

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY

IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**ON THE**

**2020 PROGRAMME BASED BUDGETARY ESTIMATES FOR THE  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY**

**11<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government by the Minister of Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020 on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019, the Budgetary Estimates for the Office of Government Machinery (OGM) was laid in the House and referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with Article 179 of the Constitution and the Standing Orders of the House.

The Committee met with the Senior Minister, Hon. Yaw Osafo-Marfo, the Minister of State at the Presidency, Hon. Dr. Kwaku Afriyie, the Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, Hon. Anthony Akoto Osei, the Chief Director of the Office of Government Machinery, Mr. Henry W. Wood, and a team of officials from the Office of Government Machinery and the Ministry of Finance to consider the referral. The Committee appreciates their immense contributions.

### **1.1 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The Committee referred to the following documents in its deliberations:

- The 1992 Constitution;
- The Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921);
- The Standing Orders of Parliament; and
- The Budget Statement and Economic policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2020 Financial Year.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

Government Machinery embraces the constitutional view of the Office of the President as the Seat of Government, those Organizations whose operations fall outside traditional areas of sectoral responsibilities, for which the Office of the President (Core Government Machinery) exists to provide administrative, managerial and technical services.

The Office of Government Machinery comprises:

- i. Office of the President
- ii. Scholarships Secretariat
- iii. Ghana AIDS Commission
- iv. Commissions and Councils
- v. State Protocol Department
- vi. National Population Council
- vii. Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
- viii. Internal Audit Agency
- ix. Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)
- x. Microfinance and Small Loans Centre
- xi. Office of the Administrator – General
- xii. Millennium Development Authority
- xiii. State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)
- xiv. National Identification Authority
- xv. Office of the Senior Minister

## **2.1 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Office of Government Machinery exists to institutionalize open, transparent and accountable governance for the attainment of government's development agenda of improving the quality of life of Ghanaians. The Office of Government Machinery's policy objectives among others include:

- a) Improving the balance among arms of government, governance institutions and their functioning;
- b) Ensuring inclusive and equitable political system;
- c) Ensuring effective implementation of the decentralization policy and programme;
- d) Ensuring efficient and effective resource mobilization, internal revenue generation and resource management;
- e) Strengthening policy and development planning processes for equitable and balanced spatial and economic development;

- f) Rationalizing and defining structures, roles and procedures for state institutions;
- g) Enhancing supervision and productivity in the public service;
- h) Improving the responsiveness of the public service in service delivery; and
- i) Mainstreaming development communication across the public-sector policy cycle.

### **3.0 2019 PERFORMANCE**

The under-listed were some of the activities undertaken by the Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery during the year under review:

#### **3.1 Office of the President**

During the period under review, Eighteen (18) Cabinet Meetings were held and Fifty-Four (54) Cabinet Memos were produced. Two Hundred and Sixty (260) Cabinet decisions and Sixty-One (61) reports were produced out of which One Hundred and Twenty (120) were sent to Parliament as at July, 2019.

The Office hosted Five (5) Heads of States and Eighteen (18) foreign dignitaries. Six (6) credentials were presented by the High Commissioners and Ambassadors. On human resources development, the Office trained Hundred and Three (103) civil servants and political appointees during the period.

The office also facilitated Ghana's bid to host the Secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Ghana won the bid. It also funded a number of State and State Assisted funerals of prominent sons and daughters of Ghana.

#### **3.2 Millennium Development Authority (MiDA)**

For the period under review, MiDA:

- Concluded a Mid-term review of the Compact programme with Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC);
- Completed Evaluation of Bids for the Korle Gonno, Kanda, Kotobabi and University of Ghana Teaching Hospital (UGTH) Primary Substations, and the Interconnecting and Offloading Circuits Evaluated Bids for the Pokuase Inter-Connecting Circuits (ICC).
- Held a sword cutting ceremony for the Pokuase Bulk Supply Point (BSP) for the commencement of work by Elecnor SA.
- Signed Contract for the implementation of the Upgrade of the Data Center and Communication Network (DCCN); and
- Signed Works Order Contracts with Three (3) selected Contractors, namely Messrs. MBH Power Ltd, Messrs. Best and Crompton Engineering Ltd, and Messrs. Power Factor Ltd, for the LV Bifurcation and Network Upgrade.
- Signed Contract with National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) of the USA for the implementation of the Regulatory Partnership Program;
- Launched and completed the procurement of High Voltage Distribution System and Security Lighting;
- Completed the adoption and gazetting of Standards for the following Electrical appliances (i.e. Micro Washing Machine, Computer, Electric Motor and Standing Fan, Blender, Water Heater and Kettle);
- Signed Consultancy Contract for the setting- up of two (2) Energy Auditing Centers;
- Signed Works Contracts for the Retrofitting of building of Seven (7) GOG Institutions;
- Finalized the Sustainable Energy Course Syllabi for Training of Trainers and Energy Professionals; and
- Completed procurement of Three (3) Contractors for street lighting replacement in Accra.

