

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



REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

ON THE

2022 BUDGET ESTIMATES

OF THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

December, 2021

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH ON THE
ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
FOR THE 2022 FINANCIAL YEAR**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta, presented the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government for the 2022 Financial Year on Wednesday, 17th November, 2021 in accordance with Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution.

Pursuant to Article 130 of the 1992 Constitution and Orders 140(4) and 186 of the Standing Orders of the House, the Rt. Hon Speaker referred the Annual Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Health for the 2022 Financial Year to the Committee on Health for consideration and report.

1.2 The Committee met on Thursday, 9th December, Friday, 10th December and Monday, 13th December, 2021 to consider the referral. Present at the Committee's sittings were the Hon. Minister for Health, Mr. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, and Mr. Kwabena Boadu Oku-Afari, the Chief Director of the Ministry of Health as well as officials of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, and the under-listed Agencies under the Ministry of Health:

i. Main Ministry

- a. Headquarters
- b. Ghana Health Service (Health Facilities other than teaching hospitals)
- c. Biomedical Engineering Unit

ii. Teaching Hospitals

- a. Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital-Main
 - i. *Blood Bank*
 - ii. *Ghana Radiotherapy*
 - iii. *National Cardiothoracic Centre*
- b. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital

- c. Cape Coast Teaching Hospital
- d. Tamale Teaching Hospital
- e. Ho Teaching Hospital

iii. Regulatory Bodies

- a. Food and Drugs Authority
- b. Medical and Dental Council
- c. Pharmacy Council
- d. Nursing and Midwifery Council for Ghana
- e. Allied Health Professionals Council
- f. Traditional Medicine Practice Council
- g. Health Facilities Regulatory Agency
- h. Ghana Psychology Council

iv. Subvented Agencies

- a. Centre for Scientific Research into Plant Medicine
- b. Ghana College of Pharmacists
- c. Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons
- d. Ghana Institute of Clinical Genetics
- e. College of Nurses and Midwives
- f. National Ambulance Service
- g. St. Johns Ambulance

v. Psychiatric Hospitals

- a. Pantang Hospital
- b. Accra Psychiatric Hospital
- c. Ankaful Hospital

vi. Other Establishments under the Ministry

- a. Health Training Institutions

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Hon. Minister, the Chief Director of the Ministry of Health, Heads of the Agencies and officials of the Ministries of Health and Finance for attending upon the Committee to assist in its deliberations.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee availed itself of the following documents during its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana.
- ii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2021 Financial Year.
- iii. The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Health for the 2021 Financial Year.
- iv. The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Health for the 2022 Financial Year.
- v. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2022 Financial Year.

3.0 MISSION OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The mission of the Ministry is to continue socio-economic development by promoting health and vitality through access to quality healthcare for all people living in Ghana using well-motivated personnel.

4.0 GOAL OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Goal of the Ministry of Health is to have a healthy and productive population that reproduces itself safely.

5.0 CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry is responsible for the formulation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of policies and resources mobilization in the health sector. The core functions of the Ministry of health include the following:

- i. Formulate, coordinate and monitor the implementation of sector policies and programmes.
- ii. Provide public health and clinical services at primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

- iii. Regulate registration and accreditation of health service delivery facilities as well as the training and practice of various health professions regarding standards and professional conduct.
- iv. Regulate the manufacture, implementation, exportation, distribution, use and advertisement of all food, medicines, cosmetics, medical devices and house hold chemical substances as well as the marketing and utilization of traditional medicinal products in the Country.
- v. Conduct and promote scientific research into plant/herbal medicine.
- vi. Provide pre-hospital care during accidents, emergencies and disasters.

6.1 PERFORMANCE IN 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

6.1 Financial Performance

The Ministry of Health was allocated a total amount of **Eight Billion, Five Hundred Thirty-Three Million, Five Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Two Hundred and Twenty-Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢8,533,590,223.00)** for the implementation of its programmes and activities in 2021. The breakdown of the allocation by source of funding and expenditure is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Economic Classification of 2021 Annual Budget Estimates

ITEM	GOG	IGF	ABFA	DONOR	Total	%
Employee Compensation	5,245,369,972.00	265,563,790.00	0.00	0.00	5,510,933,762.00	64.58
Goods and Services	33,295,151.00	1,816,172,955.00	0.00	160,056,447.00	2,009,524,553.00	23.55
Capex (Assets)	13,075,000.00	246,400,367.00	32,425,000.00	721,231,541.00	1,013,131,908.00	11.87
Total	5,291,740,123.00	2,328,137,112.00	32,425,000.00	881,287,988.00	8,533,590,223.00	100.00

Source: Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2021 Financial Year

6.1.1 As at September 2021, the Ministry of Health had expended an amount of Six billion, One Hundred and Forty Million, Five Hundred and Eight Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifteen Ghana Cedis and Sixty-Three Ghana pesewas (GH¢12,970,445,095.00) representing 71.96% out of the appropriated amount of GH¢8,533,590,223.00. The details are provided in Table 2.

