

IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF
THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA



REPORT

of the

COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE AND INTERIOR

on the

2021 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

for the

2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY

MARCH, 2021

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In compliance with article 179(1) of the Constitution, the Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Osei Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu presented the 2021 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government to Parliament on Friday, 12th March, 2021.

In accordance with to Orders 140(4) and 158 of the Standing Orders, the Rt. Hon. Speaker, referred the Annual Estimates for the Fiscal year 2021 of the Ministry of the Interior to the Committee on Defence and Interior for consideration and report.

1.1 COMMITTEE DELIBERATION

The Committee met on Monday 22nd March and Tuesday, 23rd March, 2021 to consider the Estimates of the Ministry. Those who assisted the Committee to thoroughly deliberate on the estimates were the the Hon. Minister for the Interior, Mr. Ambrose Dery, Heads of the Agencies under the Ministry and officials of the Ministry of Finance. The Committee is grateful to the Minister and all the officials for their support.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee referred to the following documents during its deliberation:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- iii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2020 Financial Year
- iv. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2021 Financial Year
- v. The 2021 Estimates of the Ministry of the Interior

3.0 MISSION OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

The Ministry of the Interior is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the internal security of the country is maintained.

The goal of the Ministry is to provide a safe and secure environment, where socio-economic activities will thrive within the confines of the law to enable Ghana enhance her status as a middle-income country to achieve higher growth and development.

The Ministry relies on the under-listed Agencies in the pursuit of its mission.

- i. Ghana Police Service (GP)
- ii. Ghana Prisons Service (PS)
- iii. Ghana National Fire Service (GNFS)
- iv. Ghana Immigration Service (GIS)
- v. National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) and
- vi. Narcotics Control Board (NACOB)

Additionally, the Ministry has oversight responsibility over the:

- vii. National Peace Council (NPC)
- viii. Ghana Refugee Board (GRB)
- ix. National Commission on Small Arms (NACSA) and
- x. Gaming Commission (GC).

Pursuant to the mandate of the Ministry, these Agencies have the responsibility of handling specific operational functions in order to achieve the objectives therein.

4.0 OVERVIEW OF THE NON-FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE MINISTRY IN 2020

The Ministry operates under five distinctive programmes namely.

- (P1): Management and Administration
- (P2): Conflicts and Disasters Management
- (P3): Crime Management
- (P4): Migration and Refugee Management
- (P5): Gaming Regulations

Below is the summary of the programmes achievement during the period under

review:

A. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Ministry of the Interior (Headquarters)

- i. The Ministry developed a legal framework for the establishment of an Independent Police Complaints Commission.
- ii. Facilitated the laying of the Narcotics Control Commission Bill in Parliament.
- iii. Provided effective services to the general public through the issuance of 1,406 Dual Citizen Cards to applicants, registration of 20 new Private Security Organizations (PSOs) and renewal of licenses for 282 existing registered PSOs.
- iv. The Ministry received seventeen (17) nominees of officers nominated as Migration Desk Officers from key stakeholder institutions for the creation of Migration Desks at the relevant Ministries as part of the process of establishing a Migration Commission.
- v. Coordinated and monitored the programmes and activities of the Agencies and submitted performance and progress reports to the Office of the Head of Civil Service (OHCS), Ministry of Finance, Parliament and National Development Planning Commission (NDPC).
- vi. Undertook monitoring of projects at Nsawam Remand Prisons and the construction of the National Peace House.

