the duties of your office as a public officer, by directly and indirectly agreeing to permit your conduct to be influenced in the discharge of your duty by receiving a gift in the nature of an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GHC10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.



COUNT NINE

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION BY A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to sections 239(1) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, Fifty-Two (52) years, on or around 8 February 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, while holding public office as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), committed corruption by a public officer in respect of the duties of your office as a public officer, by directly and indirectly agreeing to permit your conduct to be influenced in the discharge of your duty by receiving a gift in the nature of an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GHC10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and by so doing, you unlawfully secured a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT TEN

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER, contrary to sections 239(2) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 22 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, committed corruption of a public officer by endeavouring, directly and indirectly, to influence the conduct of CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), by a gift in the nature of an amount of Fifteen Thousand cedis

6



(GHS15,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG through you and by your facilitation, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT ELEVEN

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER, contrary to sections 239(2) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 30 January 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, committed corruption of a public officer by endeavouring, directly and indirectly, to influence the conduct of CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), by a gift in the nature of an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GHS10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG through your facilitation and collaboration, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT TWELVE

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

CORRUPTION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER, contrary to sections 239(2) & (3) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 1 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).



PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 8 February 2019, at Accra in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, committed corruption of a public officer by endeavouring, directly and indirectly, to influence the conduct of CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), by a gift in the nature of an amount of Ten Thousand cedis (GH\$10,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG through your facilitation and collaboration, for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT THIRTEEN

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ACCEPTING BRIBE TO INFLUENCE A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to section 252(1) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 6 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 21 January 2019, in Kumasi in the Ashanti Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, accepted valuable consideration in the nature of an amount of Five Thousand cedis (GHC5,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG under the pretence of having unduly influenced and being able to influence CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.



COUNT FOURTEEN
STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ACCEPTING BRIBE TO INFLUENCE A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to section 252(1) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 6 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 30 January 2019, in Kumasi in the Ashanti Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, accepted valuable consideration in the nature of an amount of Five Thousand cedis (GHC5,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG under the pretence of having unduly influenced and being able to influence CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

COUNT FIFTEEN
STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

ACCEPTING BRIBE TO INFLUENCE A PUBLIC OFFICER contrary to section 252(1) of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) as amended by section 6 of the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034).

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

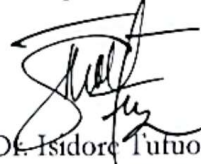
ANDY THOMAS OWUSU, Forty-Three (43) years, on or around 10 February 2019, in Kumasi in the Ashanti Region of the Republic of Ghana and within the jurisdiction of this Court, accepted valuable consideration in the nature of an amount of Five Thousand cedis (GHC5,000.00) from one BENJAMIN ADJAPONG under the pretence of having unduly influenced and being able to influence CHARLES CROMWELL NANABANYIN ONUAWONTO BISSUE, a public officer, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the then Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM), for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The*

9



Way Forward), 2018 in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

Dated at the Office of the Special Prosecutor, 6 Haile Selassie Avenue, South Ridge,
Accra, this Twenty-Eighth day of April 2025.



Dr. Isidore Tutuor
Director of Prosecutions
Office of the Special Prosecutor

The Registrar
High Court
(Criminal Division)
Accra

And copies for service on the Accused Persons.



FACTS TO BE ESTABLISHED

In March 2017, the President of the Republic established the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM) to tackle the scourge of illegal small-scale mining (*Galamsey*) which was devastating the country's land and water resources. The mandate of the Committee was, *inter alia*, to vet and verify registered artisanal and small-scale mining companies and to regularise any discrepancies where possible; and to sanitise and regularise small-scale mining activities in the various mining districts to ensure that miners worked within the legal framework. A Secretariat of the Committee was created on 28 December 2017 to coordinate its activities.

On 1 April 2017, a moratorium was instituted for a six-month suspension of artisanal and small-scale mining operations throughout the country. This was extended to nine (9) months. To enforce the ban, *Operation Vanguard*, made up of four hundred (400) persons drawn from the Ghana Armed Forces and the Ghana Police Service, was deployed on 31 July 2017 to endemic mining areas in the Eastern, Central, Ashanti and Western Regions.

The vetting and verification process of small-scale and artisanal mining entities was governed by established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward)*, 2018, which prescribed procedures for the verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions. Successfully vetted and verified entities were subsequently registered as artisanal and small-scale mining concerns and certified to resume their businesses. Details of the successfully vetted small-scale miners who were allowed to commence mining operations were published in national and private newspapers, on radio and television stations, and also on the IMCIM's official webpage.

On 10 January 2021, the President dissolved the IMCIM, following scandals and allegations of corruption and corruption-related activities levelled against some of its principal officers, including the First Accused – especially in respect of the seizure and management of excavators, machinery, road vehicles, and gold nuggets.

The evidence would establish that at all material times the First Accused was the Secretary of the IMCIM. While holding that public office the First Accused was the officer primarily responsible for the vetting and verification of small-scale and artisanal mining entities, which qualified successfully verified entities to resume mining activities. The evidence would establish that the First Accused, with the collaboration and



facilitation of the Second Accused, received for his personal profit and benefit a sum of Thirty-Five Thousand cedis (GHC35,000.00) from one Benjamin Adjapong for the purpose of circumventing established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation.

The evidence would further establish that the Second Accused received the sum of Fifteen Thousand cedis (GHC15,000.00) from one Benjamin Adjapong for the purpose of unduly influencing the First Accused, in respect of the discharge of his duties as the Secretary of the IMCIM, to circumvent established requirements of the IMCIM under its *Road Map for Lifting of Ban on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (The Way Forward), 2018* in respect of verification of documents, acquisition of relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of concessions, and vetting; and thereby unlawfully securing a fast-tracked renewal of an expired mining licence to ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation. And that the Second Accused carried out acts in furtherance of his representations to Benjamin Adjapong.

Benjamin Adjapong, in the course a of sting operation conducted by a private investigative company, Tiger Eye P.L., posed as an officer of ORR Resources Enterprise and approached the Second Accused with the design of securing a mining licence for ORR Resources Enterprise without valid documentation and verification regarding relevant permits, demarcation and mapping of the company's concession. The Second Accused represented that he was able and willing to unduly influence the First Accused, to circumvent the vetting and verification process in favour of ORR Resources Enterprise.

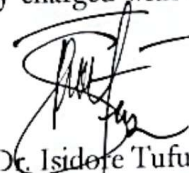
In furtherance of the criminal adventure, the Second Accused demanded from Benjamin Adjapong a fee of One Hundred Thousand cedis (GHC100,000.00) to be split evenly between the First and Second Accused. The fee was negotiated down to Forty Thousand cedis (GHC40,000.00) apiece. The First Accused received a total of Thirty-Five Thousand cedis (GHC35,000.00) while the Second Accused took a total of Fifteen Thousand cedis (GHC15,000.00).

As a result of the money paid by Benjamin Adjapong to the First and Second Accused under the criminal enterprise, the First Accused unlawfully secured for and issued ORR Resources Enterprise with a sticker and necessary permits signifying that ORR



Resources Enterprise had complied with all lawful requirements to commence mining activities.

After investigations, the accused persons were duly charged with the offences on the Charge Sheet.



Dr. Isidore Tufuor
Director of Prosecutions
Office of the Special Prosecutor