Table 2
Total Expenditure by Source of Funding as at September, 2021

Source of Funding	Appropriated Amount GH¢	Expenditure GH¢	Variance GH¢	EXP. AS % OF BUDGET
GoG	5,291,740,123.00	4,530,183,253.07	761,556,869.93	85.61%
ABFA	32,425,000.00	10,586,728.36	21,838,271.64	32.65%
Donor	881,287,988.00	455,331,458.18	425,956,529.82	51.67%
IGF	2,328,137,112.00	1,144,406,876.02	1,183,730,235.98	49.16%
TOTAL	8,533,590,223.00	6,140,508,315.63	2,393,081,907.37	

SOURCE: Ministry of Health's Presentation on the 2022 Annual Budget Estimates

6.2 Key Achievements in 2021 by Programme

The following activities, among others, were carried out by the Ministry of Health in the pursuit of its mandate during the year under review:

6.2.1 Management and Administration Programme

As part of the Ministry of Health oversight, a secretariat has been formed to formally start work on the Ghana Center for Disease Control (CDC) establishment and work plan developed. The Ministry through the Presidential Vaccine Manufacturing Committee has developed a comprehensive strategy and action plan for local vaccine production.

The Ministry has developed a number of policies to strengthen its governance role which includes a new Health Sector Medium Term Development Plan (HSMTDP 2022-2025) to guide health development for the next four years; the Non- Communicable Disease Policy, which is to give direction and strengthen management of NCDs has been approved by Cabinet; the Food Safety Policy has been submitted to Cabinet as part of the public safety measures.

To give meaning to infrastructure planning in the medium term, a Hospital Infrastructure Strategy is being developed for health sector to bring clarity on infrastructure planning. In addressing the oxygen flow challenges in our facilities as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, a draft Oxygen policy has been developed for consultation. The ministry as part of improving partnership has initiated a number of partnerships such as training of health professionals under the Dr. Lee Jong Wook Fellowship of Korea (Twelve Health professionals sent to Korea for training in 2021), licensing the 10th Chinese Medical Team to commence duty at LEKMA and collaborating with the private sector in the effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic through the supply of PPEs and construction of Infectious Diseases Treatment Centers. The Ministry has launched the National Human Resource Policy and Strategies for Health and as part of the implantation.

The agenda to improve psychiatric care has gained momentum with the Mental Health Authority drafting guidelines for the setup of Mental Health Tribunal to deal with the abuse of mental health patients.

6.2.2 Health Service Delivery Programme

In the quest to improve specialist facilities, The Cape Coast Teaching Hospital introduced Oncology, Paediatric, Surgical, Gynaecology, and Medical Faculties in June 2021. It has held a partnership meeting with the African Diaspora Development Institute for the setting up of Endolaproscopy services and established the innovative Bed Bureau Unit (BBU) to check the no bed syndrome.

Tamale Teaching Hospital has completed renovation on its Oncology center and equipment such as recliners have been received from donors (Roche). It has drafted Occupational Health, Safety and Healthcare Policy for the hospital. Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital has integrated mental health into its services by creating 11 Psychiatry Beds and provided outreach services to its catchment areas. The Pantang Psychiatric Hospital has instituted home visits and follow-ups on mentally ill patients.

Ministry of Health/Ghana Health Service is currently working with Zipline in the distribution of anti-snake and anti-rabies vaccines to the regional levels.

Currently, Zipline serves as a depot for the collection of regional allocation of these of these products.

The Health Electronic Medical Records System (LIGHTWAVE) which started at Cape Coast Teaching Hospital has now been deployed to all the Teaching hospitals and is currently ongoing at 60 other health facilities.

Six (6) Ambulance Service Secretariats have been established in the newly created regions and have been of great importance under the COVID-19 era.

6.2.3 Human Resource for Health Development and Management

Human Resources is an important pillar towards the attainment of Sector's Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda. Over the years, the Ministry has been striving to increase and improve the human resource base of the sector to meet the increasing staffing requirements. In 2021, the College of Pharmacy developed 11 new curricula to strengthen the training of specialised pharmacists. The College of Nurses and Midwives also introduced a new faculty in Paediatric Nursing Education, while the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons drafted guidelines for postgraduate training.

6.2.4 Health Sector Regulation Programme

The Ministry's drive to integrate traditional medicine into the normal health care delivery has been given a booster by developing, publishing and launching the Recommended Herbal Medicines List (RHML) and Guidelines for evaluation of Herbal Medicines.

