



• **Mr Seth Oduro-Boadu, the MCE for West Akyem and Chairman of MUSEC**

# Asamankese Market closed down temporarily

From **Samuel Kyei-Boateng,**  
ASAMANKESE

THE West Akyem Municipal Security Committee (MUSEC) has shut down the Asamankese Central Market temporarily due to the traders' refusal to observe social distancing procedures despite several warnings.

The decision to close the market, which is one of the biggest and busiest trading centres in the Eastern Region, last Tuesday was taken at an emergency meeting with the traders.

## Prevention of COVID-19

The closure of the facility is aimed at preventing the spread of the deadly coronavirus disease as a result of congestion at the market.

Fish mongers who form the majority in the market have been relocated to the Asamankese Methodist Basic School park.

Addressing an emergency meeting at Asamankese last Tuesday, the Municipality Chief Executive (MCE), Mr Seth Oduro-Boadu, said the market would be re-opened tomorrow when plans put in place to ensure appropriate spacing would have been firmed up.

The traders have accepted the MUSEC's decision to close down the market.

## Social distancing

Mr Oduro-Boadu said if it was observed that the problem of congestion and non-adherence to the social distancing protocol persisted, a more drastic action would be taken.

In the mean time, a nine-member task force that comprises the Police, Ghana Immigration Service, Ghana National Fire Service and Bureau of National Investigations (BNI) has been formed to ensure that people in the municipality comply with the President's directive on social gathering.

The Leader of the Asamankese Traders Association, Ms Elizabeth Mills, promised to communicate with fellow traders to abide by the directive on social distancing.

The MCE, who is also the chairman of MUSEC, encouraged the people in the municipality to observe the hygiene protocols of washing hands with soap under running water, using alcohol-based hand sanitisers and putting on nose masks as well as ensuring social distancing.