

ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY, GHANA



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**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE
PARLIAMENT OF GHANA**

1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 2022

This Report is written and submitted to the Parliament of Ghana in accordance with the Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 2020 (Act 1030).

SUBMITTED BY THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
ACCRA, GHANA

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BNC	Bureau of National Communications
BNI	Bureau of National Investigations
CCTV	Closed Circuit Televisions
CAPEX	Capital Expenditure
DISEC	District Security Council
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IPEP	Poverty Eradication Programme
JIC	Joint Intelligence Committee
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
METSECs	Metropolitan Security Councils
MUSECs	Municipal Security Councils
NSB	National Signals Bureau
NIB	National Intelligence Bureau
NSC	National Security Council
NSCS	National Security Council Secretariat
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
RD	Research Department
REGSEC	Regional Security Council
SCS	Secure Communication System
NPOA- IUU	National Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
NUSPAW	National Union of Seamen, Ports and Allied Workers
OSINT	Open-Source Intelligence
UKF	United Krobo Foundation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ministry of National Security (MNS) is enjoined, by Section 40 of the Security and Intelligence Agencies Act 2020 (Act 1030), to submit to the Parliament of the Republic of Ghana, on an annual basis, a report on its activities for the preceding year. This report has, therefore, been submitted in accordance with the mandates of the Ministry.

During the period under review, the Ministry undertook the under-listed key activities:

- Launched the Ministry of National Security Citizen Awareness Campaign dubbed “SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING” to encourage citizens to report suspicious activities to the security agencies.
- Installed 10,000 Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTV), under a nationwide surveillance program, dubbed the Alpha Project, to fight crime.
- Secured a permanent secretariat for the Accra Initiative which operates in Accra, Ghana, with focal points in each member country including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote D’Ivoire, Togo Mali and Niger.
- Completed the redevelopment of the Amankwaa Fodder Bank in the Kwahu Afram Plains North District.

Although the Country’s security situation remained calm in the year under review, there were both internal and external factors that threatened its peace. Some of the factors include agitations over stalled projects, apprehension over the high cost of living by the citizens, funding, staffing, logistical and infrastructural challenges in the educational and health sector, the prevalence of illegal mining and threats of terrorist infiltration owing to tensions in neighbouring countries.

During the year under review, the Ministry, together with its agencies, experienced a number of setbacks in the execution of its mandates, key among them including the following:

- Inadequate budget funding and delay in the release of funds
- Delay in Retooling the Intelligence Agencies with modern tools, software and Infrastructure.

It is against this backdrop that the Ministry recommends increased budgetary allocation to enable it carry out its mandate more effectively.



SECTION ONE

PROFILE OF MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of National Security (MNS), like other sector Ministries, is enjoined to submit to the Parliament of the Republic of Ghana, on an annual basis, a report on its activities of the preceding year.

This 2022 Annual Report focuses on the following:

- Overview of the Ministry;
- Review of activities undertaken by the National Security and Intelligence Agencies in 2022;
- Regional and District Security Councils
- General overview of the security situation in Ghana;
- Administration and staffing position of the MNS and the Intelligence Agencies;
- Financial allotment and expenditures of the Ministry and its agencies; and
- Challenges and Recommendations

1.2 OVERVIEW OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of National Security, in line with Sections 11 and 13 of the Civil Service Act, 1993 (PNDCL 327), and Section 24 of the Security & Intelligence Agencies Act 2020 (Act 1030), is responsible for the provision of timely and accurate security information to Government, institutions and appropriate agencies, for preemptive and other decision measures to advance the safety, wellbeing and economic prosperity of citizenry, both locally and abroad.

1.2.1 Our Mandate

The Ministry was created to oversee the Securities and Intelligence Agencies on matters of policy. It is mandated to:

- Initiate and formulate policies to ensure the effective and efficient management of security issues;
- Coordinate and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the performance of the security and intelligence sector; and
- Present a report on the Intelligence agencies to Parliament.

The Ministry executes its mandate through the deployment of skilled human resources and modern technology for stakeholders to enhance security, freedom of the citizenry and national development.

1.2.2 Our Vision

To provide accurate, reliable and timely intelligence information to Government and other state agencies, to formulate strategic and operational decisions to ensure the security, stability and peace of the nation.

1.2.3 Our Mission

The MNS exists to formulate, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of security and intelligence policies to enhance security, freedom of the citizenry and national development.

1.2.4 Core Functions

The core functions of the Ministry are to:

- Promote political tolerance, stability, security, and peace in Ghana and the sub-region.
- Formulate, implement, coordinate, monitor and evaluate government policies and programmes.
- Provide institutional capacity and enabling environment for effective, efficient and sustainable service delivery.
- Preserve and conserve public records for the benefit of the general public.
- Provide communication among all Government Security Agencies and other key organizations.
- Maintain key installations in the Regions and Districts throughout the year.
- Organize training programmes for Regional and District security personnel.
- Promote political tolerance, stability and peace in Ghana and the sub-region.
- Provide timely external intelligence for policy directions.
- Gather economic intelligence to provide appropriate and relevant information to Ghanaian businesses to boost economic activity within the sub-region.

1.2.5 Key Activities Implemented By The Ministry In 2022

The MNS, in its quest to safeguard national security and promote national cohesion for peace and stability, embarked on a number of flagship programmes during the period under review.