### **3.3 Ghana AIDS Commission**

Towards the integration of human rights into national response to HIV and AIDs, Ghana AIDs Commission (GAC) in collaboration with its stakeholders embarked on consultations to:

- Discuss and finalize Human Rights Stakeholder mapping report
- Obtain the commitment of partners for resource mobilization for human rights interventions
- Agree on a roadmap for the integration of human rights considerations in the national response

The outcome of the consultation informed the development of a 5-year National Strategic Plan (2021-2025) to comprehensively address human rights issues of HIV/TB in the country. The 5-year Strategic Plan and all HIV/TB Human Right Issues in the country has been developed and finalized.

With the expiration of the current National Strategic Plan (NSP) at the end of December 2020, GAC commenced the process for the development of the next 5-year NSP (2021-2025). GAC, in collaboration with its partners, has also commenced the process of engaging consultants with the requisite background and experience to assist with the process. GAC's multi and bilateral partners are providing technical assistance.

Some significant achievements made within the period January to September 2019 include the:

- Production and dissemination of the national HIV and AIDS Estimates and projections locally and for global compilation and use;
- Completion and distribution of the Ghana Men's Study II Report;
- Ghana Key Population Unique Identification System (GKPUIS) database established for the management of key Populations information capture and storage; and

- Annual AIDS death declined from 14,181 in 2018 to 11,797 in 2019 a percentage decrease of 17%;

### **3.4 Scholarships Secretariat**

During the period under review, the Secretariat paid all arrears of the 2017/2018 academic year for 121,359 second cycle students at a cost of GH¢28,306,422.42.

The Secretariat settled the claims for feeding grants for the 2018/2019 academic year for 76,230 students on Northern and Hardship awards at a cost of GH¢70,009,632.00. WAEC Examination fees for the 2018/2019 academic year at a cost of GH¢11,276,023.00 and the GES Technical Examination fees for students of the Northern Extraction at a cost of GH¢2,000,274.00.

The Secretariat paid the stipends, air tickets and other allowances of the 221 medical students who returned from Cuba after they completed training at a cost of GH¢41,196,436.40.

The Secretariat also made part payment of local tertiary awards for bursaries, thesis and long stay for postgraduates and medical students in the public universities in Ghana for the 2018/2019 academic year at an amount of GH¢2,087,739.58

It also paid the allowances for bilateral and non-bilateral scholarship beneficiaries for students in Russia, Algeria, Hungary, Morocco, Turkey, Cuba, China, India, United States of America, Germany and Canada for the 2018/19 academic year at an amount of GH¢3,545,610.00.

Terminal Benefits paid to students who have completed their studies for the 2018/2019 academic year amounted to GH¢2,527,539.00.

### **3.5 Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)**

For 2019, MASLOC disbursed a total of GH¢ 70,015,400 to 64,702 beneficiaries. This was made up of 64,572 micro loans valued at

GH¢64,571,900 and 130 Special project/Small loans totaling GH¢5,443,500. The average recovery rate of the loans disbursed stands at 65%.

The Centre has also paid an amount of GH¢4,467,928 for tricycles. One Hundred and Forty (140) tricycles have been allocated at the value of GH¢1,357,440 for two (2) years. The Centre collaborated with NABCO and is currently using their personnel in their district offices.

### **3.6 Internal Audit Agency (IAA)**

For 2019, the Internal Audit Agency reviewed Internal Audit Reports from Government agencies which contained 1,290 recommendations with a monetary value of GH¢190,638,765.07. The feedback revealed that 504 of recommendations were implemented with a monetary value of GH¢33,025,485.18.

The Agency also conducted follow-up assignments to 25 covered entities in Three (3) Regions. The objective of the follow-up was to ascertain the status of implementation of 274 internal audit recommendations amounting to GH¢16,159,162.99. It came to the fore that 168 of the recommendations valued at GH¢11,744,949.04 were implemented.

The Agency signed an additional thirty-six (36) Internal Audit Charters. This brings the total number of signed Internal Audit Charters by Internal Audit Units of Covered entities to 411.

