PRESS RELEASE ON PLEDGE TO PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ANDANIS AND ABUDUS OF NORTHERN REGION, GHANA

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) wishes to acknowledge and appreciate the pledge made by Chiefs of the Andani and Abudu Royal clans in Dagbon Traditional area of Northern region, Ghana to cease hostilities and resolve the protracted Yendi Skin dispute between them during their courtesy call on Bede Ziedeng, the Northern Regional Minister on May 2nd, 2013. This act of bravery in acknowledging the destructive consequences of conflict in their community and willingness to make amends is a welcome development and should be greatly encouraged.

Incessant conflict in the Northern region has had devastating effects on the lives and livelihoods of the community, where enormous human and material resources have been committed to ensure lasting peace. By this gesture, the leaders of Dagbon has underscored WANEP’s conviction that those who live in conflict communities understand its consequences more and are in better position to address and reconcile their differences. External actors can only support and encourage such community generated initiatives.

WANEP, as a leading peacebuilding organization in the region has facilitated various dialogue and mediation processes as well as other peacebuilding activities in support of government and community efforts towards intra and inter-communal reconciliation in Ghana. We commit ourselves to, continually support the Dagbon community and government in the efforts geared towards resolving these conflicts and other community disputes in Ghana. We encourage all stakeholders to see this community initiate as an opportunity to support the sustenance of peace in Dagbon.

WANEP calls on leaders and people of other communities to emulate the goodwill of the Dagbon leaders and pursue the resolution of their differences in a mutual and respectful manner and ensure the ownership of the processes.

Signed

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