B. CONFLICTS AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons

the National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons marked the Ghana Police Service weapons in 12 Regions (Central, Eastern, Bono, Bono East, Ahafo, Northern, Savanna, North East, Upper East, Upper West, Western and Western North Regions) and newly procured weapons of the Ghana Immigration Service. The Commission also collected 1,194 seized illicit small arms from all Police armouries and exhibit stores in the Western and Western North Regions for destruction. The Commission set up offices in the Ashanti, Northern, Upper West, Upper East, Volta and Western Regions and recruited 20 staff to augment its existing staff

Ghana National Fire Service

- i. The Ghana National Fire Service (General Administration) Regulations, 2020 (L.I. 2415) was passed into Law in 2020 to prescribe the Administrative Structure, Terms and Conditions of the Service employees.
- ii. The Service took delivery of two hydraulic platforms in November 2020 and responded to Six Thousand, Five Hundred and Four (6,504) fire outbreaks from 1st January, 2020 to 31st December, 2020. The estimated cost of damage and salvage were GH¢ 40,544,519.18 and GH¢ 1,278,930.00 respectively. The running cost of operations for the period was colossal.
- iii. It undertook 5,103 fire safety inspections of premises, carried out 3,147 education and sensitization 192 programmes on Public Fire Safety and trained 1,151 Fire Volunteers to ensure reduction of bush fires.

National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO)

- i. The National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) organized **7,099** Public Education and Sensitization activities nationwide on Disaster Risk Reduction to sensitize the public on floods, COVID-19 and their related issues.
- ii. NADMO embarked upon 4,241 Field Trips to emergency scenes to assess emergency situations as well as hazard prone areas.
- iii. Conducted 30 Simulation Exercises to build capacity of staff and other stakeholders.
- iv. NADMO carried out 1,969 emergency response and rescue missions.
- v. NADMO supported 57,689 out of 366,233 disaster victims with relief items.

National Peace Council

- i. Conducted nationwide advocacy on the Roadmap & the Code of Conduct to eradicate Vigilantism and the Vigilantism and Related Offences Act 2019, (Act 999) in 124 Constituencies for Political Parties, CSOs, Religious Leaders, Traditional Leaders, and governance institutions.

- ii. A 13 Member National Monitoring Committee was set up to monitor the implementation of the Roadmap and Code of Conduct for Eradication of Vigilantism
- iii. National Peace Council in collaboration with CDD-Ghana established 16 Peace Mediation Committees in 16 Districts to prevent, manage, and resolve election related conflicts.
- iv. The National Peace Council partnered with the Office of the Chief Imam, the Institute of Democratic Governance (IDEG) and the National House of Chiefs to organized the 3rd High Level Presidential Elections Peace Pact ahead of the 2020 General Elections in Accra on December 4, 2020
- v. The National Peace Council planned dialogue sessions with the Political Parties and Election Task force to ensure peaceful election 2020, had extensive consultations and engagements with the NDC, NPP CPP among others to promote the use of non violent approaches in resolving election related conflicts
- vi. Establish 16 Peace Mediation Committees in 16 Districts to prevent, manage, and resolve election related conflicts
- vii. NPC in collaboration with United Nations Office for West Africa and Sahel (UNOWAS) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ghana, held two separate stakeholders' forum to promote Peaceful 2020 General Elections in Kumasi and Tamale ahead of the 7 December, 2020 elections. The National Stakeholders' Dialogue offered opportunity to other participants who raised pertinent issues on ensuring peaceful and credible elections.

C. CRIME MANAGEMENT

Ghana Police Service

- i. Renovated and furnished a Municipal Assembly facility at Dambai to be used as Oti Regional Police Headquarters. And also renovated and furnished the Damaŋgo District Police Headquarters to be used as the Savannah Regional Police Headquarters.

