

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

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2021

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Majority Leader and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Osei Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu for the year ending 31st December, 2021 on Friday, 5th March, 2021, 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 Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Emmanuel Adumua-Bossman, 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 2021 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:

1. Office of the President and other Agencies
 - i. Office of the President
 - ii. Office of the Vice President
 - iii. Office of the Chief of Staff
 - iv. Cabinet Secretariat
 - v. Office of the Chief of State Protocol
 - vi. Ghana AIDS Commission
 - vii. Commissions and Councils
 - viii. National Population Council
 - ix. Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
 - x. Internal Audit Agency
 - xi. Office of the Administrator – General
 - xii. Millennium Development Authority
 - xiii. State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)
 - xiv. Public Sector Reforms
2. Public Enterprises
3. Scholarships Secretariat
4. Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)
5. Microfinance and Small Loans Centre
6. National Identification Authority
7. Inner City and Zongo Development
8. Special Development Initiatives
 - i. Northern Development Authority
 - ii. Middle Belt Development Authority
 - iii. Coastal Development Authority
9. Monitoring and Evaluation

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 2020 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

The Office of the President procured office equipment and machinery made up of Honda motorcycles, vehicles, scanners and walk-through detectors and computers and printers for the smooth operation of the Presidency.

The Cabinet Secretariat also constituted five (5) Committees based on the key thematic areas of the executive function. The Secretariat further organized Nineteen (19) meetings and Two (2) cabinet retreats.

3.2 Ghana AIDS Commission

For the year 2020, the Commission, among others:

- Helped to maintain the HIV prevalence rate at 1.70% as recorded in 2019.
- Helped to reduce new infections from 20,062 in 2019 to 17,581.
- Helped to reduce AIDS related deaths from 13,616 in 2019 to 9,957.
- Increased People Living with HIV (PLHIV) treatment from 153,901 in 2019 to 204,031.
- PLHIV on Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) achieved viral suppression of 57%.
- Increased condom distribution to 28.8 Million from 26.8 Million in 2019.

- Increased HIV testing also moved upwards from 1.9 Million in 2019 to 23 Million.
- Placed 13,458 positive pregnant women on treatment under the Prevention of Mother to Child transmission of HIV Program as against 11,686 positive pregnant women who received ARVs in 2019.
- had a Strong engagement and advocacy with the Legislature and other stakeholders resulting in the passing and dissemination of the Ghana AIDS Commission Regulations 2020 (L.I. 2403).
- Set up a multi-sectoral committee to oversee the launch of the HIV fund to mobilize domestic resources to complement budgetary allocation.
- Developed and implemented the Covid-19 mitigation plan among Persons Living with HIV and vulnerable populations.
- Finalized the new NSP 2021 - 2025 to drive the national response of HIV and AIDS for the next five (5) years.

3.3 Scholarships Secretariat

For the year 2020, the Secretariat

- Automated its District Level local tertiary Scholarship Scheme
- Partnered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, through the Ministry of Health, to award scholarships and surgeons locally.
- Collaborated with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture awarded scholarships to three children/dependents of the 2020 National best farmer and Regional best farmers. The scholarship package entitles the awardees to a free tertiary education in any of the tertiary institutions and also a residential training. A total of 130 National and Regional best farmers benefitted from the package.
- Collaborated with the Ghana Prisons Service to train their officers in Information Technology related courses.
- Trained all Metropolitan Municipal and District Chief Executives on the automation of scholarships awards in order for them to spearhead it in their area of operation.
- Trained IT staff and Accountants of tertiary institutions (where there are scholarship beneficiaries) on the scholarship validation process across the various regions of the country.
- Reconciled 2019/2020 scholarship awards at the various tertiary institutions in the country.

- Monitored and reconciled activities were undertaken by staff to Ghana embassies in Togo, Benin, Hungary and Czech Republic which hosted scholarships beneficiaries during the first quarter of 2020.
- Organized training for the Registrars, Accountants and Internal Auditors of the tertiary Institutions on the Public Financial Management Acts and Regulations.

The Secretariat also paid the:

- fourth quarter arrears for the 2019/2020 academic year at a total cost of GH¢41,766,660. This included arrears that were due the northern schools for the 2019/2010 academic year.
- first, second and third quarters allowances for Bilateral scholarships beneficiaries in Russia, Algeria, Hungary, Morocco, Turkey, India, Cuba and China.
- First, second and third quarters allowances for Non Bilateral scholarship beneficiaries in United Kingdom, United States of America, Europe and Canada for the 2019/2020 academic year.
- Terminal Benefits of bilateral students who have completed their studies abroad for the 2019/2020 academic year.
- Tuition Fee, Stipends and other allowances of language proficiency students in Benin, Togo, Spain, Tanzania and Russia.
- A total of 8,799 applicants under the District Level Local Tertiary Decentralization Scheme.

