

## **BICYCLE CARAVAN AT TAKORADI ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2007**

In Ghana more than 40 % of all road traffic deaths occur among people aged 0-25 years. Children and young people travel on the roads as pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, novice drivers and passengers. They constitute a major group of death, injury and disability on the roads. It is against this background that the National Road Safety Commission (NRSC), Western Region, initiated this Road Safety Week.

The bicycle caravan was one of the major activities outlined for the week long programme.

The objectives of the Bicycle caravan were:

To stimulate people to ride

To create awareness for motorists to be courteous towards cyclists

To educate people on health benefits associated with cycling

The Centre for Cycling Expertise (CCE) was invited to collaborate with the commission in achieving this task. The bicycle caravan was participated by the general public. Mr. Thomas Bismarck Boakye, the Regional Coordinator of NRSC, Western Region, briefed the gathering on the purpose of the caravan. He also took the participants through some safety tips.

Ing. Magnus Quarshie, the Director of CCE also in his speech, enumerated the importance of cycling to the individual, the environment and the nation at large. Again he made reference to some foreign cities such as Copenhagen, Munich and other European cities that have taken cycling serious and as a result have developed their cities to be cycle friendly and still developing their cities to be the best city for cyclists in the world. More so, he admonished the cyclists to continue cycling as there are enormous benefits that one derives from cycling. Mr. Quarshie, a keen rider took part in the caravan.

In all 92 cyclists participated in the caravan. The cyclists rode for a distance of about 13km through the principal street of Takoradi and ended at the Takoradi Jubilee grounds where the event started.

Below are some pictures of the Bicycle Caravan



The cyclists in motion to greatness



the cyclists in a spectacular move



The youngest and oldest cyclists in a picture with Mr. Boakye, in lacost and Ing. Magnus Quarshie, with helmet



Ing. Magnus Quarshie in action when he was addressing the participants.

A-4-year old boy and a-62-year old man were rewarded for their participation as the youngest and the oldest cyclists of the event respectively. The Centre also gave out a California bike to the 62--year old cyclists for that great stride. The young chap was also given a badge reflector.

The caravan ended at about 11 am and the turnout was impressive.