- ii. Upgraded operational capacity of the FPU through acquisition of additional logistics, vehicles and equipment.
- iii. Constructed 2 Pre-Fab Units with washroom facilities at the FPU with 200 bed capacity for personnel undergoing refresher training in how to deal with public order disturbances, and other crimes.
- iv. Through Public-Private Partnership Agreement, a new Police Divisional Headquarters building at Cantonments was commissioned for use.
- v. Commenced the construction of three storey administration block for the FPU and staff of the International Relations Department of the Ghana Police Service.
- vi. Completed for full use a transit quarters for Senior Police Officers abandoned since 2003, located at the National Police Headquarters.
- vii. With support from central Government, took delivery of vehicles, uniforms and various accoutrements such as ballistic vests, ballistic helmets, ballistic shields, arms and ammunitions, and other operational logistics which enhanced Police operations to a very large extent.
- viii. Continued the implementation of the collaborative strategic policy with respect to road safety management involving the MTTD, NRSA, DVLA, Media, and other relevant stakeholders, in the area of education and enforcement, so as to reduce fatalities on our roads. For instance, as a result of such collaborative strategy.
- ix. Collaborated with other security Services to conduct series of operations , such as Calm Life, Conquer Fist, operation vanguard, intelligence-led swoops in suspected criminals hideouts, as well as others, all aimed at reducing incidence of crime across the country.

Ghana Prisons Services

The Ghana Prisons Service registered 84 inmates for BECE and enrolled 59 others for tertiary programmes. 1,631 inmates were granted amnesty by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Ghana. This reduced overcrowding significantly from 49.49 percent to 39.55 percent.

Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC)

- i. The Narcotics Control Commission Act, 2020 (Act 1019) was passed into law in May 2020.
- ii. The Commission in December 2020 recruited 150 officers made up of 57 senior ranks and 94 junior ranks.
- iii. The commission established offices in six in the newly created regions and existing ones namely: Upper East, Oti, Savannah, Volta, Ahafo and Bono East.
- iv. NACOC educated the general public on the harmful effects of drug abuse throughout the country.
- v. Counselling sessions were held with clients at various rehabilitation centers' throughout the country. Over 264 counselling sessions were held throughout the country
- vi. NACOC intensified its surveillance activities throughout the country. Thus, 24 cases were recorded, arrested 13 drug traffickers and convicted.
- vii. NACOC continued the monitoring of activities of companies in the distribution-chain (import, distribution, use, and re-exportation) of precursor chemicals in the country to prevent the diversion of these chemicals in the manufacture of illicit drugs.

D. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE MANAGEMENT

Ghana Immigration Service

- i. A total of Five Hundred and Fifty-eight (**558**) Officer Cadets were commissioned and Two Thousand and Forty-six (**2,046**) Recruit Officers passed out from the Immigration Service Academy and Training School respectively.
- ii. The Service arrested a total of Five Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-eight (**5,448**) foreign nationals for breaching immigration laws and penalties

imposed on offenders were collected.

- iii. The Service received donations of a total of Eighty-four **(84)** various vehicles to augment the Two Hundred and Fifty-Six **(256)** total fleet of vehicles on road to Three Hundred and Forty **(340)**.
- iv. The media and various communities were effectively engaged in public education on the need to embark on safe migration and observe COVID-19 protocols. Also, a total of One Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy **(1,670)** Officers were trained in different disciplines both internally and externally to equip officers with relevant capacity to deliver on the mandate of the Service.
- v. The Service through its Intelligence Unit received and responded to Three Hundred and Ninety-Nine (399) requests for clearance and verification of residence permits and other documents from the law enforcements and non-law enforcement agencies as well as foreign Missions and Embassies in Ghana.
- vi. The Document Fraud and Expertise Centre received and verified Three Hundred and Twenty-three (323) cases of travel history and other source documents such as marriage and birth certificates as well as various referral cases of suspected forgeries/counterfeits of travel documents received from various stakeholders. Out of the number of cases received, Two Hundred and Forty-nine (249) were genuine and Seventy-four (74) were found to be fraudulent.