3.4 Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

The Centre's key achievements for the period included the

- disbursement of Gh¢131.20 Million as loans and projects (Micro and Small loans formed Gh¢53.7 Million while Asset Financing totaled Gh¢77.5 Million).
- Disbursement of 31,000 micro loans and 960 small loans to beneficiaries as against a budget of 82,736 micro loans and 6,072 Small loans respectively.
- Allocation of 1,174 tricycles out of a planned allocation of 3,060 tricycles.
- Allocation of 187 vehicles made up of 99 Mini Urban Buses and 88 Saloon Cars.
- Introduction and disbursement of Hair Driers and Sewing Machines to 59,092 beneficiaries.

3.5 Internal Audit Agency (IAA)

For the period under review, the Agency

- Restructured the Agency and the Internal Audit Function,
- Monitored of Internal Audit Practices in Covered Entities.-
- Provided training and capacity building for 941 public officers from 35 Covered Entities in Enterprise Risk Management (ERM), Risk Based Internal Auditing (RBIA), Procurement Audit, Public Financial Management Act, and Information Technology Audit.
- Trained 158 Audit Committee members on key issues relating to status of implementation of audit recommendations.
- Followed-up on 70 audit infractions and 70 recommendations in 13 Covered Entities in Greater Accra, Eastern and Central regions. Total value of infractions detected amounted to GH¢24,045,837.13. Out of the total amount, GH¢23,984,698.75 representing 99.8% has been rectified, leaving an outstanding amount of GH¢61,138.38.
- Published List of public sector institutions failing to submit required reports to the IAA as mandated by the PFM, Act 2016(Act 921).
- Improved collaboration with Donor Partners and other institutions to reposition the Agency as important pre-corruption institution Signing number of MoUs with other Anti-corruption institutions to enable the Agency support them prosecute persons found culpable in Internal Audit Reports and improve Internal Audit Practice Regulation in Ghana.
- Created a new website with opportunity for IAUs to submit Internal Audit reports virtually activating the Independent powers of the DG to support prosecution of persons found culpable in Internal Audit Reports with support from OSP, Police and AGs Department.

3.6 State Protocol Department

During the period under review, the Department facilitated the hosting of fourteen (14) Heads of States and Governments from Trinidad and Tobago, Mali, and Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo on 15th September for the ECOWAS Summit.

The State Protocol Department facilitated three (3) sessions for the presentation of letters of credence to H.E. the President by Fifteen (15) Ambassadors and High Commissioners from Zimbabwe, Mali, Kenya, India, Rwanda, Guinea, Togo, Denmark,

Holy Sea, Zambia, South Africa, Sudan, Cote D'Ivoire, Australia, the Czech Republic and Italy,

His Excellency the President also undertook Fifty (50) internal working visits and Fourteen (14) External working visits. The Department assisted in commemorating Six (6) National events which were the African Union Day, Eid-UI-Adha, State of the Nations Address, 72nd Anniversary of the 28th February Crossroad Shooting, Ghana 63rd Independence Day Celebrations, and Eid-UI-Fitr.

The Department facilitated Four (4) farewell call events for the outgoing Ambassadors of South Africa (twice), Ethiopia, Namibia, Iran, China, Australia, Benin, Guinea, India and Nigeria. Seventeen (17) Swearing-in ceremonies were facilitated including the swearing in of The Chief Justice, four (4) Supreme Court Justices and other Justices of the Superior Courts.

Two Ambassadors (Libya and Niger), Deputy Minister for Health, Local Organizing Committee for African Games and the swearing in of Member of the Council of State (Ogyeahohoo Yaw Gyebill).

The Department assisted various MDAs and MMDAs in organizing Ten (10) of their events. Fifty (50) Staff members participated in various forms of training. These included competency-based training and scheme of service training organized by the Office of the Head of Civil Service.

3.7 Council of State

For the year 2020, the Council facilitated the passage of the Council of State Act, 2020 (Act 1037).