As part of the search for traditional medicine for treatment of COVID-19, the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) approved clinical trials for Nibima (*Cryptolepis Sanguinolenta*), the first herbal medicine submitted for the treatment. A joint COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Review Committee (JCVSRC) was set up to assess adverse effects following COVID-19 vaccination.

As part of improving and strengthening operations of regulatory Agencies, the Nurses and Midwives Council and Health Facilities Regulatory Agency have digitized operations by going fully online.

The Medical and Dental Council has developed a policy on Practitioners Stamp, Name Tags and Professional Apparel that will go into full implementation in 2022. Health Facilities Regulatory Agency has developed and launched Standards for 53 levels of care to enhance registration and monitoring of health facilities.

6.2.5 Health Infrastructure

The Government's major drive (Agenda 111) has been launched, the acquisition of sites and cadastral plans are ongoing and drawings for the facilities are completed.

For the regional hospitals, mandate letters from the Ministry of Finance have been given 3 regions (Western, Oti and Bono East) to enable them to raise funding for the construction of Agenda 111 facilities to continue unabated in 2022.

These on-going projects were also completed; Comprehensive Treatment and Quarantine facility at Dodowa, Construction of 4 District Hospitals at Sawla, Somanya, Koforidua (Near Offiso), Akyem Mampong, Tiawa, Ahankrasu).

The following COVID-19 projects are at different completion stages in 2021 and will continue to be completed in 2022; Adakulu, Sewua, Zebilla, Pantang Dodowa, Asawinso, Goaso, Korebu, Takoradi, Nalerigu, Aflao, Sunyani, Cape Coast, Kumasi South, Keta and Elubo.

6.2.6 Drones

Zipline has begun the construction of two (2) new distribution centers which are scheduled to be launched at Anum in the Eastern Region and Abujuro in the Oti region by the end of 2021. When launched, the Anum center will cover 98% of Kwahu Afram Plains North, 70% of Kwahu Afram Plains South and 80% of Volta Region. The center will serve 366 health facilities, out of which 54% are hard to reach facilities located on islands, riverine communities, mountainous areas and areas geographically difficult to reach by roads. The Abujuro center will serve 95% of the Oti Region as well as the riverine parts of the Sene East, West and Pru East districts of the Bono East Region. Parts of the Northern and Savannah Regions will also be covered in the 80km radius. The center will cover 222 health facilities with 52% being hard to reach. Zipline

has procured three (3) 700L Ultra Low temperature freezers to aid the country in the distribution of vaccines to hard-to-reach areas. Zipline currently has the capacity to store approximately 1 million Pfizer-Bio NTech doses, 468,000 Moderna doses, and 1.7 million doses of either AstraZeneca or Sputnik vaccines at the same time.

6.2.7 COVID-19

To help curb the pandemic, the Ministry and its Agencies continue the implementation of National Strategic Response by H.E. the President at the onset of the pandemic with the following objectives:

- Limit and stop the importation, detect, and contain the Virus;
- Slow down and manage community spread;
- Provide adequate medical care for COVID-19 cases;
- Strengthen Governance, Coordination and Accountability of COVID-19 Response;
- Minimize Impact of COVID-19 on Social and Economic Life; and
- Increase Domestic Capacity and Self-Reliance

6.2.8 Surveillance

In 2021, an enhanced contact tracing (multi-sectional in nature) strategy was adopted to contain the spread of the virus earlier in the response. The Ministry and its Agencies carried out contact tracing across all regions with trained tracers. The Surveillance Outbreak Management Analysis and Response (SORMAS) has been the main e-surveillance tool nationwide to provide real time data across all the operational and strategic levels to inform response actions and policy decisions.

6.2.9 Laboratory testing

COVID-19 testing laboratories were expanded from two (2) at the inception of the pandemic in March, 2020 to 43 in July, 2021 (i.e., 43 COVID-19 PCR across the country including private laboratories. Greater Accra Region 23 GeneXpert the rest spread across the country). The TB Control Program under the Global Fund provided GeneXpert cartridges to support COVID-19 testing. The Ministry developed Guidelines for both PCR and Antigen testing

which are in use and Genomic sequencing has also started. Four mobile “BSL 3” Laboratories have been acquired and to be positioned at Ashanti, Greater Accra, Central and Volta regions. Currently about 13,000 PCR tests are done weekly.

6.2.10 Case management

Ghana confirmed cases of the Delta variant in 2021 leading to increasing case load for severe, critical and deaths. So far, the Ministry has provided 73 treatment centers nationwide with at least one treatment facility in each region including the Teaching Hospitals. The Ministry has ensured that emergency services and ambulances are readily available for referral, and transport of positive cases. Most treatment centers generally, are reasonably stocked with PPEs and logistics for patient care.