Ghana Refugee Board

- i. Registration of new arrivals into the country (Asylum Seekers)
- ii. Interviews for asylum seekers – Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Interviews
- iii. Printing of 226 Convention Travel Documents (CTDs) for refugees
- iv. Printing of Refugee 998 ID cards
- v. 115 Liberian Passports issued with resident permit

E. Gaming Regulation

Gaming Commission

- i. The Gaming Commission has completed a comprehensive review of the gaming landscape in Ghana to have an insight of the size and shape of the industry compared to other jurisdictions.
- ii. The Commission is in the final stages of the procurement process to select a firm for the installation of a Gaming Administration and Electronic Monitoring System to enhance work processes, monitoring and revenue generation.
- iii. A Policy Guideline on advertisement has been developed for the gaming industry to regulate advertising and promote responsible gaming.
- iv. A Policy Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations and Terrorist Financing (TF) for the gaming industry is in the final stages of development
- v. The Commission in collaboration with Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) sensitized staff of the Commission on Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations & Suspicious Transaction Reports (STR)
- vi. A Scheme of Service document has been developed and forwarded through the Ministry of the Interior to the Public Services Commission (PSC) for approval.
- vii. In spite of the economic loss suffered by betting operators as a result of restrictions imposed on sporting and other gaming events worldwide due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Commission was able to collect 74.84% of its revenue target of 28,109,372.32 compared to a similar performance of 76.79% in 2019 though the year was not fraught with the same challenges of 2020.
- viii. The Commission also conducted monitoring activities in Wassa Akropong and Asankragua resulting in the closure of five (5) unlicensed casinos.

5.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR 2020

The highlights of the economic performance of the Ministry as at 31st December, 2020 are provided below:

	G O G						
MDAs	CoE	Actuals	G&S	Actuals	CAPEX	Actuals	TOTAL
MINT(HQR)	4,087,710.00	3,469,277.50	5,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	25,200,000.00	12,461,161.99	19,930,439.49
NACSA	1,017,375.00	998,251.72	950,000.00	944,394.04	.00	0.00	1,942,645.76
REFUGEE BOARD	1,028,888.00	922,401.10	800,000.00	693,583.72	.00	0.00	1,615,984.82
PEACE COUNCIL	3,170,952.00	2,994,000.00	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00	.00	0.00	4,394,000.00
POLICE SERVICE	1,795,843,925.00	1,976,994,442.14	194,777,469.00	110,724,019.00	55,000,000.00	55,000,000.00	2,142,718,461.14
PRISONS	308,851,731.00	312,863,656.00	20,000,000.00	19,999,698.00	0.00	0.00	332,863,354.00
FIRE SERV.	415,6930,900.00	389,032,452.45	20,000,000.00	20,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	409,032,452.45
IMMIGRATION	245,956,113.00	305,894,328.14	47,500,000.00	36,486,239.80	19,500,000.00	18,448,400.00	360,828,967.94
NADMO	143,973,958.00	126,902,753.67	11,600,000.00	8,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	134,902,753.67
NACOB	34,824,468.00	33,971,336.87	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	38,971,336.87
GRAND TOTAL	2,954,446,020.00	3,154,042,899.59	307,027,469.00	98,903,921.05	99,700,000.00	85,909,561.99	3,447,200,396.14

6.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2021

The Ministry of the Interior will collaborate with its Department and Agencies to perform the following programme of activities:

A. CONFLICTS AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons

In 2021, the Commission will mark all Police weapons in Greater Accra and Tema Police stations as well as Military weapons in the Greater Accra Region to promote accountability, easy tracing and identification of state owned arms. The Commission will establish an electronic Small Arms Database Management system (illicit Arms flows and Armed Violence Monitoring Platform/Observatory) for evidence-based reporting to measure the impact of illicit small arms on the country and to inform policy decisions and programme interventions.

Ghana National Fire Service (GNFS)

GNFS will continue to organise regular fire prevention and safety education in various languages and procure firefighting equipment and accessories to enhance operational efficiency.

National Peace Council (NPC)

NPC will continue with conflict mediation in Bimbilla, Bawku, Alavanyo and Nkonya as well as other potential conflict areas. It will also strengthen the capacity of women and youth in at least three conflict areas. The NPC will continue its advocacy campaign on the eradication of vigilantism.