The Secretariat successfully organized sixty-five (65) meetings for the Council with H.E. the President, Ministers, Heads of Departments and Agencies on issues of national interest. The meetings comprised: two (2) meetings with H.E. the President, forty-two (42) interactive meetings with Ministers and Heads of Departments and Agencies, seven (7) plenary, ten (10) committee, and four (4) emergency and special meetings.

The Council of State made two key presentations to augment Government's efforts to combat the spread of the corona virus. These came from the Hon. Members personal contribution. They were:

- Donation of GH¢100,000.00 to the National COVID-19 Fund, and

- Presentation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) comprising examination gloves, surgical masks, and others to the tune of GH¢122,000.00.

3.8 Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)

For the year 2020, the Centre registered 129 new projects with foreign participation between January and December 2020. The estimated value of the newly registered projects stood at US\$2.21 Billion. The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) component of this value was US\$ 2.12 Billion. The total initial capital transfers for the newly registered projects amounted to US\$75.05 Million. Out of the 129 projects registered, 88 were wholly foreign owned enterprises, representing 68.22% and valued at US\$ 1,639.32 Million representing 32.53% of the registered projects valued at US\$ 571.68 Million were Joint Ventures involving Ghanaians. A total of 21,964 jobs are expected to be generated from the 129 projects of which 20,878 of these jobs would be available to Ghanaians.

During the period, GIPC received the enviable award of best investment promotion agency for the past four years at the prestigious Annual Investment Meeting in Dubai. Also, for two years running the Centre has been adjudged the best investment promotion agency in Africa by the reputable CFI.co journal.

The Centre also implemented the "Grow with Ghana" Initiative which seeks to leverage on the country's natural resources and environmental opportunities to attract investors particularly from within the country. The Centre also established the Diaspora Investment Desk as an avenue to engage the diaspora community and tap into the Diaspora Direct Investment which contributes enormously to the development of the Ghanaian economy. GIPC commenced the Aftercare Investment Services to act as an interface with the investor community and provides added value to the relationship between the investor and the Centre by acting as the focal point of contact resolving problems, gathering, and providing information.

The Centre is aggressively promoting activities in various sectors of the economy such as Agriculture and Agro-Processing, Manufacturing, Tourism, Infrastructure among others to facilitate the realization of government's vision of developing beyond aid. The aim is to engage investors to raise the required capital for the COVID-incited GH¢70 Billion Coronavirus Alleviation and Revitalization of Enterprises Support Program (CARE). Additionally, with the AfCFTA agreement commenced in January

2021, the Centre is further aggressively promoting these priority sectors to help the country reap the full gains associated with not only being part of the Free Trade area but also being the host of the Secretariat Increased Online Visibility.

3.9 Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)

With an initial recruitment of 100,000, the Scheme has since recruited a total of 108,373 recruits to date. Out of this number, the current number of trainees on the scheme stands at 97,373.

2,750 NABCO Tranches deployed under the Planting for Food and Jobs Seed and Fertilizer distribution. Overall 5,000 trainees were deployed for the Feed Ghana Module with 20 of them under Mechanization.

145 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 enhance artisanal and small-scale mining tracking and storing in the country.

The Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), has under it about 10% of total NABCO trainees supporting the authority's revenue mobilization drive. The most significant areas are the Customs & Border Patrol, the Domestic Tax Support and Taxpayer identifications Number Issuance and Support

100 NABCO trainees have been posted to the Ministry of Finance are currently being trained by Oracle to provide Technical and Functional Oracle Support for the project with direct impact on the various programmes of Ghana's Integrated Financial Management Information Systems (GIFMIS).

NABCO has also assigned about 12,750 trainees 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 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.

The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMA) has also trained and deployed 137 NABCO Trainees to complement its workforce and, in some cases, replace their aging staff who have retired without replacements.

3.10 Inner City and Zongo Development

During the period under review, the Inner City and Zongo Development

- Completed the rehabilitation of 0.792km of access roads.
- Rehabilitated 0.714km of community drains.
- Constructed 15 community recreational parks (Astro turf) in selected zongo communities.
- Supplied and installed 1750 units of streetlights units in selected Zongo communities across the country.
- Constructed 35 6-unit basic educational classrooms across the country.
- Provided furniture for 30 6-unit basic educational classrooms in selected zongo communities across the country.
- Furnished Thirty-eight (38) ICT centres in selected Zongo Communities across the country.
- Constructed 42 mechanized community water systems in selected zongo communities across the country.
- Constructed thirteen (13) 10-seater institutional toilets in selected zongo communities across the country
- Rehabilitated maternal and child health facility in Kpando.
- Provided 21-Passenger bed-lift for the maternity ward of Mamobi General Hospital
- Trained 200 Zongo youth in assorted vocational skills, entrepreneurship and business development across the country.
- Supplied 65,000 Textbooks on Literacy and Numeracy to selected basic school in Zongo communities across the country.
- Provided grants for tuition to 182 brilliant-but-needy zongo students in local tertiary institutions.
- Organized one (1) ethno-religious dialogue sessions for the promotion of social cohesion and communal peace and security.

