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Press Release

For Immediate Release:

IPPG Calls for Impartial Leadership in Ghana's DSTV Pricing Dispute



Minister of Communications, Digital Technology and Innovations, Hon. Samuel Nartey George

The International Perspective for Policy and Governance (IPPG) has released a new policy brief examining Ghana's ongoing dispute over DSTV subscription pricing, framing it as a critical test of fairness and credibility in regulatory governance.

The brief recognizes the clear legal authority of the Minister of Communications, Digital Technology and Innovations, Hon. Samuel Nartey George under Ghana's Consumer Protection Act and the Electronic Communications Act to intervene in the matter. However, it raises concerns that recent public statements by the Minister compromise perceptions of impartiality, making it difficult for him to credibly chair the stakeholder committee established to address the pricing issue.

"Our analysis is not about questioning the Minister's authority," said Dr. Eric Agyemang, policy expert at IPPG and author of the brief. "It is about ensuring that the process itself is seen as fair, balanced, and credible by all stakeholders. Ghana's reputation as a country that values good governance depends on it."

The brief points to repeated characterizations of DSTV pricing as “exploitative,” a premature announcement of price reductions that the company publicly denied, and threats to suspend MultiChoice operations as actions that create a reasonable perception of bias. Such perceptions, IPPG argues, risk undermining trust in the process and could set damaging precedents for Ghana’s investment climate.

To address this, IPPG recommends that the chairmanship of the stakeholder committee be delegated to the National Communications Authority, a senior Ministry official, or an independent expert. This approach would allow the Minister to retain strategic oversight and policy authority while ensuring that the process is managed by a neutral facilitator.

“Voluntary recusal would not signal weakness,” Dr. Agyemang added. “On the contrary, it would demonstrate leadership through strategic restraint, reassure investors, and strengthen Ghana’s commitment to consumer protection and good governance.”

The policy brief concludes that Ghana has an opportunity to transform a contentious dispute into a model of transparent and credible regulatory practice. By prioritizing process integrity, the government can protect consumer welfare while reinforcing Ghana’s reputation as a reliable destination for responsible investment.

The full policy brief, *Ensuring Fairness: Why Sam George Should Not Chair the DSTV Pricing Committee*, is available on the IPPG website; <https://www.ippgafrica.org/ensuring-fairness-why-sam-george-should-not-chair-the-dstv-pricing-committee/>.

About IPPG

The Institute for Policy and Governance (IPPG) is an independent think tank dedicated to promoting effective policy, governance, and development outcomes in Ghana and across Africa.

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For more information and interviews please contact:
Roselyn Buerki Plahar (Communications Coordinator)
r.buerkiplahar@ippgafrica.org