SUPPORTING STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON THE USE OF LIVE AMMUNITION IN CROWD CONTROL BY THE POLICE BY HONOURABLE RAS MUBARAK MP FOR KUMBUNGU BY HON ALHAJI ABDUL-RASHID HASSAN PELPUO, MP FOR WA CENTRAL - 24 JANUARY, 2017

Thank you, Mr Speaker, for the opportunity to comment on the Statement ably presented by my Hon Colleague. Mr Speaker, it is important that we recognise the civil rights of all individuals in this country to express their dissatisfaction with public policy and issues that touch their lives directly.

Mr Speaker, when that happens, they have the right to pour onto the street to show their anger and repulsion about issues they feel very strongly about. Because it is their constitutional right, the Police must understand that in order to curb them from exceeding their rights they must excise ultimate restraint, so that in the end, people who go out to exercise that constitutional right do not suffer unduly and do not lose their lives and valuables sometimes.

So, I would support this call, and I would urge us to send a word to the Ghana Police Service to let them understand that their action, to the extent that people are injured when they are controlling crowd, is unacceptable, and that the people of Ghana have the right to demonstrate; to do whatever it would take for them to assert their rights.

Mr Speaker, if that happens and they are injured, the Police must take full responsibility. In that respect, I support my Hon Colleague and urge us all to contribute in that direction and send a word strongly to the Ghana Police Service for what has just happened.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.