The WHO has supported Case Management with about 55 Oxygen Concentrators distributed to all Regions. In addition, the Ministry provided 49 Ventilators, 33 Patient monitors, 40 refurbished Tablets and distributed them to Treatment Facilities in all 16 regional hospitals, Teaching hospitals and some other major facilities in Greater Accra.

6.2.11 Vaccination

The Ministry has a vision of vaccinating the entire population. However, it has an initial target of 20m persons segmented by population groups and geography excluding children <16/18y and pregnant women. The vaccine delivery strategy includes static, outreach, mobile, campout or combination. Total doses administered as at 3rd November 2021 is 3,122,239.

6.2.12 Update from Kotoka International Airport (KIA)

Testing upon arrival was introduced at KIA as part of the surveillance measures and positive travellers are sent to designated isolation and treatment facilities. As at 7th November, 2021, 589,931 Antigen tests had been conducted at KIA, 2,910 passengers testing positive.

In 2022, the Ministry will aggressively pursue its vaccination campaign and implement all proven interventions to stem down the pandemic.

6.2.13 National Health Insurance

In 2021, the National Insurance Authority improved its claims management processes with emphasis on e-claims and paperless systems at all four Claims Processing Centres. 60% of providers are expected to submit their claims electronically by Dec 2021. Eight regions (1,834 providers) have been trained in the electronic submissions of claims. The authority, as at September, has achieved 83% (15,161,655) of its 2021 enrolment target 55% (18,210,128) of the population of Ghana. As part of the tariff review processes, the Authority has carried out a health service costing which has gone through stakeholder validation. It has also revised credentialing tools to allow lower-level facilities (e.g., CHPs compounds) to be assessed and enrolled onto the scheme and enrolled onto the scheme and has also digitized credentialing application processes.

7.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2022

In 2022, the Ministry will continue to focus on the following Policy objectives:

7.1 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- To provide an efficient and effective governance and leadership in the management of the health sector
- To formulate and update policies
- To supervise, monitor and evaluate the delivery of health services

7.1.1 General Management

- To provide overall leadership and management support to health sector
- To improve efficiency in governance and management of mental health services

7.1.2 Health Research, Statistics and Information Management

- To strengthen health research and information system

7.1.3 Health Financing, Policy Formulation, Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and evaluation

- To mobilize and allocate resources for the sector
- To coordinate health sector policies coherence and development
- To ensure effective infrastructural planning in health service
- To monitor and evaluate

7.1.4 Finance and Audit

- To ensure efficient and prudent management of finances of the sector

7.1.5 Procurement, Supply and logistics

- To ensure adequate supply of medical goods and services to support service delivery in accordance with the procurement law
- To ensure efficient Supply Chain Management

7.1.6 Human Resource for Health Management

- To enhance management of Health professional/workers

7.2 HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY

- To deliver quality and affordable primary, secondary, tertiary and specialised health services at all levels of care
- To deliver quality and effective pre-hospital services
- To strengthen health research for evidence-based decisions and service delivery
- To strengthen governance at all levels for effective health service delivery
- To promote occupational health and safety practices to minimize work-related injuries and illnesses

7.2.1 Primary and Secondary Health Services

- To improve prevention, detection and case management of communicable and non-communicable diseases
- To reduce the major causes of maternal and child morbidity and mortality

- To increase awareness and promote health lifestyles
- To scale up access to community-based health planning and services (CHPS)

7.2.2 Tertiary and Specialized Health Services

- To deliver cost effective , efficient, affordable and quality tertiary and specialized health services
- To strengthen emergency services and referral systems
- To provide medical education and health research
- To provide specialist outreach services

7.2.3 Research

- To promote health research to improve service delivery
- To strengthen research into plant and alternative medicine

7.2.4 Pre-Hospital Services

- To improve emergency response, training and education
- To ensure the availability of safe and adequate blood and blood products for transfusion

7.3 HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this programme is to train middle level cadres and specialist health professionals.

7.3.1 Pre-Service Training

- To train adequate and highly qualified middle level health professionals

7.3.2 Post-Basic Training

- To train adequate and highly qualified middle level specialized health professionals

7.3.3 Specialized Training

- To train high level specialized health professionals
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7.4 HEALTH SECTOR REGULATIONS

To ensure that acceptable standards of health services, facilities, professions and products are maintained.

7.4.1 Regulation of Health Facilities

- To ensure compliance and maintenance of agreed standards for public and private health facilities.

7.4.2 Regulation of Health Professions

- To ensure quality service through adherence to agreed standards for practicing health professionals.