3.11 National Identification Authority (NIA)

For the period under review, the National Identification Authority enrolled 15,553,648 Ghanaians aged 15 years and above onto the National Identification Register (NIR). Out of this number, 13,848,697 Ghanaians were issued with Ghana Cards. 132, 604 foreigners were also enrolled onto the NIR and issued with Non-Citizen Identity Cards.

3.12 State Institutions and Governance Authority (SIGA)

During the period under review, SIGA undertook various activities to operationalize the SIGA Act, 2019, Act 990. It also updated its Corporate Plan to bring it in line with the dictates of the SIGA Act, 2019, Act 990.

Performance Contract Documents were revised to reflect changes introduced by Act 990. Performance Monitoring carried out on some Specified Entities in the year 2020.

During the period under review, Sixty-One (61) Entities negotiated and signed Performance Contracts at the time of reporting. This process of negotiating with Specified Entities is still ongoing.

The Authority organised the Performance Contract Signing Ceremony for the signing of the contracts already negotiated. The Vice President of the Republic was in attendance.

SIGA also assessed and made the necessary recommendations for financial support to the Ministry of Finance on behalf of some Specified Entities that have requested for financial support. Among these Specified Entities were Metro Mass Transit Company Limited (MMTC), Inter City Transport Company Limited, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, Ghana Technology University College, Ghana Civil Aviation Authority and Ghana Airport Company Limited.

The Authority repossessed Ghana Consolidated Mines for non-adherence to the divestiture payment agreement. The Authority undertook a valuation of Neoplan Ghana Limited and Ada Songhor Salt for investor participation. SIGA acquired ten (10) vehicles (two 4 X 4 Toyota Land Cruisers, Prado and eight Honda Civic salon), IT infrastructure and office furniture.

3.13 Special Development Initiative

For the year under review, the Secretariat

- Planned to construct 1000 community-based mechanized water systems. 600 of the water systems were constructed and are being used by various beneficiary communities. However, 121 of the boreholes drilled in the Coastal and Northern Development zones have water quality issues and they have been capped. The remaining 279 are expected to be completed and handed over by December 2021
- Planned to construct 1000 10-seater Water Closets. Out of this number, 650 WC toilet facilities have been completed and solar panel installations is on-going while the remaining 350 of the toilet facilities are 80% completed. They are estimated to be fully completed for utilisation by the close of 2021 fiscal year
- Planned to construct 50 prefabricated grain warehouses. Out of this number, 42 warehouses across the country have been completed and installation of the dryers and solar power systems at all the completed warehouses are going on and expected to be completed by June 2021
- Planned to construct 560 small earth dams, out of this number, 427 small earth dams have been completed and are being used by the beneficiary communities livestock watering, small scale farming activities and other domestic purposes
- Forty two (42) out of 50 rural market projects have been completed and are in use by the beneficiary communities. It is envisaged that the remaining projects will be completed and handed over to beneficiary communities by June 2021
- Twenty (20) of the Twenty 26 Rural clinics being constructed have been completed across the three development zones. The installation of hospital equipment's are ongoing at all the completed facilities. The remaining 6 are expected to be completed and handed over by June 2021.
- One thousand (1000) of these projects have been completed across the zones and are in use by the beneficiary communities. Additional 3000 are expected to be completed by December 2021.

The Special Development Initiative procured Three Hundred and Seven (307) new, state-of-the-art ambulances for National Ambulance Service. 10,000 hospital beds had also been procured and distributed across health facilities in each constituencies. Over Four Million digital addresses have been generated and validated. A total of 3,082 outboard motors were also distributed to fisher folks within the Coastal Development zone.

