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



REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE 2023 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMISSION (NDPC)

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the year ending 31st December, 2023 by the Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta on Thursday, 24th November, 2022, the 2023 Annual Estimates of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Standing Order 140(4) of the Standing Orders of the House.

The Committee met and discussed the Estimates with the Director-General of the NDPC, Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa, a technical team from the Commission as well as officials from the Ministry of Finance and hereby presents this report.

The Committee expresses its gratitude to the Director-General and the technical team for attending upon it.

2.0. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee made reference to the following documents during its deliberations:

- The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- ii. Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921)

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- iii. The Public Services Commission Act, 1994 (Act 482);
- iv. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana;
- v. The 2023-2026 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) of the National Development Planning Commission; and
- vi. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3.0. BACKGROUND

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) was established under Article 86 and 87 of the 1992 Constitution with a mandate to advise the President on development planning policy and strategy. The National Development Planning Commission Act, 1994 (Act 479) provides a legal framework which formally establishes the NDPC under the Office of the President. Further the National Development Planning (Systems) Act, 1994 (Act 480) and the Local Government Act, 1993 (Act 462) makes the NDPC the national coordinating body of the Decentralized Development Planning System in Ghana.

NDPC therefore exists to advise the President of the Republic of Ghana (and Parliament upon request) on development policy and strategy, to prepare and ensure the effective implementation of approved national development Plans and Strategies and coordinate economic and social activities country-wide in a manner that will ensure accelerated and sustainable development of the country to enhance continuous improvement in the living standards of Ghanaians.

4.0. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Commission for the medium term is to ensure coordination of the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and plans, as well as to consolidate Ghana's middle Income status through sustained and accelerated growth. In pursuit of this goal, the Commission has identified five (5) key policy objectives to pursue in the medium term (2022-2025) namely;

- Build an effective and efficient government machinery;
- Enhance capacity for policy formulation;
- Strengthen plan preparation, implementation and coordination at all levels;
- Strengthen monitoring and Evaluation at all levels; and
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 Improve Research and Development (R&D), Innovation and sustainable financing for industrial development.

5.0. PERFOMANCE IN 2022

In pursuit of its mandate the Commission during the year under review achieved the following among others:

- i. The Commission finalized and published the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (2022-2025) to provide development agenda for the medium term.
- ii. The commission reviewed and submitted the President's Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (2021-2025) and submitted it to Cabinet.
- iii. The Commission prepared Ghana's 2nd Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which was subsequently presented at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on the SDGs in New York. The VNR Report was launched in August 2022 in Accra and was disseminated across the country.
- iv. The Commission prepared an evaluation report of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 (Evaluation of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan). The report highlighted key priorities and lessons to inform the Africa Union's review of the 2063 Agenda.
- v. The Commission reviewed the Human Capital Development Strategy, undertook a brainstorming session with stakeholders and drafted technical sections.

6.0. SUMMARY OF BUDGET ALLOCATION AND PERFORMANCE IN 2022

For the implementation of the above programmes the National Development Planning Commission was allocated an amount of *Twenty-Two Million*, *Four Hundred* and *Nine Thousand Ghana Cedis* (*GH¢22,409,000*) for its activities in the 2022 financial year.

The Amount was distributed among the cost centers of the Commission as follows:

Cost Center

2022 Allocation (GH¢)

Compensation of Employees

6,329,000.00

Goods and Services

12,624,000.00

Capital Expenditure - 3,456,000.00

Total - 22,409,000.00

The 2022 allocation was revised downwards during the mid-year Budget Review to Sixteen Million, Four Hundred and Twenty-One Thousand, One Hundred and Fifty-Nine Ghana Cedis (GH¢16,421,159.00). The revised allocation was distributed among the cost centers of the Commission as follows:

 Cost Center
 2022 Revised Allocation (GH¢)

 Compensation of Employees
 - 6,329,000.00

 Goods and Services
 - 8,087,839.00

 Capital Expenditure
 - 2,004,320.00

 Total
 - 16,421,159.00

As at 30th September 2022 an amount of GHø5,494,244.77 representing 33% of the revised allocation was released to the Commission of which an amount of GHø5,446,191.95 was disbursed by the Commission from its 2022 revised appropriation to finance its planned activities. The 2022 Budget performance for the period ended 30th September, 2022 as follows:

