

Blockchain network conference opening

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It's been a year since we met here to exchange experiences on blockchain technology and am glad that we are back to assess progress over the year. It's an opportune moment for us to take a peek into the future

Understandably, last year started up beat note with inspiring message from Bank of Ghana recognizing the potential of Blockchain in trade finance and other application areas. Various policy authorities in the country promised investment in variety of blockchain

solutions and the atmosphere was electrifying as Ghana was poised to provide technical leadership for rest of continent.

Then suddenly, the industry was plunged into accidental turmoil with Ponzi schemes and other crypto scams being shutdown and cleaned out of the ecosystem. Blockchain is a serious technical solution that developing world needs urgently after all we all have some records that we wish will not change

Happily, on the eve of this conference we are on the rise again with the mention by Bank of Ghana of its consideration of a central bank digital currency (CBDC), joining other developed countries whose central banks have made similar commitments and pronouncements. The

EU, USA, China are considering CBDC and aside from Facebook Libra, google, Amazon and Apple are all these private companies are looking at their foray into native digital currencies and payments. Why shouldn't Africa?

Hence, Ghana deserves congratulations for this past year's progress though it's been turbulent but it has ended very well indeed

Such is the normal journey for new technology adoption. Some must take risks in order to make technological advancements. This was the case for Internet adoption and is same for blockchain and will be the same for the other 4th industrial revolution technologies of IoT and artificial intelligence. Be it known that we can't

shut a technology down but technology leaders must also behave responsibly to gain trust in the technology

Furthermore,

- Let us appreciate that cannot regulate the act technology innovations as it is a creative venture. However we can enable for all and may the blessed ones win

- Let us avoid substituting fear in place of solution-oriented thinking that asks questions, identifies issues, and seeks solutions for the impact of technology on society

- We should not panic and yet we cannot stand still

- In deriving policies and regulations we need to look past the technology itself, blockchain, and look to its effect on people

- Rather than the regulation of the amorphous set of technologies we refer to as blockchain or crypto currency, we should focus on how to protect our selves and deal with the effects of the new technology.

Following the guidelines above is the way to succeed in technology adoption

Nonetheless, we have made great strides and we should be proud of our achievements. The Internet technology could not be stopped; likewise Blockchain technology cannot be stopped

Let's showcase our works, our technologies and network with each other for the future of Blockchain

Thank you