The Agency facilitated the establishment and inauguration of 32 Audit Committees bringing the total number of functional Audit Committees to 430 (representing 87%) of the expected 492. Additionally, 149 Health institutions sub-Audit Committees were inaugurated under the established Audit Committee of the Ghana Health Service.



### **3.7 State Protocol Department**

During the period under review, the Department facilitated the hosting of Ten (10) Heads of States and Governments from Jordan, Surinam, Norway, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast.

Seventeen (17) Ambassadors and High Commissioners from Egypt, USA, Turkey, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Malta, Bulgaria, Burundi, Switzerland, Botswana, New Zealand, Pakistan, Morocco, Finland, Belarus, Surinam, and Gambia presented their letters of credence to H.E. the President.

His Excellency the President undertook Twenty-Six (26) external and Fifty (50) internal visits. The Department facilitated two (2) farewell events for the outgoing Ambassadors of Cote D'Ivoire, Kuwait, Belgium, Morocco and Turkey.

The Department assisted in organizing Nine (9) State and State assisted funerals for a number of people including the late Rev. Dr. Simon Ajore, Hon-Agyarko (MP. For Ayawaso), Hon. J.H. Mensah, Late Justice Kingsley Nyinah, Hon. C. K. Tedem and others. Six (6) Swearing-in ceremonies were held for Two Ambassadors- Italy and Egypt, 23 Members of the National Population Council, NCCE Members, Ministers for New Regions, and Article 72 Office Holders.

### **3.8 Council of State**

During the period under review, the Council held twenty (20) plenary meetings, fifteen (15) committee meetings, four (4) emergency meetings and nine (9) interactive sessions with Ministers of State and other Public Officials.

The Council successfully held two (2) meetings with His Excellency the President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo. The meetings afforded the

Council the opportunity to present reports and also provide advice to His Excellency the President.

Also, the Council met stakeholders to discuss issues of national interest including concerns over high import duties, the Ghana Beyond Aid Policy, Electoral Reforms, Free Senior High School Policy, interventions in the Cocoa Sector and other related developments. Some of the discussions also centered on bilateral relations between Ghana and its development partners such as the USA. The Council also scrutinized requests for appointments to over twenty (20) boards and councils of Public Institutions and advised the Presidency accordingly.

### **3.9 Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)**

For 2019, the Centre registered 105 new projects with foreign participation. The estimated value of the newly registered projects was US\$202.62 million. The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) component was US\$190.62 million. The total number of jobs expected to be created from these projects is 3,691. The total initial capital transfer for the newly registered projects amounted to US\$60.52 million. The Centre also registered 64 wholly Ghanaian owned projects valued at GH¢843.32 million during the period January to September 2019.

Through sensitization, stakeholder dialogues and collaboration with the Bank of Ghana, a lot more companies are now registering their technology transfer agreements with the Centre. The GIPC led the Ghana team in two rounds of negotiations of the Ghana-Singapore Bilateral Invest Treaty this year. The Centre also exchanged correspondence with eight (8) countries towards the commencement or continuation for negotiations of Bilateral Investment Treaties.

The Centre successfully organized the 18th Edition of Ghana Club 100. The top three companies MTN, Kosmos and Goil were ranked based on the criteria of size, profitable and growth.

### **3.10 Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)**

During the 2019 year, NABCO deployed 2,750 trainees under the Planting for Food and Jobs. Overall, the 'Feed Ghana' Module stands at approximately 5,000 trainees, with 20 of them under Mechanization Unit.

Under the authority of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining (IMCIM) and the project "GalamStop" supervised by the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST), One hundred and forty (140) NABCO trainees were trained as drone pilots under the guidance and instructions of George Grant University of Mines and Technology at Tarkwa in the Western Region. The drone pilots, comprising 17 females and 123 males, are to assist artisanal and small-scale mining tracking and monitoring in the country.

The Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), also a major Module Implementation Partner (MIP) has under it about 10% of total NABCO trainees supporting the authority's revenue mobilization drive. The most significant areas are:

- Customs & Border Patrol;
- Domestic Tax Support;
- Taxpayer Identification Number Issuance and Support.

The Ministry of Finance as part of the Public Financial Management Reform Project trained One Hundred (100) of the trainees in Oracle to provide Technical and Functional Oracle Support for the project under Ghana's Integrated Financial Management Information Systems (GIFMIS).