National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO)

NADMO will activate early warning systems for floods and other emergencies for awareness creation and preparedness against emergencies. It will also complete and implement the National Contingency Plan on earthquakes, and other policies on disaster risk reduction to come out with a blue print for management of emergencies. It will develop space-based (GIS & Remote Sensing Technology) infrastructure for real time information on emergency and response. It will also implement the livelihood support measure plan for disaster victims.

B. CRIME MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Ghana Prisons Service

In 2021, the Ministry, through the Ghana Prison Service, will continue with the construction of Nsawam Prison remand project and other prison construction projects, train 2,200 inmates in technical and vocational skills and provide formal education for 1,000 others. It will also build the capacity of 1,350 personnel who have recently been recruited.

Ghana Police Service

In 2021, the Ministry, through the Ghana Police Service will enhance intelligence-led policing through the expansion of the reward to informant system. It will continue with the programme of setting up CCTV to cover police stations across the country

and continue the automation of Police Stations programme under the "Transformation Agenda".

The Service will deepen police–public relation through stronger partnership and collaboration with the media, civil society organizations and the public at large. The Air Wing pilots of the Ghana Police Service have completed training and will be fully operational to enhance effective police operation.

Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC)

In 2021, the Ministry, through the NACOC will recruit and manage informants and agents. It will also conduct baseline survey on illicit drugs in Ghana and conduct airport and land border interceptions. It will control and monitor precursor chemicals and psychotropic substances.

C. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Ghana Immigration Service

Operations and Projects earmarked for 2021

In 2021, the Service will continue the amendment of Immigration Act 2000, (Act 573) and develop policies in response to changing environment

1. Operations

Processing and issuance of visas (including entry, transit, and re-entry visas)
Process and issue various GIS permits including Work Permit, Residence Permit, and Indefinite Permit etc. Investigate various breaches of Immigration laws and regulations Prosecute persons who breach Immigration Laws Continue robust patrolling of the borders to enforce the closure of all borders as well as collaborate with the Ghana Health Service in contact tracing Operationalize HR software

2. Projects

Commence Sod cutting for the construction of an Ultra-Modern GIS Headquarters building; Continue construction of Armouries and magazines Procure office furniture and machinery for various Commands; Continue with ongoing Projects: Odorkor flats, North Ridge to be used as excellence training centre for the West

Africa sub region; and Continue construction of 3-Storey, 2-Bedroom Block of 6-Flats, 3-Bedroom Bungalow, 4-Storey of 24 Flats, External Associated Works at Elubo. (Border Management Project)

Ghana Refugee Board

The Ghana Refugee Board will continue to sensitize refugees and the public on how to relate well with the refugees. It will also embark on camp and border monitoring and undertake voluntary repatriation exercises.

D. GAMING REGULATIONS PROGRAMME

Gaming Commission

The Gaming Commission will continue the process of amending the Gaming Act 2006, (Act 721). It will also continue the development of a Legislative Instrument (L.I.) to strengthen the mandate of the Commission. It will open two new Regional offices and build capacity of staff through local and international training, monitor and secure the implementation of laws on casinos and any other games of chance, as well as undertake sensitization on gaming regulations.

7.0 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR 2021

The total allocation for the 2021 fiscal year to the Ministry and its Agencies is ***Three Billion, four Hundred and Ten Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty One Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 3,410,881,573.00)***. GOG contribution to the Ministry of the Interior budget have consistently been above 95% since 2019. GOG contribution to the sector budget increased from 98.2% in 2019 to 98.4% in 2020 and 99% in 2021.

As is usual of previous years, GOG is funding a great bulk of the Ministry's operations for 2021. The contribution of the Ministry's IGF to the budget have witnessed a downward trend since 2019. Whiles the IGF contributed to 1.4% of the sector budget in 2019, its contribution to the budget in 2020 was 1.2% and it would be just 1% of the sector budget.