7.4.3 Regulation of Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Health Products

- To protect public health and safety by ensuring safety, quality and efficacy of pharmaceuticals (allopathic, homeopathic, veterinary, herbal medicines and vaccines), biological products, and medical devices, cosmetics, household chemical substances and approval of clinical trials.

7.4.4 Regulation of Food and Non-Medicinal Health Products

- To protect public health and safety by ensuring safety and equality of food.

In 2022, the Ministry and its Agencies will continue to implement the proven interventions adopted since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic i.e.

- Surveillance,
- Risk Communication,
- Containment and Case Management
- Testing and Laboratory Services
- Vaccination
- Address the problem of oxygen:
 - Develop a medical oxygen policy and strategy to make it mandatory for all health facilities with bed capacities above 20 to have oxygen production systems.
 - All the 17 new COVID-19 treatment centres under construction will have oxygen production systems
 - Establish Vaccine manufacturing Institute

Pursuant to the above Policy objectives, the Ministry of Health will undertake the following programmes/activities among others in year 2022:

Essential services for the population

- Increase the availability of essential health service packages across the continuum of care at all levels
- Improve EPI coverage in urban centers
- Continue the implementation of the policy on HIV Test, Treat and Track (90 90 90), Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) Option and B plus and reduction of Mother to Child Transmission (MTCT) of HIV
Eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV
- Improve school health and nutrition services
- Establish the Ghana Centre for Disease Control (CDC)
- Establish the Vaccine Manufacturing Institute

Management of clinical and public health emergencies

- Strengthen institutions to deliver responsive pre-hospital and clinical emergency services
- Set up and strengthen institutions to deliver responsive public health emergency services

Improve quality of care and information management

- Institutionalize quality standards and practices in the delivery of health services
- Strengthen the management and quality assurance of national laboratories and infectious disease centers
- Set up and make functional health systems research and innovation framework

Enhance efficiency in human resource performance

- Ensure the production, equitable deployment and retention of health workforce
 - Increase the pre-service and in-service training of healthcare workers in management of NCDs
 - Increase the national capacity of delivery of mental health services
 - Enhance human resource capacity for public health emergencies and medical emergency services

Health policy, financing and system strengthening

- Increase GoG revenue collection and allocation to the health sector
- Increase population coverage and sustainability of health insurance
- Strengthen the capacity of MoH and its agencies to mobilize resources
- Increase active coverage of the NHIS, particularly indigent categories

Institutionalize reforms in sector effectiveness

- Establish sustainable programmes for prevention, screening and early detection of NCDs, including cancers
- Strengthen and ensure compliance with referral processes and procedures between all levels of care
- Increase partnerships for better access to health services through the One-Health approach
- Strengthen the health regulatory bodies for improved efficiency
- Improving health infrastructure at Primary, Secondary and Tertiary facilities
- Continue the implementation of the Supply Chain Master Plan
- Improve and harmonize provider payment systems to increase the efficiency of spending

8.0 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR 2022

In the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government for the 2022 Financial Year, an amount of **Ten Billion, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Six Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,996,595.00)** has been allocated to the Ministry of Health for the implementation of its programmes and activities in 2022. The breakdown of the allocation by Source of Funding and by Programme and Expenditure Item are shown in the Table below:

Table 4. Economic Classification of Approved Budgetary Allocation for 2022

ITEM	GoG GH¢	ABFA GH¢	IGF GH¢	DONOR GH¢	TOTAL GH¢
COMPENSATION	6,165,200,000	-	407,821,000	-	6,573,021,000

GOODS AND SERVICES	336,932,000	-	2,162,821,000	78,482,000	2,578,238,000
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	209,695,000	32,421,000	377,483,000	1,225,731,000	1,845,336,000
TOTAL	6,711,827,000	32,424,000	2,948,128,000	1,304,216,000	10,996,595,000

SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Health for the 2022 Financial Year

The Ministry of Health would receive 61.04% of its budget from the Government of Ghana (GoG) sources of funds while 26.81% of the budget would be financed from Ministry's internally generated funds (IGF). Development Partners and ABFA contribution to the budget would constitute 11.86% and 0.29% respectively. The breakdown is stated in Table as below:

Breakdown of 2022 Budgetary Allocation by Programme and Expenditure Item

PROGRAMME	GoG (GH¢)	IGF (GH¢)	ABFA (GH¢)	DONOR	TOTAL (GH¢)
Management and Administration	978,778,711	5,705,723	32,424,000	1,304,216,000	2,321,124,434
Health Service Delivery	4,357,580,287	1,673,581,122	-	-	6,031,161,409
Tertiary and Specialised Services	1,104,581,291	230,397,462	-	-	1,334,978,753
Human Resource Development and Management	215,308,323	838,921,377	-	-	1,054,229,699
Health Sector Regulation	55,578,388	199,522,316	-	-	255,100,704
TOTAL	6,711,827,000	2,948,128,000	32,424,000	1,304,216,000	10,996,595,000
% Share	61.04%	26.81%	0.29%	11.86%	100%

SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Health for the 2022 Financial Year

9.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 PROPORTION OF THE HEALTH BUDGET

Ministry budget as a % of national budget 2018-2022

YEAR	NATIONAL BUDGET (GHC)	MINISTRY BUDGET (GHC)	MINISTRY AS % OF NATIONAL BUDGET
2018	67,279,955,085	4,422,348,243	6.57
2019	78,771,833,602	6,037,506,713	7.66
2020	98,036,692,353	6,587,092,478	6.72
2021	129,032,804,201	8,533,590,223	6.61
2022	145,472,347,866	10,996,595,000	7.56

Source: Budget Statements from 2018-2022

The budgetary allocation of the MoH of increased from approximately 6.61% in 2021 to 7.56% for 2022 financial year. A five-year trend analysis indicates that although the budget of the Ministry increases nominally every year, the percentage increase in the national budget is approximately 7%.

Furthermore, although the budgetary allocation to the MoH has improved significantly from 2021 budget. It still falls short of the Abuja target of allocating 15% of the total national budget to sector.

The Committee therefore wishes to urge the Minister of Finance to endeavour to make allocation towards the attainment of the target of the 15% set in Abuja

9.2 **UNCOMPLETED HOSPITAL PROJECTS**

The Committee noted that some hospitals projects remain uncompleted. The committee was also informed that some of the hospital project contracts have expired and, in some instances, funding for the projects have also been overdrawn.

The Committee was informed by the Ministry that new funding arrangements are being made to complete the uncompleted projects. Also, Value for Money Audits have been conducted to pave way for the completion of the Dodowa, Kumawu, Fomena, Abetifi and Garu hospital projects.

The Committee again noted that the hospital project in Sewua and Konongo are about 90% complete. The Salaga hospital project has stalled in view of protracted litigation on the land where the hospital is located. Plans are advanced for the Contractor to commence work on the La General Hospital project.

The Committee therefore urges the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance to make concerted efforts towards the completion of these projects so as to improve upon health service delivery in the catchment areas of the hospitals.

9.3 VACCINE CAMPAIGN

The Committee was informed that, that currently vaccination have commenced for persons between the ages of 15 to 18 years.

The Committee was also informed that despite the emergence of the OMICRON strain of the COVID-19 virus, the public is still hesitant to avail themselves for the vaccine. About eight thousand (8000) vials of vaccine were returned to Accra from the Volta Region in view of the low patronage of the people in the region to get vaccinated.

The Committee therefore urged the Ministry to intensify its public education campaign on the urgent need for the people to be vaccinated.

9.4 CAPPING FUNDS

The Committee observed that capping of budgetary allocations to some agencies and regulatory bodies under the Ministry has made it difficult for them to effectively deliver on their mandate.

The Committee is therefore appealing to the Ministry of Finance to allow the Regulatory agencies under the Ministry to retain 100% of their Internally Generated Funds (IGF) in order for the agencies to deliver efficient monitoring services.

9.5 VYING OF FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

The Committee noted with grave concern that some agencies in presenting their budget actuals and expenditure for 2021 fiscal year have either overspent the amount allocated for specific items or vied funds allocated for Goods and Services.

The committee drew the attention of the Ministry and Agencies to the fact that the practice was in violation of section 96(2) of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (ACT 921).

The committee cautioned the agencies involved to desist from such practices and also urged the Ministry to educate its agencies on the provisions of Act 921.

9.6 UPDATE ON COVID-19

The Committee was informed that Ghana's case count of COVID 19 infections stood at 131,412 as at 6th December 2021. Of this figure, 129,495 have recovered and discharged from hospitals. 1239 people have unfortunately lost their lives.

The Ghana Health Service, informed the Committee that in order to reduce the spread of the infection, the Service has embarked on an aggressive vaccination campaign and as such 1,650,887 of the population representing 8.3% have been vaccinated. Currently persons aged between 15 to 18 years are being vaccinated and would increase the percentage of persons vaccinated. With respect to Vaccine disbursement, the Committee was informed that 6,074,745 vaccines have so far been distributed. In terms of vaccine acquisition 13,980,710 vaccines have been received. These comprise of vaccines from the AVATT and COVAX group as well as Bilateral Arrangements.