Under a nationwide property addressing project to formalize a National Digital Property Address System (NDAPS) which is aimed at forging convergence for street names, house numbering and digital addresses onto a plate to be tagged onto homes, NABCO has selected 12,750 trainees from the talent pool and assigned them to work with the 260 MMDAs who are currently working with the physical planners, land use and spatial planning authority, agricultural officers, district coordinating directors and other technical staff to operationalize the national digital property addressing system.

A special module was carved out of the total talent pool to provide peer support, monitoring and evaluation and serve as trainers. A total of 762 (3 per district) trainees have been specially trained and empowered as research and training resources and peer monitors at the district level in addition to providing support for district NABCO offices.

### **3.11 Office of the Senior Minister**

For the year under review, the Office initiated actions to implement the National Public Sector Reform Strategy (NPSRS), 2018-2023. Among various activities towards implementing the Strategy was to develop the Public Sector Reform for Results Project (PSRRP) in conjunction with the World Bank to support a partial implementation of the NPSRS, 2018-2023.

To reverse the decline in institutional quality and improve management effectiveness of Ghana's Public Sector, the OSM developed the National Public Sector Reform Strategy (NPSRS), 2018-2023, which was launched for implementation by H.E. the President. The NPSRS hinges on six (6) strategic pillars as follows:

- Citizens- and Private Sector-Focused Public Sector,
- Capable and Disciplined Work Force;
- Strengthened Public Sector Regulatory Framework;

- Modernized and Improved Work Conditions; Strengthened Local Governance Structures; and
- Digitized Public Sector Services and Systems.

The World Bank is currently supporting the implementation of the NPSRS, 2018-2023, through the Public Sector Reform for Results Project (PSRRP), 2019-2024 which became effective in 2019 and aimed at improving efficiency and accountability in the delivery of selected public services. The PSRRP is funded by the World Bank with a credit facility of US\$35 million out of the NPSRS implementation requirements of US\$170 million.

### **3.12 National Identification Authority (NIA)**

During the period under review, the NIA:

- Completed the mass registration exercise in Five (5) regions namely: Volta Region, Oti Region, Northern Region, North East Region, Savanna Region with a total of 2,919,580 enrollments so far recorded and 2,701,943 cards printed. Institutional registration recorded 581,664 enrolments as at September 2019.
- Provided identity verification services to banks such as GCB Bank, Zenith Bank, UBA, and Access Bank. It also provided similar services to public institutions such as the Ghana Police Service and the Ghana Revenue Authority.
- Signed separate Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with key stakeholder institutions such as Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority, National Health Insurance Authority, Social Security and National Insurance Trust, and the Ghana Revenue Authority in furtherance to the attainment of effective technical integration and harmonization of their respective identity data requirements into the National Identification System (NIS).

- Partnered Identity Management Systems (IMS) II Limited and is implementing the National Identification Systems Project I. IMS is a subsidiary of the Margins Group of Companies.

### **3.13 Office of the Administrator- General**

For 2019, the Office of the Administrator organized a stakeholders' workshop on the Preparation of Inventory of Assets and Properties of the State for the agencies under the Office of Government Machinery, Independent Constitutional Bodies and some selected Ministries.

The OAG has complied and updated the Register of the Assets and Properties of agencies under the office of the Government Machinery, Independent Constitutional Bodies, MDAs, RCCs and MMDAs.

The OAG carried out orientation workshops for One Thousand, One Hundred and Twenty (1,120) participants, drawn from sixteen (16) RCCs and Two Hundred and Sixty (260) MMDAs across the country on the preparation of inventory of the Assets and Properties of the State.

### **3.14 2019 EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE OUTTURN**

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities, a total amount of **Three Billion, Nine Hundred and Ten Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty-five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seven Ghana Cedis (GH¢3,910,885,707)** was released to the Office of Government Machinery for the 2019 financial year. Of this amount, only **GH¢3,464,079,720.74** was released leaving a variance of **GH¢446,805,986.26**. The breakdown is shown in Table 1:

**Table 1: OGM Budget Outturn ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019**

Item	Budgeted (GH¢)	Actuals (GH¢)	Variance(GH¢)
Employee Compensation	140,835,889	98,009,628.41	42,826,260.59
Goods and Services	3,713,442,678	3,316,708,203.66	396,734,474.34
Assets	56,607,140	49,361,888.67	7,245,251.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,910,885,707</b>	<b>3,464,079,720.74</b>	<b>446,805,986.26</b>

