Two envoys bid farewell to President Akufo-Addo News To be one of

ing Wang, and the Australian High issiance, Air Andrew Barnes. are the Chinese Ambassador, Mr Shi WO cowys who have completed their duty tours of Nama Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo at the Jubilee House. the country yesterday paid farewell calls on President

Describing Ghana as the most stable and possessive country in Africa, the Chinese possessive assert mysaised the head of commits development of the country.

Be said Ghana-China relations had over has

the years, witnessed a strong development and even took another level during the state visit of President Akufo-Addo to China two

Xi Jinping. The state visit has pushed our relations to a higher level and China is investor, biggest provider of scholarships to currently the biggest trade partner, biggest You are a very good friend of President

agreement, James Town fishing port, other 10 fishing ports and the Medical University in HA. they are many, including the Sino Hydro list all the projects under my tenure because Ghana lasted for two years, said: "I cannot Mr Shi, whose tenure as ambassador to

During the past two years, he said China had provided about 600 scholarships to



President Akufo-Addo yesterday received the envoys of China and Australia who are leaving the country after ending their duty tours.

COVID-19 support from China to China would be in by July this year.

resident Akufo-Addo was h

development and expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries would be further deepened to bring prosperity to both countries and

He said even in the face of COVE



historical new height. He disclosed that the next batch of

Ghana-China relations he contributions of China to Gh

Ghana and about 2000 such opportunities to chanaian people and all these support had taken the relations between the countries to



for the help in medical equipment and supplies that has come from China, we are very grateful. "We are hoping that the foundation that COVID-19 Trust Fund raises GH¢51.54m in 2 months

going to be a foundation that is going to going to be a foundation that is going to bring mutual prosperity to the people of both countries and even greater flourishing you have helped us to cement and deepen is of relations between Ghana and China," he

contacts between our two countries and a series of very important economic cooperation agreements and arrangements

the President, Mr Barnes commended the government on how it was managing When he took his turn to say goodbye to

even stronger during his tenure, with several new Australian mining companies re-establish the Obuasi mine which would prospecting in Ghana while others helped to

to host the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA) headquarters and promised that Australia would fully support the country to secure the secretariat.

diplomatic relations with Ghana, which had one of the earliest countries to establish President Akufo-Addo said Australia was

sector of the country and appreciated the Australian investments in the mining conducted themselves in the country. responsible way the Australian businesses

membership of the group as well as its both countries as Ghana valued its

important developments since Mr Shi came He said Ghana had witnessed many

You have also facilitated high-level

Ghana- Australia relations

COVID-19. He said Ghana-Australia relations grew

soon become the largest mine in Africa once He further applauded Ghana for bidding

He was happy about the number of

President Akufo-Addo said the

By Jennifer Kwasin

THE COVID-19 Trust Fund, set up as an emergency fund to mobilise resources to support the management of the GHe51.54 million between March 30 and May 31, this year. The amount constitute the management pandemic in Ghana, raised professional associations lonations from individuals (COVID-19)

response to calls for support for the fund, set up as one of the fight the pandemic.

Details of the contributors for government's interventions to month of April were

of the Daily Graphic The publication outlined the The summary of donations in kind included vehicles and

items received by the fund, both in cash and kind, as well as its benefactors from March 30 to fuel worth GHe1.53 million, personal protective equipment (PPE), amounting to GHe400,940, medical GHe400,940, medical supplies worth GHe287,690 and food and

Contributors President

beverages, costing GH¢1 million Some of the big-ticke

Dankwa Akufo-Addo, who announced the setting up of the fund, was the first person to donate his salary for April, May

Ghana, which presented GH¢2.5 million and Absa Bank, which donors include the Bank of Ghana, which donated GHe10

this year. March 30 and May 31, million; Aksa Energy Company

staffers, ministers and deputy and June with presiden donated his salary between April months from April to June. ministers also donating 50 Vice-President, presented GHe1 mi Others were the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and GH¢1.30 million; Ghana Gas, Development which

The trust fund also received various forms of donations in kind, which all summed up to GHe3.22 million. Service and Zenith Bank also Authority donated GHe2 million each, the Petroleum

Transparency
The publication is to honour

to GH¢637,998.

personalities for April amounted

The National Petroleum Authority and Volta River the Vitol

> UBA Ghana GH¢1.48 million. donated GHe1 million each, with UBA Ghana contributing

"It means the companies have had to borrow
"at very high interest rates to buy active
st pharmaceutical ingredients only to sell on
st credit basis that never gets paid," he stated. NHIA recently.

Health facilities' debts frustrate pharma firms

a capable of servicing the size of debt they had recapitalisation because they were no longer a medical stores, had applied to the state for He said their checks had revealed that some of the health institutions, including regional

The COPG, he added, could be forced to prolish the list of debtors and other details in

Ms Addae told the Daily Graphic.

Recapitalisation

debts of up to a year's supplies.
The Chamber of Fharmacy Ghana (COPG) system or stop supplies to their local clients from next mouth as they are unable to recoup

avoid any disruptions in the medicine supply chain, the NHIA said in its statement. their debts to the pharmaceutical companies to facilities funded by the NHIA to promptly settle "Management strongly urges healthcare

health service providers that they had still providers funded by the NHIA from July 1. the regional medical stores and service 2020 had been reinforced by the claims by the

The COPG comprises the Pharmaceutical Importers and Wholesalers Association, the ommunity Pharmacy Practitioners Issociation, Pharmacy Owners Association, the over-the-counter medicine sellers and

Mr Ameka emphasised that COVID-19 conditions had changed the dynamics of not been reimbursed by the NHIA. hreatened to revert to the cash-and-carry HARMACEUTICAL companies

However, in a statement last Thursday, the NHIA said it had released at least GHe87 million to service providers to enable them to pay for old pharmaceutical supplies and non-drug

Mr Ameka said: "Those who import and distribute, and the local manufacturers are the

ompanies to review business relations with He said the intent by the pharmaceutical

Manufacturers Association of Ghana (PMAG) industry groupings and the Pharmaceutical the umbrella body for five pharmaceutical

hat they were yet to be reimbursed by the adicated that health facilities across the

According to the Chief Executive Officer of the COPG, Mr Anthony Ameka, the debts, some dating back to 2017, were now threatening the survival of local pharmaceurical businesses.

international trade, saying Ghanaian pharmaceurical companies were now required to buy active pharmaceurical products on a cash and carry bas ingredients and other finished pharmaceurical the previous credit arrangement.

accrued over the years.

products on a cash-and-carry basis instead of the coming days if the situation did not change. The Executive Secretary of the PMAG, Ms

> FLASHBACK: Mr Jude Koff Bucknor (right), a member of the Board of Trustees of COVID-19 Trust Fund, receiving a dummy cheque for GN479,000 from Agribbaboo Gabriel Palmer Buckle (left), Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops Conference. Highlights management of the fund and put the resources to their 19 National Trust Fund to

70,000.00

At the inauguration on March 29, the Chairpetson of the Fund, Justice Sophia Akuffo, assured donors and the public that the money domated towards the fund would be used judiciously in a transparent manner.

■ The COVID-19 Trust Fund mobilised GH¢51.54 million from Individuals and

She said the items received would also be allocated engaged in the combat of the From time to time, the

The fund also received GH+637,998 as donations from the President and his appointees for the month of April.

brought to our attention by the Ghana Health Service and the Ministry of Health," Justice Akuffo, who is the immediate money that we have received