3.14 2020 EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE OUTTURN

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities in 2020, a total amount of **Four Billion, and Eighty-Six Million, and Fifty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty Ghana Cedis (GH¢4,086,052,520.00)** was the revised budget for the Office of Government Machinery for the 2020 financial year. Out of this amount, only **GH¢3,422,300,250.00** was released leaving a variance of **GH¢663,752,270**. The breakdown is shown in Table 1:

Table 1: OGM Budget Outturn ending 30th September, 2020

Item	Budgeted (GH¢)	Actuals (GH¢)	Variance(GH¢)
Employee Compensation	152,624,504	122,241,698	30,382,806
Goods and Services	3,830,640,050	3,212,899,773	617,740,277
Assets	102,787,966	87,158,779	15,629,189
Total	4,086,052,520	3,422,300,250	663,752,270

4.0 2021 BUDGETARY ESTIMATES FOR THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities, an amount of **Two Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Seven Million, One Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty-Four Ghana Cedis (GH¢2,677,117,284.00)** has been allocated to the Office of Government Machinery for the year 2021 as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – Summary of Estimates for 2021

	Compensation of Employees	Goods and Services	CAPEX	TOTAL GH¢
GoG	823,880,668.00	975,128,543.00	519,146,909.00	2,318,156,120.00
IGF	15,672,306.00	27,775,962.00	340,702.00	43,788,970.00
ABFA			275,882,164.00	275,882,164.00
Donor		39,290,030.00		39,290,030.00
Total	839,552,974.00	1,042,194,536.00	795,369,775.00	2,677,117,284.00

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 and its Agencies	610,923,357
2	Public Enterprises	779,564
3	Nation Builders Corps (NABCO)	672,000,000
4	Microfinance and Small Loans Centre	48,000,000
5	National Identification Authority	200,000,000
6	Scholarships Secretariat	200,000,000
7	Zongo Development Fund	83,086,437
8	Monitoring and Evaluation	3,391,183
9	Special Development Initiatives	858,936,743
10	Total	2,677,117,284

5.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2021

5.1 Office of the President and its Agencies

For the year 2021, the Office of the President and its Agencies will implement a number of activities as follows:

- i. The **Ghana Investment promotion Centre**, as part of its activities will
 - Operationalize the National HIV and AIDS Fund to improve domestic resourcing of the HIV response,
 - Create six (6) Technical Support Units in the six (6) new regions,
 - Engage 20 CSOs to implement HIV prevention interventions in the communities,
 - Increase HIV Testing Services (HTS) from 2.3 Million in 2020 to 2.8 Million in 2021.
 - Increase the Anti-Retroviral Therapy coverage to 85% of persons Living with HIV in line with the Government's "Treat All" policy and the Universal Health Coverage agenda and in pursuant of SDG 3
- ii. The **Public Sector Reform Secretariat** will also
 - Facilitate the establishment of the Country's Structural Vulnerability Mitigation Strategy (CSVMS) Secretariat and its working team

- Under the Open Government Partnership, develop, coordinate and supervise the 4th Action Plan and participate in international and local events,
- Pursue the adoption of Ghana Beyond Aid Charter in Parliament and facilitate the implementation of the Charter.
- Pursue the implementation of the National Public Sector Reform Strategy (NPSRS) by carrying out nation-wide education, support entities to implement their approved plans under the Public Sector Reform for Results Project and conduct follow-ups

iii. The **Internal Audit Agency** will

- Organize the 2021 Annual Internal Audit Conference on Zonal basis
- Evaluate the effectiveness of internal audit practice in the MDAs, MMDAs and SoEs.
- Review internal control systems and facilitate risk management practices in MDAs and MMDAs,
- In partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the Agency identify government programmes, projects and contracts to audit.

iv. The **National Population Council** will

- Compile, analyze and disseminate population data including older persons;
- Undertake bi-annual monitoring field visit to NPC regional/ partner offices
- Undertake bi-annual monitoring field visits to districts
- Produce and disseminate monitoring report;
- Sensitize MMDAs to commit at least 0.5% of common fund to support specific population issues in their area of operation.

v. The **State Protocol Department** will

- Host Twenty (20) State visits
- Organize Eight (8) Credentials sessions for Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- Organize Thirty (30) External visits and One Hundred and Fifty (150) internal visits to be undertaken by H. E. the President.
- Facilitate the organization of State and State assisted funerals
- Assist in sixteen (16) swearing-in ceremonies

vi. The **Ghana Investment Promotion Council** will

- Participate in a series of dialogue session sand webinars to promote opportunities for investment in the country,
- Launch the Ghana Club 100 (2020 Edition),
- Participate in a workshop by the UNDP and African Union on the Sustainable Development Goals,
- Partner with Ghana's mission abroad and other foreign associations to hold GIPC webinar series to promote opportunities for investment.
- Complement Government efforts to complete the comprehensive legislative and institutional reforms of the Centre and Ghana Free Zones Authority.
- Support the strategy to revamp the institutional framework of trade and investment promotion.
- Amend the GIPC Act to align it with international best practice.
- Strive to register foreign direct investment projects estimated at USD 3.00 Billion in value.

