

WiWASH Marks International Women's Day

Gender Desk Report

THE Network of Professional Women in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WiWASH) has marked International Women's Day with an interactive symposium at the head office of the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL).

The event was celebrated on the theme: "Inspiring Inclusion Everywhere, Our Collective Responsibility" and it pooled together some board members, management and staff of the company and members of WiWASH for exciting discussions.

In an address read on behalf of the Managing Director of GWCL, Ing. Dr Clifford Braimah, he indicated how the company has actively worked to dismantle barriers and opened doors for talented women to rise and thrive at the workplace.

Shaping the future

"From a mere two women in decision-making roles some seven years ago, we now proudly boast of six women holding various chief managerial positions, with many more

flourishing in middle management roles," the MD said.

He heartily congratulated women in the company and the WASH sector for their achievements and commitment to excellence and praised them for their resilience in the face of challenges.

He urged the women to note that their voices, perspectives and contributions were invaluable, as they shaped the future of the organisation and the communities the company served.

In her keynote address, Vida Duti, Country Director for IRC and Board Member of GWCL, encouraged women not to be influenced by popular sayings such as "behind every successful man is a woman" and "what a man can do, women can do better".

She noted that such sayings conditioned women's minds and constrained them from unleashing their full potentials.

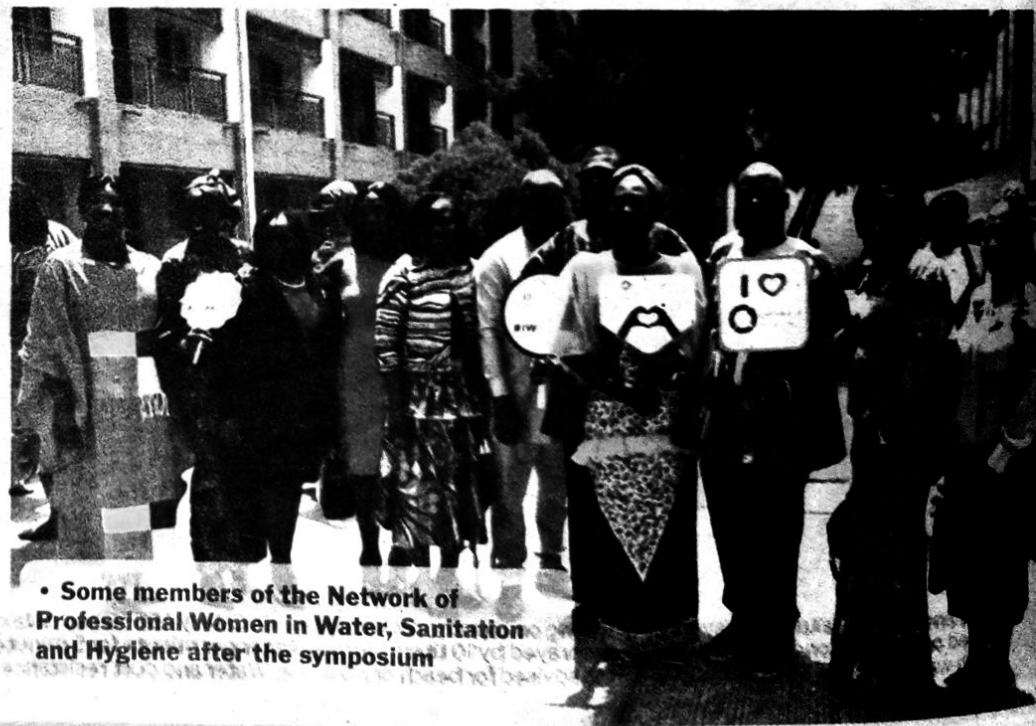
She also said some of the sayings led to unnecessary tension and competition between men and women and, therefore, advised the women not to waste their energies on them.

The WiWASH President, Faustina Boachie, shared the story of how she was able to rise

above the storms from her humble beginnings at the work place to her current position as a member of top management.

She urged the women not to look on

helplessly when they faced barriers and obstacles in their forward march but find innovative ways to go around them to realise their dreams.



• Some members of the Network of Professional Women in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene after the symposium