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□ Sik

aman Foundation, otherwise known as the pioneer Ghanaian welfare organization in The Netherlands, was founded in June 1988 in response to the dire need by the Ghanaian community in The Netherlands to, on one hand, forge a common front against a backdrop of very challenging socio-political atmosphere that confronted the community and, on the other, help create the needed avenue for continued dialogue between the Dutch government and the Ghanaian community on matters of mutual interest. The foundation is registered at the Amsterdam chamber of commerce as a non-profit making welfare organisation with registration number 41207656

The additional core objectives the foundation set for herself, among others, are;

- a. Fostering the integration of Ghanaians into the Dutch society.
- b. Information exchange between the Dutch governmental institutions and individuals on one hand and the Ghanaian community on the other.
- c. Promoting the welfare of Ghanaians in The Netherlands and help them to improve on their socio-economic positions.

With a commitment to initiatives that serve the interest of the migrant community in The Netherlands, Sikaman has evolved over the years as a community-based organization with a broad network within the African community nationwide.

Sikaman Foundation owns Radio Akasanoma that serves as her official mouthpiece. Radio Akasanoma broadcasts on Saturdays from 07.00 –17.00 hours and 19.00 – 22.00hrs on 104.6 FM cable and 99.4 FM ether i.e. on the World FM frequency of the Amsterdam broadcasting company SALTO. It is also available online, through the web facility of SALTO

www.salto.nl

and the websites of both the organization and the radio.

Radio Akasanoma maintains a commanding popularity as a community radio and prides herself as both the leading radio station within the Ghanaian community and pacesetter with the debut, late 2004, of Radio Akasanoma Francophone that now brings information and social programmes to the homes of the officially least known but ever growing French speaking community in The Netherlands. By estimation, Radio Akasanoma reaches about 10,000 listeners on its local frequencies alone. Among these are both Ghanaians and Dutch having diverse relationships with Ghanaians, English and French speaking Africans resident in Amsterdam and its environs.

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