Donor contribution to the budget in 2019 and 2020 was 0.4% each and there would not be any donor contribution to the sector budget in 2021.

Table 3: DISTRIBUTION OF 2021 CEILING

MDAs	GOG			
	CoE	GOOD AND SERVICES	CAPEX	TOTAL
MINT(HQR)	4,790,000.00	4,000,000.00	35,220,000.00	44,010,000.00
NACSA	1,333,372.00	941,035.00		2,274,407.00
REFUGEE BOARD	871,400.00	700,000.00		1,571,400.00
PEACE COUNCIL	3,031,330	800,000.00		3,831,330
POLICE SERVICE	2,038,800,000	17,910,000.00		2,056,710,000.00
PRISONS SERVICE	319,749,694	10,000,000.00		329,749,694.00
FIRE SERVICE	417,690,000	5,000,000.00		422,690,900.00
IMMIGRATION	337,575,147	800,000.00		338,375,147
NADMO	127,863,685.	6,000,000.00		133,863,685.00
NACOC	39,096,174	1,400,000.00		40,496,174.00
GRAND TOTAL	3,290,801,702	47,551,035.00	35,220,000.00	3,373,572,737

TABLE 4: IGF Allocations for 2021

MDAs	CoE	Good and Services	CAPEX	TOTAL
PRISONS SERVICE		179,790.00		179,790.00
POLICE SERVICE		6,196,603.00		6,196,603
NACOC		326,696.00		326,696.00
IMMIGRATION		11,751,390	7,834,260	19,585,650.00
GAMING COMMISSION	4,518,240.00	4,518,237.00	1,983,620.00	11,020,097.00
GRAND TOTAL	4,518,240.00	22,972,716	9,817,880	37,308,836.00

The summary of the total approved 2021 budget for the Sector Ministry is indicated below:

- GoG - 3,373,572,737
- IGF - 37,308,836
- DP - Nil
- Total - **3,410,881,573**

Allocation by sources of funding

- The total budget for the Ministry of the Interior for the 2021 fiscal year is **GH¢3,410,881,574**.
- **GH¢3,373,572,737** representing 99% of the sector budget would be financed from GOG resources.
- An amount of **GH¢37,308,837** representing 1% of the budget would also be financed from the Ministry's IGF.

Allocation by economic classification

- An amount of **GH¢3,295,319,942** representing 96.6% of the sector budget is allocated to Compensation of Employees.
- An amount of **GH¢70,523,751** which represents 2.1% of the sector budget is allocated to Goods and Services.
- Capital Expenditure for the ministry is also allocated **GH¢45,037,880** constituting 1.3% of the sector budget.

8.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee observed that the agencies under the Ministry encountered some challenges due to the inadequate funding and delays in the release of funds, and this hindered the Ministry's performance. Below are some of the key challenges the Ministry faced during the year under review:

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (HEADQUARTERS)

The Committee noted that in 2016, the Ghana National Migration Policy (NMP) was initiated to facilitate and create an enabling environment, to leverage the opportunities of migration for Ghana's development.

The goal of the NMP was to harness the opportunities and minimize the costs of internal and international migration through legal means which would guarantee the rights and security of migrants and thus promote socio-economic development in Ghana.

The objective of the NMP is to ensure a comprehensive and sustainable approach to migration management that enhance the potential of migration for development in Ghana. It will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the National Development Policy Frameworks such as the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework: Agenda for Jobs Creation and Equal Opportunity.

The Committee entreats government to take pragmatic measures towards the upgrade of the Migration Unit to the status of a Commission. When upgraded, the Ghana National Commission on Migration (GNMC) would ensure the elimination of barriers to cross-border trade, specifically address cross-border issues, exercise appropriate regional and international trade in the context of migration management. It would also promote regional dialogue on migration for trade and services. This would help identify gaps in other legislations that hinder migration related stakeholders from contributing to the realisation of the gains associated with positive management of migration.

CRITICAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE AGENCIES UNDER THE 2021 BUDGET

The Committee observed that the critical requirements of the Agencies under the Ministry were not considered during the budgetary allocations. These would hamper the effective and efficient performance of the functions of these since because the projections focused on actual expenditure. The key requirements of these agencies include the following:

- i. Non payment of outstanding claims covered by commencement warrant;
- ii. Inadequate operational vehicles and logistics for the Ministry and some of its Agencies;
- iii. Non-retention of part of IGF for the Ministry and some of its Agencies adversely affecting their operations;
- iv. Inadequate Fire Hydrants, Water Sources and protective clothing for firefighting operations;
- v. Inadequate Office and Residential Accommodation for Officers; and

- vi. Low prisoners' ration and accumulation of arrears, threatening the smooth supply of food by the suppliers.

The enumerated critical requirements are outstanding bills from the previous years, which sum up to a total of **GH¢1,017,366,968.24**. The breakdown of the amount is as follows:

i.	Ghana Prisons Service	-	26,853,828.58
ii.	Ghana Police Service	-	351,274,500.00
iii.	Ghana Immigration Service	-	113,183,842.40
iv.	Ghana National Fire Service	-	401,492,884.24
v.	Narcotics Control Commission	-	61,169,970.53
vi.	National Disaster Organization	-	52,335,944.00
vii.	National Peace Council	-	1,380,000.00
viii.	Nat Commission on Small Arms	-	7,850,000.00
ix.	Ghana Refugee Board	-	1,826,000.00

The Committee is of the strong conviction that the said sum of **GH¢1,017,366,968.24** should be charged against this year's budgetary allocation and government should take practical steps to honour this outstanding commitment.

GHANA NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE

Inadequate Extrication Equipment

The Committee observed that the inability of the Fire Service to procure rescuing and extrication equipment has made it extremely difficult for the effective rescue of people trapped in fire and other motor accidents. An amount of **Six Million, five hundred and forty-four thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy-Two Ghana cedis, Ninety-Two pesewas (GH¢6,544,672.92)** is required for the procurement of the equipment. The Committee therefore requests the Ministry of Finance to release funds for the Goods and Services allocation to enable the Ghana National Fire Service procure the necessary equipment for the execution of the mandate

The Committee further observed that cost of Fuel for the Service is a critical issue in the management of fire outbreaks. During firefighting, the fire engine continue to be on as long as the fire protracts and this process consumes a lot of fuel hence the need for additional funds.

REFUGEEES BOARD

Passage of a new Legislation

The Committee noted from best practice that the body responsible for Refugees has the status of a Commission, hence the need to amend the legislation on Refugee Board to the status of a Commission. The current status of the body in question is a Refugee Board which undermines the operational performance of the Board and therefore needs to address the legal deficiency. Pertinent issues such as the conversion of refugees to asylum seekers are emerging. So far as refugees are recognised as such, government would have to provide resources for their upkeep.

GHANA PRISONS

Medical and Ration Bills

The Committee observed that overcrowding in Prisons has resulted in improper classification and contamination of newly admitted inmate and this continues to pose serious health problems to the inmates to settle medical and ration bills of inmates and consequently the lacks of access to credit from health intuitions and food suppliers.

Secondly, budgetary allocation to the Prison Service over the years is inadequate hence poor funding.

Scanners and Jammers

The Committee noted that the Service, due to poor funding is unable to procure jammers and scanners to curtail the entry of prohibited articles into the prison facilities across the country.

The Committee is urges the Ministry of Finance to address the critical needs of outstanding prisoners ration bills amounting to **GH¢10,577,053.56** and medical bill of **GH¢2,582,398.00**. The Ministry must also provide adequate funds for the continuation of the 800-remand facility project at Nsawam to enable the Service decongest the overcrowding situation.