vii. The **State interests and Governance Authority** as part of its activities will,

- Complete the recruitment of staff for the efficient realization of SIGA's mandate;
- Develop a code of Corporate Governance;
- Undertake a comprehensive Performance review of Specified Entities to identify those which require restructuring, capitalization, strategic partnership or outright divestiture and make recommendations to Government;
- Finalize a Dividend Policy in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance;
- Verification and valuation of assets of defunct and inactive SOEs;
- Complete the renovation of SIGA main office block;
- Develop a monitoring framework; and
- Eject squatters occupying landed properties under divestiture

5.2 National Identification Authority

For 2021, the National Identification Authority will

- Establish seventeen (17) regional, two hundred and seventy-six (276) district/co-location and zonal offices to continue the registration exercise for applicants

especially those who are yet to be enrolled on to the National Identity Register (NIR);

- Recruit and re-train staff to manage the said regional, district/co-location and zonal offices.
- Provide Identity Verification Services for selected stakeholders including SSNIT, NHIA, DVLA, GRA, and the banks and telecommunications companies.
- Commence data harmonization, integration and sharing services with some partner or cognate institutions such as GRA, NHIA, SSNIT and EC. Other statutory bodies such as Births and Deaths Registry, DVLA, Student Loan Trust, and Passport Office will also be brought on stream.
- Construct a Disaster Recovery System to support the verification and enrolment system.
- Commence work on renovating NIA Head Office building to position NIA toward the acquisition of International Standardization Organization (ISO) certification as a data controller and the repository of the nation's data.

5.3 Nations Builders Corps (NABCO)

For 2021, NABCO will

- Continue with recruitment of graduate unemployed persons
- Organize further training opportunities for the trainees to enhance their employability
- Design and organize series of training for qualified graduates under the modules
- Remuneration to all selected trainees of the various modules
- Work on the exit plan of the trainees who are currently employed

5.4 Scholarships Secretariat

In 2021, the Secretariat will continue to award two categories of scholarships namely the District Level Scholarships Scheme (DLSS) and the Bursaries and Thesis grants to post graduate students in the Public Tertiary institutions. The District Level Local Tertiary Scholarship Scheme will cater for about 30,000 students. The Bursaries and Thesis grants would cover 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.

Under the Bilateral awards, the Secretariat will also support continuing and new students in France, Russia, Algeria, Turkey, Hungary, Morocco, China, Cuba and Germany will be beneficiaries under the bilateral awards. The total number of students to benefit is 1,094. The Non-Bilateral awards will cover 685 students. The Year Abroad programme which is for language proficiency will support a total of 424 students from the public universities and Ghana Institute of Languages as well as teacher training colleges. A total number of 28 students from the department of modern languages will be trained in Chinese, Russian, Swahili, Arabic and the Spanish language

The Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the College of Physicians and Surgeons will sponsor the training of surgeon and specialist locally. The Secretariat will also collaborate with the Ministry for Food and Agriculture to give awards for both National and Regional best Farmers. The Secretariat will also support work oriented short courses for capacity building.

5.5 Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

For 2021, MASLOC will assist:

- the under privileged with little or no access to the traditional banks
- small business set ups that will struggle to go to the traditional banks for working capital loans
- with youth employment and the carting of agricultural produce and sanitation in the communities
- in reducing youth unemployment by making these vehicles available at affordable cost

5.6 Inner City and Zongo Development

In 2021, the Inner City and Zongo Development will undertake a lot of activities in Zongo and Inner-City communities including the:

- Rehabilitation of 2km of access roads.
- Construction of a 2km of Alley ways.
- Construction of 5km of Sewerage networks.
- Construction of 10 Double 4x4 box culvert bridges.
- Construction of 10 community recreational parks (astro turfs).
- Construction of 5 Community green parks (natural grass pitches for sports and recreational use).