#### **4.0 2020 BUDGETARY ESTIMATES FOR THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY**

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities, an amount of **Four Billion, Three Hundred and Three Million, Four Hundred and Eighteen Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirteen Ghana Cedis (GH¢4,303,418,613)** has been allocated to the Office of Government Machinery for the year 2020 as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Summary of Estimates for 2020**

	Compensation of Employees	Goods and Services	CAPEX	TOTAL GH¢
<b>GoG</b>	136,212,551	2,728,281,382	101,200,000	<b>2,965,693,933</b>
<b>IGF</b>	16,411,953	16,070,905	1,587,966	<b>34,070,824</b>
<b>ABFA</b>		1,297,763,595		<b>1,297,763,595</b>
<b>Donor Partner</b>		5,890,261		<b>5,890,261</b>
<b>Total</b>	152,624,504	4,048,006,143	102,787,966	<b>4,303,418,613</b>

Allocations to the Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery is attached in Table 3 below:

Table 3 – Allocation to Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery

No.	Agency	Amount GH¢
1	Office of the President	489,573,284
2	Scholarships Secretariat	2,631,842,600
3	Ghana AIDS Commission	15,997,027
4	Commissions and Councils	9,217,072
5	State Protocol Department	3,646,041
6	National Population Council	2,749,860
7	Ghana Investment Promotion Centre	32,041,991
8	Internal Audit Agency	6,889,561
9	Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)	840,000,000
10	Microfinance and Small Loans Centre	109,277,177
11	Office of the Administrator – General	1,352,414
12	State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)	45,193,963
13	National Identification Authority	106,512,389
14	Office of the Senior Minister	8,870,980
15	Millennium Development Authority	254,250
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,303,418,613</b>

## 5.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2020

### 5.1 Millennium Development Authority (MiDA)

For the year 2020, Millennium Development Authority will:

- Initiate and continue with works on Projects and Activities covered by US\$308.2 million of the Tranche 1 funds;
- Commence construction works on the Bulk Supply Point (BSP) at Kasoa;
- Continue the on-going works on Pokuase BSP;
- Carry out LV Bifurcation and Network Upgrade works;
- Commence construction works on two (2) Primary Substations complete with interconnecting circuits at Kanda and University of Ghana Teaching Hospital (UGTH);



- Undertake the retrofitting of Public Sector Buildings, i.e. Ministries and Street Lights Replacement Works;
- Initiate work on containment buildings for Test Facilities for the Ghana Standards Authority;
- Continue with the Ongoing activities on the Meter Management Systems; and
- Work on the Access Project to upgrade the electrification and lighting system in ten (10) markets in Accra and Tamale.

## **5.2 Office of the Senior Minister (OSM)**

In 2020, the office of the Senior Minister will

- Pursue an action towards the implementation of the NPSRS, 2018-2023. The details of activities in that respect are as follows:
- Carry out country-wide education and sensitization campaign on the NPSRS, 2018-2023 and the PSRRP, 2019-2024 targeting MDAs, MMDAs and other state organizations, the private sector, religious organizations, traditional authorities, professional bodies, labour unions, and the general public using workshops and seminars, town hall meetings, panel discussions, educational institutions, durbars, electronic and print media;
- Organise a World Bank- led Donors Conference to mobilize resources for the implementation of the Strategy;
- Organise a stakeholders' conference for the preparation of implementation guidelines to mainstream the NPSRS, 2018-2023, into the functional activities of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs);
- Implement the e-Records Management Project;
- Organize local and international "Road Shows" to mobilize resources in support of the implementation of the NPSRS, 2018-2023; and

- Publicize the Ghana Beyond Aid Agenda further through a series of media campaigns, workshops and quiz competitions.

### **5.3 Internal Audit Agency**

For 2020, the Agency will

- continue and conclude the restructuring of the Internal Audit function with MoF to complete the process to amend relevant portions of the Internal Audit Agency, Act 2003 (Act 658).
- implement the Integrated Internal Control Framework (IICF) in all Covered Entities.
- continue to review and monitor internal audit reports submitted by the MDAs and MMDAs and follow-up on significant internal audit findings from their audit reports;
- finalize and submit the Agency's 2019 Annual Report to the President;
- update the Agency's website to increase access to information; and
- organize the 2020 Annual Internal Audit Conference

### **5.4 National Identification Authority**

For 2020, the National Identification Authority will continue with the mass registration exercise in the remaining regions. It is expected that the mass registration exercise would be concluded in February, 2020. Continuous registration at the district level would however be on-going.