GHANA POLICE SERVICE

Inadequate Budgetary Allocation and Non-Release of Funds

The Ghana Police Service is confronted with outstanding payments for Goods and Services with respect to the 2020 Budgetary Allocation resulting in a difficulty of further procurement of Goods and Services from suppliers. This challenge coupled with the non-release of funds for uncompleted projects has also compounded the challenge of providing descent accommodation for the Officers and men of the Service. This compels the Service to expend huge sums of money to pay rent for some Officers. The outstanding payments owed by property owners as at December, 2020 is GH¢11,650,900. There is also a huge accommodation gap between officers accommodated by the Service and those not accommodated by the Service and this affects the moral of those not accommodated by the Service. The paltry sum allocated for CAPEX for the 2021 fiscal year would compel the Service to halt projects commenced in the previous years.

The Committee strongly recommends that the Ministry of Finance makes every effort to address the huge gap between the expected allocation for Goods and Services and CAPEX to enable the Ministry to at least discharge its mandate effectively. The Ghana Police Service indicated that the budgetary allocation for Goods and Services is inadequate for the Service to procure basic equipment needed to carry out their operations.

Non-retention of IGF

The Committee also observed that the non-retention of IGF accrued by the CID remains a major challenge for the Police Service as the Service still applies part of its

inadequate allocations to support the collection of their IGF, which does not yield any dividends to the Service.

In this regard, the Committee is of the considered view that the Ministry of Finance initiates the process for the enactment of necessary legislation for the Ghana Police Service to retain not less than of 50% of the IGF to complement the budgetary allocation.

Ghana Immigration Service

Inadequate budgetary allocation

The Committee noted that the Immigration Service lacked adequate logistical support for the smooth running of its operations across the country. The budgetary allocation for Goods and Services is woefully inadequate. The Committee took note that the Immigration Service would require additional sum of **GH¢ 4,200,000** to procure the requisite logistics to sustain a coordinated activity of the Immigration Service at all the borders in the country.

IGF Increase

The Committee also noted that the Immigration Service currently retains 15 per cent IGF but this is inadequate. The Immigration Service has been proactive in the increase of its internal funds mobilisation.

The Committee therefore recommends that the percentage of the IGF retention be increased from 15 per cent to 40 per cent to complement the budget for Goods and Services and CAPEX.

Ghana National Fire Service

Training school

The Committee has over the period identified the need for the GNFS to construct a new training college that meets the global standard of a firefighting training school. The current facility used for training was once a gas filling station, which does not even meet the minimum global standard of a training school.

IGF retention

Another challenge facing the GNFS is its inability to retain its IGF. The Committee further observed that the IGF collected by the Fire Service is all paid into the consolidated fund. The Committee therefore recommends that 40% of the IGF should be retained by GNFS to complement its inadequate budgetary allocations.

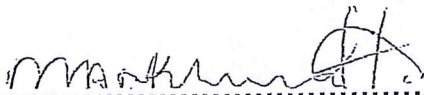
8.0 RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

The Committee, having carefully examined of the estimates of the Ministry and its agencies, is of the candid view that the levels of allocation unfortunately remains far from adequate. If Ghana is to continue to enjoy accelerated socio-economic development and growth, it is important that the government places premium on protection of human life and property.

It is therefore imperative that the budgetary allocation is reviewed with the urgency that it deserves to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Ministry and its Agencies.

This notwithstanding, the Committee recommends to the House for approval the total of *Three Billion, four Hundred and Ten Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty One Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 3,410,881,573.00)* made to the Ministry of Interior for the Financial Year ending 31st December 2021.

Respectfully submitted.



HON. KEN OHENE ADJAPONG
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
DEFENCE & INTERIOR



EDITH EDILYN ADJEI
CLERK, COMMITTEE ON
DEFENCE & INTERIOR