- Installation of 3000 units of Community Street lights.
- Construction of 50 6-unit basic educational classroom blocks with ancillary facilities constructed.
- Furnishing of 50 6-unit Basic educational classroom blocks.
- Furnishing of 50 ICT centres.
- Rehabilitation of basic educational classroom blocks.
- Develop the Zongo and Inner-City Model SHS programme with an initial target of constructing and furnishing 5 units in 2021.
- Construction of 50 Mechanized community water systems
- Construction of 30 10-unit Institutional toilets.
- Upgrading of 5 Maternal and Child Health Facilities
- Training of 2,500 Zongo and Inner-City youth on assorted vocational skills, entrepreneurship and business development across the country
- Provision of basic tools to 1,000 Zongo and Inner-City youth trained in assorted vocational skills, entrepreneurship and business development
- Training of Poultry 1000 out growers on modern methods of poultry farming
Provision of Start-up support to 500 poultry out growers
- Training of 5000 Pastoral farmers on animal husbandry Development of the Zongo and Inner-City Cash Crop Programme targeting 2000 Zongo and Inner-City farmers with an initial focus cashew plantation
- Provision of training and support for 500 Zongo and Inner-City youth in Greenhouse farming in urban areas

5.7 Monitoring and Evaluation

In 2021, the Monitoring and Evaluation Secretariat will continue to

- Conduct end line Evaluation of Government Results Framework;
- Develop Government Results Framework for High Priorities (2021-2024);
- Conduct Citizens' Assessment Survey (listening to Ghana);
- Develop Ghana Performance Portal;
- Conduct physical Monitoring and implementation audit of Government High Priority Programmes;
- Conduct Rapid Evaluation of Government Flagship Programmes;
- Monitor and report on frontline service delivery;
- Organise results fair; and
- Strengthen capacity of Focal Persons and Staff.

5.8 Special Development Initiatives

In 2021, the Special Development Initiative Secretariat will continue the

- Completion of 279 community-based mechanized water systems;
- Completion of 350 10-seater water closet institutional toilets;
- Completion of 8 Prefabricated grain warehouses;
- Completion of 133 Small Earth Dams;
- Completion of 6 community clinics;
- Implementation of the 2nd phase of the Digital Address Project;
- Completion of Dome Market;
- Completion of market projects at Salaga and Akroso; and
- Continue the implementation of over 5,000 constituency projects across the Development Zones.

6.0 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

6.1 Micro Finance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

6.1.1 Project loans

The Committee observed that a total amount of GHPz80,400,000.00 has been earmarked by the Centre as project loans. However, in the budgetary allocation, an amount of GHz49,716,358.00 was allocated to the Centre in respect of Goods and Services.

It was explained to the Committee that the Centre is, as a micro finance institution with the mandate of providing micro and small loans for start-ups and small businesses to help grow and expand small businesses, to manage a revolving fund. Recoveries made are added to Government's allocation for the year and given out to prospective businesses as loans. The Centre conceded that the recoveries are not captured in the Budget.

The Committee recommends that going forward, the Centre must include its projection of recoveries that would be given as loans in its budget. This is to ensure compliance with the enabling financial laws.

6.1.2 Rate of Recovery

The Committee was informed that for 2020, the rate of recovery was 53%.

6.2 National Identification Authority

6.2.1 Compensation

The Committee observed that NIA budgeted GH¢59,697,228.13 as wages and salaries for 2021. However only GH¢2,097,726 was provided for in the Budget.

The Committee was informed that the Authority planned to recruit 3,265 employees to man its offices to be established across the country. However, at the time of finalizing the 2021 Budget, the necessary approvals had not been obtained. As a result, provision has been made in the Goods and Services to assist the Authority recruit the staff.

The technical team informed the Committee that financial clearance was obtained in March 2021 for the Authority to recruit and augment its staff.

6.2.2 Government Support Agreement

The Committee observed that as part of Public Private Partnership Agreement between IMS and the Authority, Government provided a guarantee through the Government Support Agreement. The Committee inquired whether after operating for a while, the guarantee was at risk.

The technical team responded that per the cashflow plan for the project, Government was expected and has supported initial payments to IMS. The Authority is currently earning some IGF from its operations and these receivables would be applied to payments to IMS. It is expected that when the data harmonization and integration services fully roll out and all the agencies including DVLA, Passport Office, GRA, SSNIT and EC are brought on stream, NIA would be in a position to fully and completely honour its debt obligations, without recourse to Government for assistance.

The Committee was assured that the Ghana Card project was very viable and the guarantee was not at risk.

6.2.3 Non-payment of field officers

The Committee inquired as to whether the National Identification Authority owed any of its field personnel in the just ended registration exercise.