### **5.5 Office of the President**

For 2020, the Office of the President would:

- Organize Cabinet Retreats and Ministerial Workshops;
- Train and develop manpower skills;
- Procure basic logistics for the office;
- Host both foreign and local dignitaries in 2020; and
- Facilitate the release of funds to OGM Agencies/Cost Centres on timely basis to execute their program and activities in 2020.

## **5.6 Ghana Investment Promotion Centre**

For 2020, GIPC will pursue programmes to attract investments to develop the aluminum, bauxite, iron and steel downstream sectors.

The Centre will also enhance its collaboration with the integrated Aluminum Development Corporation and the Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Corporation.

The Center will proactively and aggressively collaborate with other stakeholders for reforms to implement the Ghana Automotive Development and the Pharmaceutical Hub Development Programmes.

In addition, the Center will commence the process to amend its Act to align it with international best practices and restructure its activities with better human resource and financial capital.

The Center will continue with ongoing discussions with prospective investors, with the expectation that these investments would be registered in 2020.

## **5.7 Council of State**

For 2020, the Council would:

- Hold four meetings (one in each quarter) with H.E. the President of the Republic.
- Hold monthly Council meetings (Plenary sessions/ Committee/ Emergency and Special meetings)
- Hold meetings with Ministers of State and other Public Officials on matters of National Interest.
- Engage key stakeholders to ensure peaceful Presidential and Parliamentary elections.
- Organize Regional tours and outreach programmes to interact with people at the decentralized level.
- Organize capacity building programmes for Members of the Council and staff of the Council's Secretariat.

## **5.8 Nations Builders Corps (NABCO)**

For 2020, NABCO will

- Continue with recruitment of unemployed graduates;
- Organise training for trainees to enhance their employability;
- Design and organize series of training for qualified graduates under the modules; and
- Work on the Exit plan of the trainees who are currently employed.

## **5.9 Scholarships Secretariat**

In 2020, two categories of awards will be implemented. These comprise the District Level Scholarships Scheme (DLSS) and the Bursaries and Thesis grants to post graduate students in the Public Tertiary institutions.

The Secretariat will support 443 students from public universities and Ghana Institute of Languages as well as 153 students from training colleges to participate in the Year Abroad programme which is for language proficiency. It will also support work-oriented short courses to help improve the capacity of workers for nation building.

The Secretariat will also undertake monitoring activities to institutions and countries of scholarship beneficiaries to do reconciliations of remittances to students, undertake headcounts and interact with students on their welfare issues.

## **5.10 Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)**

For 2020, MASLOC will:

- Make micro credit disbursements to 20,000 beneficiaries;
- Make small loans (individual and enterprises) disbursement to 13,500 beneficiaries;
- Make online disbursements to 100 beneficiaries;

- Undertake quarterly monitoring activities of microfinance and small loans activities in all the regions;
- Import and sell vehicles and tricycles to the public; and
- Renovate MASLOC offices

### **5.11 State Interests and Governance Authority**

For 2020, SIGA will:

- Develop Compliance and Sanctions Manual;
- Undertake a nationwide Assets verification;
- Strengthen the capacity of SOEs and State Agencies to pay dividend;
- Undertake performance Contract negotiations with specified entities and sign Performance Contracts;
- Undertake monitoring visits;
- Repossess Divested Assets;
- Computerize archives and records; and
- Renovate office buildings.

## **6.0 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS**

### **6.1 Scholarships Secretariat**

The Committee was informed that the Scholarship Secretariat runs two local tertiary scholarship schemes namely the District Level Scholarship Scheme and the Bursaries and Thesis Grants.

The District Level Scholarship Scheme supports brilliant but needy students and currently has a total of 30,000 students. This is to be increased in 2020. The scheme is currently administered in collaboration with the District Assemblies.

The second category consists of Bursaries and Thesis grants to postgraduate students in public tertiary universities, long stay allowances to medical students and allowances to the physically challenged. The total number of beneficiaries is estimated to be 20,000 students.

## **6.2 Micro Finance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)**

### **6.2.1 Sale of Three Hundred and Fifty (350) vehicles procured in 2016**

The Committee was informed that the Center has discounted and distributed the Three Hundred and Fifty (350) vehicles and buses which were procured in 2016. The prices of the vehicles were discounted at the rate of 53.51% as follows:

	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Initial Price (GH¢)</b>	<b>Discounted Price (GH¢)</b>
1	100	Chevy Sparklite	79,974.11	37,179.49
2	150	Chevy Aveo	114,603.92	53,281.46
3	100	33-Seater Isuzu Bus	705,545.74	328,000

The Committee was informed that the discount was approved after an application was made to the Office of the Chief of Staff for approval to enable the Center sell the vehicles at the going market price, which is much lower. Following the price reduction, all the vehicles have been given out and measures have been put in place to ensure repayment.