9.7 E-HEALTH DIGITAL SYSTEMS

The Committee was informed that the E-Health strategy for accelerated development which was started in 2010 as part of the National ICT for Development Initiative is progressing steadily. The project is to reduce the use of paper and to ensure the timely use of accurate and reliable data in a bid to strengthen the healthcare delivery system in the country. The Committee was informed that hospitals that have commenced the use of the E-Health systems have made significant savings and also reduced the waiting time of patients at the hospitals. Currently, 75 government hospitals in all the regions as well as 25 CHAG hospitals have been connected to the system. The Committee

was informed that by the end of 2022, all regional hospitals would be connected to the E-Health system.

9.8 ZIP LINE DRONE SERVICES

The Committee was informed that the operations of the Zip line Drone Delivery Services which is largest drone delivery service in Ghana and West Africa. The facility was established to fast track the delivery of medical products to hard to reach areas across the country. Currently, Zip line have distributed about 136,000 medical supplies across the country. The technology of the delivery service have been significantly upgraded and as a result, the service is able deliver to areas within 100 km radius and deliver products weighing 2 kilograms. Zipline has created employment for about 260 ghanaians. This number includes engineers, pharmacists, bio-medical professional and other technically skilled Ghanaians.

9.9 ARREARS OWED FRONTLINE HEALTH WORKERS

The Committee observed that, a number of hospitals have reported arrears owed to front line health workers as a result of delay in releases. The Ghana Health service informed the Committee that the entire exercise of paying Frontline Health workers have been fraught with glitches especially in the determination of who could be classified as a frontline worker.

The Committee was informed that the offer made to health workers during the COVID Pandemic was in three parts. The first part involved the offer of tax waivers to health workers from April to December 2020 which all health workers benefitted. The second part was the offer of 50% additional allowance to Frontline Health Workers.

It is worthy to note that as at November 2021, hospitals across the country were still submitting names for Frontline Health Workers to benefit from the incentive; which suggest an abuse of the process. The third part constituted an insurance package for Frontline Health Workers. Currently about 500 health workers have been paid GHC10,000 each as insurance. The Committee was also informed that those workers whose identification and classification as Frontline Workers are not in doubt have been paid this

insurance. The Committee urge the Ghana Health Service to expedite the process and ensure that all arrears owed are duly paid.

9.10 ATTRACTION AND RETENTION OF HEALTH WORKERS IN THE RURAL AREAS

The Committee was further informed that data reported by the Ghana Health Service on the distribution of health personnel across the country indicates that most health centers and primary hospitals located in the rural areas are understaffed. The Committee observed with great concern that the lack of skilled health personnel in the rural areas has serious implications on the access to quality healthcare in the country. Currently, 156,133 health workers are required across the various levels of service delivery nationwide but available data indicates that 117,408 workers are at post leaving a deficit of 38,725 workers. The data also indicates that although the Regional Health Directorates, Metropolitan and District Health Directorates and Regional Health Directorates are over staffed, staffing at the primary healthcare centers and CHPS compounds remain a challenge. The Committee urges the Ministry and the health Service to be proactive in solving this crisis in the health delivery system.

9.11 UNIVERSITY OF GHANA MEDICAL CENTRE (UGMC)

The University of Ghana Medical Centre (UGMC) seeks to embody the spirit of hospitality and provide premium healthcare service. The Centre will focus on delivering an excellent and unparalleled client experience through the deployment of a client-centred approach throughout every facet of its operation. The Committee was informed that the full operationalizing of the UGMC will begin in 2022.

The Committee noted that to fully operationalise the UGMC, the facility would require about Three Hundred and Thirty Seven (337) high calibre health professionals. These include medical and surgical specialist to augment the existing work force of about Seven Hundred and Ninety Three (739) health workers. The Committee was informed that the medical centre would duly notify the public on the available medical services and medical specialists at the Centre.

10.0 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Committee wishes to state that observance of target of 15% commitment of national budget to health by African Union Member States declared in Abuja, Nigeria, in April 2001, is critical to the realisation of quality and accessibility of health delivery for our citizens.


Also, the need for adequate investment in both human and material capital has been amplified by the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic which has exposed the vulnerability of African Nations including Ghana as far as health delivery is concerned. Thus, drastic measures is required for the protection of lives as well as enough resources to reduce and intensify prevention and control of this virus.

Development assistance for health has crowded out government resources and further worsen our dependence on non-existing donor support, thereby complicating and slowing down the transition to better healthcare for all, yet resources must be found from within to meet health needs in this challenging times.

The Committee therefore recommends to the House to adopt its Report and approve the sum of ***Ten Billion, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Six Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,996,595.00)*** for the programmes and activities of the Ministry of Health and its agencies for the 2022 Financial Year.

Respectfully submitted.