The Committee was informed that the NIA pays field officers promptly and monthly. In order to ensure prompt payment of salaries and allowances, the officers were required to enter their details online. However in the course of the exercise, some

errors were detected and they were duly rectified. As at date, the NIA does not owe any of its field staff.

6.3 Nation Builders Corps

6.3.1 Exit Plan

The Committee observed that some of the trainees under NABCO would be exiting the programme, this year. It therefore inquired about the exit plan of NABCO.

The Committee was informed that Government is currently putting in place an exit plan to help provide permanent employment for the trainees who would complete the three year programme. The programme is to add value to the skills of the trainees and therefore make them much more competitive for the job market. The target is for their various employers to absorb them. However, given the training and skills acquired, it is also expected that most of the trainees who choose their own paths would easily find jobs.

6.4 Special Development Initiatives

6.4.1 CAPEX Provision

The Committee observed that the former Ministry of Special Development Initiative undertook a number of capital projects, of which interim payment certificates have been raised and are due for payment. However, for 2021, the Ministry is now an Agency under the Office of Government Machinery. As a result, adequate provision to finance the projects under CAPEX was not made.

In order to avoid the abandoning of these very useful projects and to ensure timely completion and payment of contractors, the Committee recommends that in the Mid-year Budget, adequate CAPEX provision be made to the Agency to enable it complete the projects and pay off the contractors.

6.5 Office of the President and its Agencies

6.5.1 Ghana Consolidated Diamonds Limited (GCDL)

The Committee inquired as to the state of GCDL. The Committee was informed that the State has repossessed the company and it is currently running it. Government is committed and is taking the needed steps to revive the company in order to create jobs and wealth. However, the matter of the takeover is in Court.

6.5.2 Signing of Performance Contracts with SoEs

The Committee was informed that in accordance with the SIGA Act, performance contracts had been signed with covered entities. Further, the State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA) has been doing monitoring and follow-ups to ensure performance.

6.5.3 Differences in GIPC figures and BoG figures on FDI

The Committee observed that figures with respect to Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) from Bank of Ghana are quite different from those given by the Ghana Investment Promotion Council.

It was explained that figures for FDI from BoG specifically represents cash inflows. On the contrary, figures published by the GIPC on FDIs inflows are made up of cash and the equipment of the investors. This accounts for the variance in the two figures.

6.5.4 Sexual Abuse and Misconduct of PLHIV

The Committee took notice of publications of sexual abuse and extortion of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and inquired as to the veracity of the story.

The Committee was informed that the story was true and that it involved the executives of an organization known as NAP+ which supports people living with HIV and AIDS. The executives are reported to have demanded sex and money in exchange for access to benefits. The matter came to the attention of GLOBAL FUND and it conducted an investigation into the matter. The Fund has reported the matter to DOVSU and other agencies to further look into the matter. AIDS Commission is also conducting its own investigations into the matter.

6.5.5 Internal Auditors engaged by MMDAs

The Committee enquired as to whether the internal auditors at the District Assemblies are staff of the Internal Audit Agency.

The Committee was informed that they were staff of the Assemblies who submit their report to the Internal Audit Agency.

The Committee expressed the opinion that there was the need for the Internal Audit Agency to absorb all internal auditors in order to enhance efficiency.

6.5.6 Repositioning the Internal Audit Agency

The Committee observed that the Internal Audit Agency is faced with a number of challenges including

- Low/ uncompetitive conditions of service
- Lack of mandate to mobilise IGF to support their operations
- Inadequate and unsustainable office space to support their activities and
- Obsolete nature of the existing law regulating internal audit function in the country.

The Committee was informed that in order to restructure and reposition the internal audit function, an amendment is being proposed to the Internal Audit Act, 2003 (Act 658). This will also make the law consistent with internal best practices and strengthen the independence of the Internal Audit Units.

6.5.7 Council of State Complex

The Committee observed that for the year 2020, the Council did not expend on CAPEX. As a result the committee observed that there was no process in efforts to complete the Council of State office complex.

It was explained that due to delays in the release of funds, work on the project has been at a standstill for four (4) years. As a result, a revaluation exercise was conducted to revalue total works outstanding. The report would be submitted to the relevant authorities for the necessary action.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee, after critically examining the 2021 Budget Estimates of the Office of Government Machinery, recommends that the House approves the sum of **Two Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Seven Million, One Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty-Four Ghana Cedis (GH¢2,677,117,284.00)** for the 2021 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.



**HON. KWAKU KWARTENG
(CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE)**

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY



**MS EVELYN BREFO-BOATENG
(CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)**