

Ghana Delegation



Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh, is the Minister for Energy and the Member of Parliament (MP) for the Manhyia South constituency in the Ashanti Region. He was born on May 23, 1968 in Kumasi, where he went on to have his primary, secondary and tertiary education. At the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), he obtained a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Human Biology in 1992 and a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MB,ChB) degree in 1995. After serving as a House Officer at the Okomfo Anokye Teaching Hospital from 1995 until 1997, Dr. Prempeh continued his education at the Erasmus University in The Netherlands, obtaining an M.Sc in Clinical Epidemiology in 1998. He proceeded to the United Kingdom to work, becoming a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow in 2002. He returned to Ghana in 2003 to pursue a career in business and politics. He is also a Harvard Scholar and an alumnus of the Harvard Ministerial Leadership Program.

Political Career: Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh ran for Parliament on the ticket of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) during the 2008 general election and won the mandate to represent the people of Manhyia. Subsequently, the constituency was divided into two and he went on to become Member of Parliament for the Manhyia South Constituency in 2012. He retained the seat at the 2016 elections and again at the 2020 elections. Following the victory of the NPP in the 2016 general elections, Dr. Prempeh was appointed by President Akufo-Addo as Minister for Education from 2017 to 2021. During his tenure, he successfully led the team at the Ministry to deliver on the flagship education programme of the government, the Free Senior High School programme, to wide admiration even from his political opponents. His team also delivered on curriculum reforms, teacher reforms and several initiatives to promote and mainstream Technical, Vocational Training and Education (TVET), among others. In the aftermath of the NPP's victory at the 2020 general elections, President Akufo-Addo nominated Dr. Prempeh to serve as Minister for Energy. He has since championed various major projects including the completion of rural electrification (currently 86%) by 2024; renegotiation of Power Agreements; the revamping of Ghana's cylinder manufacturing company and improvement of the cylinder recirculation model to meet Ghana's clean energy goals; the establishment of a petroleum hub; revision of local content legislation, improving the efficiency of electricity producers and distributors; and relieving the energy debt stock of Ghana through the Energy Sector Recovery Programme (ESRP). **Awards:** Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh was adjudged the best Minister in 2017 and 2019 and is the recipient of the 2020 Harvard Ministerial Medal of Achievement in recognition of his exemplary leadership style. He has also received 2 Honorary Doctorates from the University of Education, Winneba and the University for Professional Studies, Accra, for his leadership and achievements as Education Minister. He was also recently named in the top 25 Movers and Shakers in the Energy Sector by the African Energy Chamber.

Delegation Contacts	Name	Role	
	H.E. Matthew Opoku Prempeh	Minister	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
	Mrs. Wilhelmina Asamaoh	Chief Director	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
	Mr. Kwame Ntow Amoah	Director Petroleum	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
	Mr. Kwame Apiadu-Agyen Agyapong	Technical Assistant	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
	Mr. Benedict Kofi Abrefa Afena	Communications Officer	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
	Hon. Andrew Kofi Egyapa Mercer	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
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	Date	Time	Event	Location
	Sunday, September 17th		Arrival at YYC	YYC Airport
	Sunday, September 17th	16:00	Arrival at Mayors Reception	MacLeod Hall – Telus Convention Centre
	Sunday, September 17th	18:00	Arrival at Opening Ceremonies	Telus Convention Centre
	Monday, September 18th	13:30	Ministerial Roundtable – MRT1	Auditorium 1 – BMO Centre
	Monday, September 18th	17:30	Arrival at Ministerial Reception	Fairmont Palliser
	Monday, September 18th	17:45	White Hat Ceremony Minister Group Photo	Fairmont Palliser – Oval Room
	Monday, September 18th	18:00	Ministerial Reception Program Starts	Fairmont Palliser – Crystal Ballroom
	Tuesday, September 19th	17:15	Canada Night Event - Ticketed	Nutrien Western Event Centre
	Tuesday, September 19th	20:00	Arrive at Cirque de Soleil Event	Lot 6 – Stampede Park
	Wednesday, September 20th		Departure from YYC	YYC Airport
	Thursday, September 21st	14:45	Closing Ceremonies	Big 4 Main Hall A&B

Legend	
Common Event	
Country Specific Event	

Ministerial Round Table - MRT 1	
Date	Monday, September 18 th
Time	13:30 – 14:30
Location	Auditorium 1 – BMO Centre
Session Title	<i>What does the energy transition mean for your country?</i>

<p>Session Description</p>	<p><i>The energy transition refers to the process of shifting from reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and natural gas, to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources, such as renewables (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal) or by significantly reducing or eliminating the emissions associated with the use of fossil fuels. The transition is driven by the need to mitigate climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and move towards a low-carbon and environmentally sustainable energy system. For any country, the energy transition can have significant implications across various sectors.</i></p> <p><i>The specifics of the energy transition will vary depending on a country's existing energy infrastructure, natural resources, technological capabilities, political will, and societal priorities. Each country must tailor its energy transition strategy to suit its unique circumstances while keeping the global objective of sustainable energy in mind.</i></p>
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Protocol Tips: Ghana

As the liaison officer hosting the official delegation from Ghana, you will require cultural sensitivity and respect. Here are some key considerations to keep in mind:

Research and Preparation: You will find the biography of the leader of your delegation in this Handbook. Please feel free to research the delegation's background, including the individuals' positions and roles. Understanding their specific interests and objectives will help you tailor your interactions effectively.

Formal Greetings and Respect: Address delegation members using appropriate titles and honorifics, such as Mr. or Mrs./Ms. Handshakes are common in Ghanaian culture but wait for delegation members to initiate. Be mindful of physical contact between genders; follow their lead. Begin meetings with a warm welcome and expressions of gratitude for their visit.

Communication Styles: Practice active listening and engage in open and patient communication. Maintain good eye contact during conversations to convey respect and engagement. Use a friendly and open body language to create a welcoming atmosphere.

Hierarchy and Age: Ghanaian culture values hierarchy and age. Show respect for senior delegation members by acknowledging their status and age.

Dress Code: Dress professionally and modestly. Business attire is typically appropriate.

Dining and Hospitality: Given that meals such as the opening ceremonies are part of the program, inquire about any dietary restrictions or preferences within the delegation. While dietary inquiries were made as part of the delegate registration process the information provided may be incomplete. Be prepared to guide delegation to meal options wherever possible. Please note that in most cases these will be the vegetarian option.

Privacy Concerns: Always ask for permission before taking photographs, especially of delegation members, as privacy is important to Ghanaians.

Cultural Taboos: Avoid using your left hand for giving or receiving items, as it's considered less clean. Be cautious when discussing sensitive topics such as politics, ethnicity, and religion.

Language Tips

The official language of Ghana is English.