

**Statement from AngloGold Ashanti Ghana
26 February**

The Editor

We refer to a number of online articles carried in the past day in Ghana, originally posted on [CitiFM](#) under the headline, *Anglogold to cede majority of Obuasi mine to Gov't*.

It is important to point out that the assertion made in this article is wholly incorrect, namely that AngloGold Ashanti plans to cede “almost two-thirds of the Obuasi mine to the Government of Ghana”.

AngloGold Ashanti has been on record in recent weeks to state that it has started the process to cede 60% of the 475km² Obuasi mine *concession*, to the government. The area that is to be handed over *excludes the Obuasi mine*, which lies on the remaining area that will be retained by AngloGold Ashanti. It is an important distinction.

AngloGold Ashanti started the required formal legal process to hand over this land package in early 2014. This process to formalize the cessation of the land remains ongoing and once complete, the government will have full discretion over how to utilize the land in question.

AngloGold Ashanti also reiterates its call for the authorities in Ghana, including the government, to help reinstate law and order at the Obuasi mine site, after the incursion of several hundred illegal miners onto the site on February 2. This followed the unilateral withdrawal of the military contingent that had successfully guarded the site since March 2013.

Despite intensive ongoing engagement with the authorities at all levels, and a visit by a high-ranking government delegation to the site to assess the situation, no steps have been taken to protect AngloGold Ashanti's rights as an investor and employer, including the sole right to operate on a lawfully awarded mining concession, and the peaceful restoration of safety and security.

AngloGold Ashanti has already stated that staff performing non-essential activities have been withdrawn from site. If there is no resolution to the current situation, which continues to deteriorate, and unless we have certainty that our employees are able to work in a safe environment, we will have no choice but to progressively withdraw personnel from the mine. This will halt essential services to the site and surrounding communities and potentially jeopardize the Obuasi mine's future contribution to Ghana's economy.

The situation remains of grave concern, and AngloGold Ashanti will continue appealing to the authorities to restore law and order, and to secure the legal rights of AngloGold Ashanti.

For further queries:

Eric Asubonteng

EAsubonteng@AngloGoldAshanti.com

+233 501 274 388