## **6.3 National Identification Authority**

### **6.3.1 Allocation for Goods and Services**

The Committee noted that the budget for Goods and Services for NIA amounts to GH¢100,000,000.

The Committee was informed that the budgetary allocation was woefully inadequate and that the Authority needs GH¢328,701,260.22 in order to complete the mass registration and undertake other programmes for 2020.

The Committee learnt that the Authority had some funding allocation from the 2019 Mid-year allocation that is yet to be utilized. The Ministry of Finance also confirmed to the Committee that it was aware of the funding requirements of the Authority and that it would be addressed.

## **6.4 Nation Builders Corps**

### **6.4.1 Need for a Compensation of Employees Budget**

The Committee noted that for the year 2020, an amount of GH¢840,000,000 has been allocated to the Nation Builders Corps. This amount is intended to pay 100,000 trainees for Twelve months at GH¢700 per month.

The Committee, however, observed that NABCO has staff made up of ten (10) Regional Coordinators, Two Hundred and Fifty-Four (254) District Coordinators, Thirty-Six (36) Regional Monitors and Seven (7) Module-Officers making a total of Three Hundred and Twenty-Four (324) workforce.

Payment of these personnel would make it impossible for NABCO to support 100,000 trainees as no other allocation has been made for the staff. The Committee recommends that if NABCO is to support 100,000 trainees, NABCO should be allocated additional funding to pay its staff.

### **6.4.2 Exit plan**

The Committee enquired as to what would happen at the end of the 3years programme of NABCO.

The Committee was informed that at the end of the three years, the programme would be evaluated to ascertain whether it achieved its objects. Government would then have to take a decision as to whether to continue or not. It is expected that by that time, the trainees would have received the needed employable skills and would have been absorbed into mainstream employment.

The Committee learnt that in the course of the programme, a trainee can exit the scheme as and when he wishes or has found a job.

### **6.4.3 Success of NABCO**

The Committee was informed that the programme has been very successful as it has gone a long way to employ over 97,000 trainees who now earn some allowance.

The Programme also trains people to be employable thereby increasing their chances of getting employment. Government intends to invest in the youth and give them hope to secure their future through strategic opportunities for work, economic growth and development.

## **6.5 Office of the Administrator –General**

### **6.5.1 Assets Register**

In response to efforts by the Office to capture all state assets in its register, the Administrator informed the Committee that it is liaising with the GIFMIS Secretariat to capture inventory. However, not all the MDAs and MMDAs are on the GIFMIS platform. Due to this, the Office has developed a template for Agencies to capture assets procured and forward same to the Office.

## **6.6 Office of the Senior Minister**

### **6.6.1 Public Sector Reform for Results Project (PSRRP)**

The Senior Minister informed the Committee that the Office of the Senior Minister is implementing the Public Sector Reform for Results Project (PSRRP). Parliament approved a US\$ 35 Million credit facility from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank to assist in the implementation of the project. Additional funds are expected as the project progresses.

PSRRP is aimed at improving efficiency and accountability in the delivery of selected services by selected front-line service delivery Agencies. In all, sixteen (16) organizations are participating in the project.



### **6.6.2 Ghana Beyond Aid Policy**

The Committee was informed that in order to actualize His Excellency's vision of a Ghana Beyond Aid, a Committee was set up to come up with a strategy document. The Committee has held meetings to discuss and complete the Ghana Beyond Aid Charter and Strategy Document. The Committee has met with people from academia, civil society and professional bodies towards the drafting of the strategy document in the first quarter of 2019. The Committee has met with the Council of State to discuss the draft.

The Senior Minister clarified that Ghana Beyond Aid does not mean Ghana does not want aid but rather Ghana should first determine what it needs and communicate same to Development Partners. He said the Committee has met with Development Partners to explain the concepts underpinning Ghana Beyond Aid.

Input from these consultations have been collated and the Committee is in the process of working on the draft to incorporate feedback received from the consultations.

## **6.7 State Interests and Governance Authority**

### **6.7.1 Need to Update the Assets Register**

The Committee was informed that record keeping of assets at the Divestiture Implementation Committee (DIC) was not the best. There is therefore the need to update the register in order to safeguard state properties.

