



GHANA GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO RETURN MISSION SCHOOLS APPLAUDED

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ACCRA, GHANA -

The Catholic Bishops Conference of Ghana has applauded the plan of the government of the country to return mission schools to their original owners. The commendation was given recently in Kumasi, Ghana, by the Bishop Chairman of the Conference Commission for Education, Most Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie CSSp.

Bishop Kwofie who is the local ordinary for the Diocese of Sekondi-Takoradi declared: "We received the news of the government's intention to return Mission Schools with great joy. This has been the wish of many for so long." He added that "educating the population of a country is an immense duty that the State cannot do alone."

The Bishop continued: "I think returning the mission schools to their owners is a way of recognizing the contribution religious bodies have made and the purposes for which they founded mission schools." He added: "I think this is recognition by government that the religious bodies are able partners in the agenda of government for a better quality of education in our country."

Bishop Kwofie further stated: “When the Church calls for the return of the mission schools to their owners; we are saying that something has gone wrong in the collaboration between government and religious bodies in the handling of our schools. We are saying that mission schools were founded for goals and purposes that must be recognized and that things have to be done the right way so that the goals and purpose of which the schools were founded would be attained.”

The Christian Council of Ghana also lauded the government’s move but advocated that the government and the religious bodies convene a meeting to draw a road map towards releasing the schools.

It will be recalled that the Minister of Education, Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh, at a recent stakeholders meeting on education in Kumasi, Ghana, hinted that the government was in the process of returning the management and supervision of mission schools to religious institutions.