HON. NANA AYEW AFRIYE (DR)
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

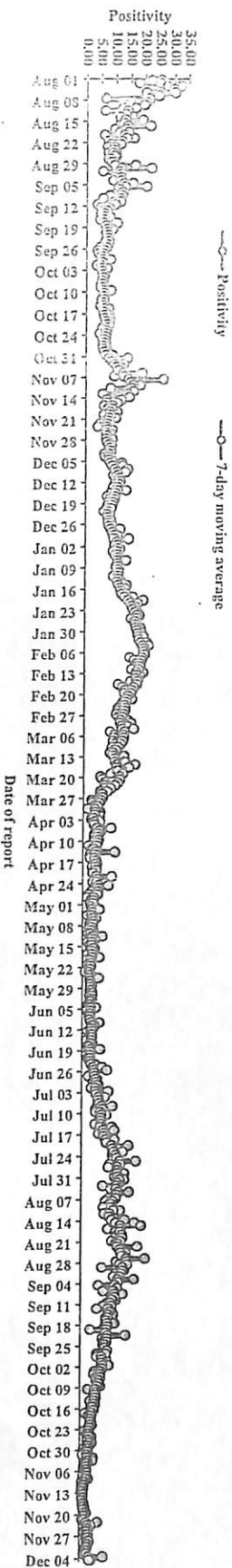

MR. INUSAH MOHAMMED
CLERK TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

December, 2021

SITUATION UPDATE, COVID-19 OUTBREAK IN GHANA AS AT 06 DEC 2021, 23:00 HRS

Surveillance Type	Total no. Tested	Total no. positive	Positivity rate
Routine Surveillance	452,053	49,781	11.0
Enhanced Contact Tracing	912,468	78,363	8.6
International travelers (KIA)	654,053	3,268	0.5
Total	2,018,574	131,412	6.5

Category	Number of cases	Recovered/Discharged	Severe	Critical	Dead	Active
Routine Surveillance	49,781	126,431	23	0	1,239	678
Enhanced Contact Tracing	78,363					
International travelers (KIA)	3,268	3,064				
Total	131,412	129,495	23	0	1,239	678



Summary of COVID-19 vaccines received in Ghana @ 07.12.2021

<i>Vaccine Brand Name</i>	<i>Quantity received</i>	<i>Prop (%)</i>	<i>Doses Distributed</i>	<i>Doses available</i>
AstraZeneca	5,619,470	45.6%	5,469,470	150,000
COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen	2,388,050	19.4%	186,150	2,201,900
Moderna COVID-19 vaccine	1229620	10.0%	719838	509,782
Pfizer-BioNTech	3,066,570	24.9%	725,562	2,341,008
Sputnik-V	21,000	0.2%	21,000	0
Grand Total	12,324,710	100.0%	7,122,020	5,202,690

<i>Source of Vaccine</i>	<i>Quantity received</i>	<i>Prop (%)</i>
AVATT/AU/WB	2,702,850	21.9%
Bilateral	2,661,350	21.6%
COVAX	6,960,510	56.5%
Grand Total	12,324,710	100.0%

Performance by doses

As at 7th December, 2021 the country has successfully vaccinated 22.6% with at least one dose and 8.1% fully vaccinated using the target of 20million.

Over four million persons have been vaccinated with at least one dose. Of these, 1,613,413 are fully vaccinated (i.e., have received two doses of AstraZeneca or Sputnik-V, or one dose of Johnson and Johnson vaccine). Over 83% of vaccines administered were that of the AstraZeneca with 9% being Moderna.

Currently, there are adequate vaccines (Moderna, Pfizer, AstraZeneca and Johnson&Johnson) being deployed across all 16 regions and 260 districts as part of the continuation of the Phase 2 of the vaccination exercise.

The Ministry has declared December as vaccination month, during this period we intend to cover over 1 million awaiting second dose for AstraZeneca

Breakdown of GoG 2021 COVID-19 Expenditures

APPENDIX "D"

Item	Amount (in GHC)	%
PPEs	115,259,838.13	13%
Medicine	57,682,170.23	7%
IPC Commodities	652,555,264.84	76%
COVID-19 meetings/conferences	32,159,933.63	4%
Total	857,657,206.83	100%

Total expenditure=GHC 857,657,206.83
 MoH = GHC 761,522,967
 MoE = GHC 96,134,240

Summary of expenditures as at November, 2021 (in USD)

Category	Approved Budget	Amount Received	Actual Expenditure	Variance
IPF - AIF 1	130,000,000.00	64,300,000.00	56,313,910.18	7,986,089.82
IPF - AIF 2	200,000,000.00	147,483,170.16	147,483,170.16	0
IPF- AIF1 & AIF2	330,000,000.00	211,783,170.16	203,797,080.34	7,986,089.82