

PETROLEUM COMMISSION GHANA · GHANA

Ghana Petroleum Commission pledges regulatory certainty at AFRIPERF

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Ghana's Petroleum Commission has reaffirmed its commitment to regulatory efficiency and ease of doing business for upstream petroleum investors, delivering the message during a Business-to-Government session at the African Petroleum Regulators Forum (AFRIPERF), held on the sidelines of the AOW Energy Conference.

The Commission's public commitment signals an active effort to position Ghana as a preferred upstream investment destination on the continent. By engaging directly with international investors through a structured Business-to-Government session, the regulator is signalling that it wants to reduce bureaucratic friction and improve the predictability of the regulatory environment — two factors that international oil companies and their service partners consistently cite as critical when allocating capital and procurement budgets across competing African jurisdictions.

For Norwegian oil and gas service companies with existing or prospective exposure to Ghana, the regulatory tone matters considerably. Ghana's upstream sector — anchored by producing deepwater assets and ongoing exploration interest — depends heavily on a stable licensing and permitting framework to sustain the project pipeline that generates service and equipment demand. A regulator that prioritises clarity on approvals, local content compliance timelines, and permit processing speeds directly affects the commercial planning horizon for subsea contractors, drilling companies, well services providers, and FPSO operators working in or bidding into the basin.

It is important to note that the Commission's statement at AFRIPERF represents a policy commitment and a regulatory posture, not a contract award, licensing round

announcement, or formal procurement action. No specific blocks, tenders, or investment instruments were announced in connection with this engagement. The value of the signal lies in the direction of travel: a regulator that courts international investors at high-profile industry forums is one that is actively trying to keep Ghana competitive as neighbouring West African jurisdictions also vie for upstream capital.

For service companies monitoring West Africa opportunity flow, Ghana remains a market worth tracking closely. The combination of existing deepwater production infrastructure, an active regulator, and publicly stated investment-climate ambitions suggests that when new licensing rounds or project FIDs do materialise, the regulatory groundwork is being laid to support faster progression from award to first oil. Norwegian service firms should use this period to maintain and deepen relationships with both the Petroleum Commission and IOC procurement teams active in the country, positioning themselves ahead of any formal tender processes that follow.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a regulatory positioning statement, not a contract or tender — Norwegian service companies should monitor Ghana's upstream pipeline and invest in relationship-building with the Petroleum Commission and active IOC teams rather than initiating procurement outreach. The Commission's public focus on ease of doing business is a useful entry point for firms seeking pre-qualification dialogue or local-content partnership conversations. Saga Advisory recommends tracking the next formal licensing round announcement as the trigger for active commercial engagement.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Monitor regulatory developments that could accelerate FID timelines on Ghana's deepwater tieback and new-field opportunities, and maintain technical relationships with operators already producing in the basin.
- **Drilling:** A more efficient permitting environment could shorten rig mobilisation lead times; track well programme approvals as an early indicator of incremental drilling demand.

- **Well Services:** Regulatory clarity on local content and approval processes directly affects workover and production-enhancement planning — use this period to pre-qualify with active operators.
- **Pipeline:** Improved investment climate signals potential for future gas monetisation and tie-back infrastructure; monitor for upstream gas development announcements linked to Ghana's domestic energy goals.

[Original source: Petroleum Commission Ghana →](#)

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