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Encourage Innovation-CEPA Boss Urges Gov't

The Executive Director of Center for Policy Analysis (CEPA) Dr. Joe Abbey has urged the government to explore innovative ideas to support the Non-traditional export sector (NTE) sector to enhance their competitive edge on the global market in the light of the present “global financial crunch”.

Citing an ‘overvalued currency and inadequate incentives scheme’ as the causes of the sector’s poor performance and loss of market share on the global market in the past five years, Dr. Abbey implored government to take a lead role in finding innovative solutions to the problems of the sector and make it more competitive.

Calling for effective use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and taking advantage of the knowledge revolution, the CEPA boss opined that such an approach holds the possibility of transforming the agricultural, industrial and service sectors of the economy.

Dr. Joe Abbey made these suggestions in an address to mark the launch of a publication by CEPA which details an “assessment and critique of the 2009 budget statement and economic policy” of the government. This year’s launch of the publication was open to the general public and was held at the British Council Hall, Accra on Thursday, September 3, 2009. In attendance was the Economic Advisory Council of the President of Ghana and Civil Society Organisations.

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