Table 1: Summary of 2022 Budget Allocation and Expenditure Returns

Classification	2022	2022	2022	Actual	Unreleased
	Budget	Revised	Releases	Payment	Budget
	Appropriati	Budget	Jan-Sept	Jan-Sept	E=(B-C)
	on (GH¢)	(GH¢)	(GH¢)	(Gh¢)	
	(A)	(B)	C)	(D)	
Compensation of Employees	6,329,000.00	6,329,000.00	2,951,178.29	2,951,178.29	3,377,821.71
Goods & Service	12,624,000.00	8,087,839.00	2,543,066.48	2,495,013.66	5,544,772.52
Capital Expenditure	3,456,000.00	2,004,320.00	0.00	0.00	2,004,320.00
TOTAL	22,409,000.00	16,421,159.00	5,494,244.77	5,446,191.95	10,926,919.23

7.0. OUTLOOK FOR 2023

In furtherance of its mandate and stated objectives, the NDPC will undertake the following activities among others in the 2023 financial year:

- i. Provide technical backing for the Formulation of Sector Policies and review draft policies;
- ii. The commission would develop a blue economy strategy.
- iii. The commission would continue with the evaluation of the goals of selected SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.
- iv. The commission would formulate a national care policy and develop tools for mainstreaming policies like the food systems transformation, nutrition security, Gender and Climate Change)
- v. The commission would scale-up and deploy a legislative and policy almanac application, review and finalise the long-term perspective plans, and monitor the effective implementation of local economic development.
- vi. The commission would establish National Monitoring and Evaluation Information System.

8.0. 2023 BUDGET ALLOCATION

For the implementation of the above programmes and activities an amount of Thirteen Million, Two Hundred and Sixty-Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Ten Ghana Cedis (GH¢13,265,310.00) has been allocated from the Government of Ghana (GOG) for the National Development Planning Commission for the year 2023, Summary of the allocation for the 2023 financial year is as follows:

Compensation of Employees - GH¢ 7,950,493.00

Goods and Services - GH¢ 5,072,190.00

Capital Expenditure - GH¢ 242,628.00

Total allocation - GH¢13,265,310.00

This allocation will be expended under the following core expenditure items of the Commission:

1. Management and Administration - GH¢11,693,120.00

2. National Development Policy, Planning- GH¢1,572,190.00

Total - GH¢13,265,310.00

The 2023 budgetary allocation for National Development Planning Commission will be further disbursed among the sub-programs as follows:

Table 2: 2023 Budget Allocation bus u-program

2023 Budget	Sub-Program	2023 Allocation (GH¢)
Program		
Management and	Management and	11,693,120.00
Administration	Administration	
National	National Policy Formulation	400,000.00
Development Policy,	National Plan Preparation	400,000.00
Planning	National Monitoring and	400,000.00
	Evaluation	
	Research and Innovation	372,190.00
Total	13,265,310.00	

9.0. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1. Unreleased Budget Allocation

The Committee observed that an amount of GH\$\psi_16,421,159.00 was approved for NDPC for its activities in the 2022 budget. However as at September 2022, only GH\$\psi_5,446,191.95 representing 33% of the revised budget was released to the Commission. The releases relate only to Compensation and Goods and Services with no releases for capital expenditure.

The Commission informed the Committee that the non-release of capital expenditure allocation affected its ability to upgrade its IT infrastructure to make it more robust and expand its capacity to accommodate the large volumes of reports generated by the Commission. The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to release the allocation for capital expenditure to the Commission to enable it meet its planned IT infrastructure upgrade.

10.0. CONCLUSION

The Committee, after carefully examining the 2023 Annual Estimates of the National Development Planning Commission, having regards to the strategic role of the Commission in the development drive of the country, recommends that, the House 6 | Page REFORT ON NOPC ANNUAL ESTIMATES FOR 2023

approves the sum of *Thirteen Million*, *Two Hundred and Sixty-Five Thousand*, *Three Hundred and Ten Ghana Cedis* (GH¢13,265,310.00) to finance the implementation of the programmes and activities of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) for the 2023 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.

HON. KWAKU AGYEMAN KWARTENG CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE

JOANA A. SAKYI ADJEI (MRS.) CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

14th December, 2022