The Committee learnt that recently SIGA discovered some properties which were not in the register. The Committee was assured that in 2020, SIGA would update the Assets Register and ensure that all State assets have been fully captured.

### **6.7.2 Health of State Owned Enterprises**

The Committee was informed that the health of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) was not good. There is the need to train the management of the SOEs on corporate governance and code of conduct. SIGA is also looking at organizing training for them on other areas that would help improve their performance.

The Committee observed that none of the SOEs was profitable and therefore no dividend is expected to be paid. The Committee however learnt that following projections and performance contracts signed by the SOEs, an amount of GH¢1.2 billion would be paid into the Consolidated Fund in 2020.

## **6.8 Ghana Aids Commission**

### **6.8.1 Working Relationship with Herbal Practitioners and Prayer Camps**

The Committee was informed that the Commission works with the herbal practitioners and Prayer Camps through the Commission's regional directors. They are taken through some training in order to inform them about AIDS and what it takes for one to claim that he has a cure. They are also advised to recommend AIDS patients to the nearest hospital for early treatment.

### **6.8.2 AIDS Prevalence in the Country**

The Committee was informed that the prevalence rate in the country is almost Two (2) percent. This translates to two people out of One Hundred (100) people having AIDS.

The Committee learnt that since 2010 that the World Bank Credit run out, the momentum has declined. The AIDS Commission worked with sex workers during the time of the World Bank facility and this led to a decline from 32% in 2009 in the prevalence rate to 18% among sex

workers by 2014. If the interventions had been maintained, the rates should have been much lower. The Commission also informed the Committee that the 1.7% prevalence rate is high and there is the need to target the general population and sustain the awareness, hence the need to resource the AIDS Commission. The budget allocation to the Commission is not enough to undertake the exercise.

## **6.9 Millennium Development Authority (MiDA)**

### **6.9.1 Termination of Tranche II by MCC**

The Committee was informed that following the termination of the Concession Agreement due to the detection of issues with the Payment Securities (Demand Guarantees) provided by the Power Distribution Services Limited (PDS), Tranche II funding under the Power Compact (US\$190 million) was deobligated by the MCC. This has led to the suspension of Tranche II projects.

### **6.9.2 Non-release of Goods and Services**

The Committee observed that for the year 2019, MiDA did not received any money as Goods and Services. The Ministry of Finance explained that a warrant amounting to GH¢131,844.85 has recently been released to MiDA. The Controller and Accountant-General's Department is yet to pay the money into MiDA's accounts.

### **6.9.3 Counterpart Funding**

The Committee was informed that under the Compact funding, Government of Ghana is to contribute 7.5%. Unfortunately, Government of Ghana has not been paying its share of the funding as expected.

For 2019, the Ministry of Finance had released an amount of GH¢5 million as counterpart funding for 2019 but the amount is yet to be paid into MiDA's accounts.

The Committee learnt that due to the delays in the payment of the counterpart funding, MCC is threatening to withdraw its funds. It was explained that the Compact was negotiated in a manner which ensured that all the funds would be received before the fourth year of implementation. The fourth year has commenced and Government's counterpart funding is in arrears of up to US\$8million.

#### **6.9.4 Status of the Concession**

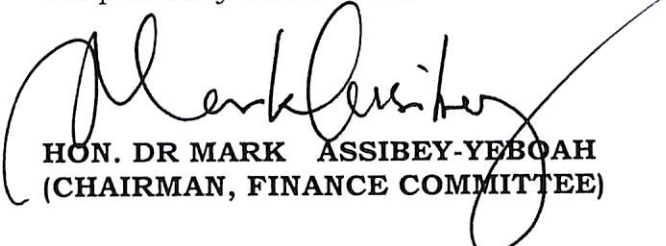
The Committee was informed that the concession has been abrogated. The Government has also indicated that they are still interested and committed to bring on board a private sector participant to assist in the management of ECG.


MiDA is no longer part of the processes of choosing the private sector participant.

#### **7.0 CONCLUSION**

The Committee after critically examining the 2020 Budget Estimates of the Office of Government Machinery recommends that the House approves the sum of **Four Billion, Three Hundred and Three Million, Four Hundred and Eighteen Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirteen Ghana Cedis (GH¢4,303,418,613)** for the 2020 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.

  
**HON. DR MARK ASSIBEY-YEBOAH**  
**(CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE)**

  
**MS EVELYN BRESO BOATENG**  
**(CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)**