Notable among the flagship programmes are:

- Launching of the Ministry of National Security Citizen Awareness campaign dubbed “SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING”:- The campaign was aimed at educating the public to be vigilant against the potential threats and also raise awareness of signs of terrorism and terrorist-related crimes as well as to encourage citizens to report suspicious activities to the security agencies. The launch of the campaign was a success with calls to our toll-free number averaging Eleven Thousand (11,000) per day within the first three months after the launch.
- The government, under a nationwide surveillance program, dubbed the Alpha Project, installed 10,000 Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTV) to fight crime. The project seeks to install cameras in almost every region so that as crime is committed, security agencies can monitor and rewind the CCTV to know what is happening. The Alpha Project has deployed about 10,000 cameras across the country with central monitoring centres in Accra, Tamale and Kumasi.
- To enhance proper coordination among Member States, the Ministry secured a permanent secretariat for the Accra Initiative which operates in Accra, Ghana, with focal points in each member country including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire, Togo Mali and Niger. The initiative is aimed at fostering collaboration among member states in intelligence sharing to prevent the spillover of terrorism and violent extremism from the Sahelian countries as well as transnational crimes. The Accra Initiative with the support of the EU held a high-level Counter Terrorism Conference during the period under review to deepen the Accra Initiative concept in Accra.
- The Amankwaa Fodder Bank in the Kwahu Afram Plains North District covering an area of 208 hectares was established by the Government in 2012 to provide pasture and water to cattle in the district to curb frequent clashes between crop farmers and herders arising from crop damage and water contamination by cattle. The fodder bank was

redeveloped into a ranch by providing additional holding facilities, kraals, lighting, and accommodation for herders, officers as well as the ranch manager's residence. The redevelopment which was completed in April, 2022 now holds about 800 cattle.

1.2.6 Political And Administrative Heads Of The Ministry

Position	Name	Period in Office
Hon. Minister	Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah	2017 till date
National Security Coordinator	Mr. Edward Asomani	2022 till date

1.2.7 Key Achievements

- Launched the Ministry of National Security Citizen Awareness Campaign dubbed “*SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING*” to encourage citizens to report suspicious activities to the security agencies.
- Countered security threats including violent extremism terrorism, Organized crimes and other related National Security threats.
- Processed information forwarded to the National Security Council (NSC) and other agencies daily, which shaped the formulation of government policies and improved the security and peace of the state.
- Undertook security monitoring and investigation in respect of serious offences and matters of National Importance.
- Successfully conducted Special operations (Operation Calm Life, Cow Leg, Vanguard, Conquest fist at Bui Dam, Banda, Alavanyo - Nkonya, Bawku, Weija and Afram Plains) towards maintaining internal peace and security.
- Provided intelligence leading to the protection of the Executive, VIPs, general public and other Key Installations.
- Improved and expanded human resource capacity and capabilities.
- Established a new National Intelligence Bureau (NIB) operational office at Agbogba, Accra.
- Established new stations and deployed officers on short and long-term assignments in various countries.

- Expanded scope of liaison operations and participated in regional security meetings to have first knowledge of emerging threats in the region to enhance security and protection of the state. Managed the Emergency Communication (112) System and also improved coordination among the responding Agencies to effectively address emergencies received from the public.
- Enhanced the Field Operations unit of NSB to effectively gather intelligence, collaborate with other Security Agencies and respond to security threats. This culminated in the curbing of various issues including the Western Togoland Separatist Movement, kidnappings, cybersecurity-related issues and other fraudulent activities.
- Continued to provide data connectivity, internet and data security for critical entities, including the Police, Passport Office, Ghana Water Company Limited, and Ghana Immigration Service among others.

1.2.8 Output Indicators and Performance Report for Ministry and Agencies

Main Outputs	Output Indicator	2021	2022	
			Target	Actual
Sector Liaison Coordination meetings with Cost centers/ agencies and other MDAs held.	Number of sector meetings held	80	85	48
Dissemination and Responding to correspondence done	Number of working days used to respond	7	4	4
Management meetings organized.	Number of meetings held	12	12	12
National Intelligence Bureau				
Security Monitoring and Investigations done.	Daily Intelligence Report Submitted	365	365	365
Technical and Operational Training conducted.	Number of officers trained	340	900	254
Special operations, security, monitoring and investigations done	Daily intelligence reports submitted	365	365	365
Research Department				
Specialized training to improve the skills of staff done	Number of personnel trained in specialized skills	350	450	245
Intelligence Reports submission to NSC Secretariat improved	Number of Intelligence Reports submitted	6,800	6800	3620
Provision of intelligence reports on oil and gas industry enhanced	Number of reports on oil and gas industry submitted	1200	1300	506
Regional and Global collaboration for international peace and security Strengthened	Number of co-operations, collaborations, peace promotions undertaken	950	850	409
National Signals Bureau				
Communication among security and intelligence agencies strengthened	Daily intelligence communication	365	365	365
Institutional capacity and enabling environment for effective, efficient and sustainable service delivery intensified	Number of staff trained	450	500	226
Key installations in the regions and districts maintained throughout the year	Daily Maintenance of communication installations	365	365	365

SECTION TWO

NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 2020 (Act 1030) maintained the Bureau of National Investigation (BNI) and the Research Department (RD) as the internal and external intelligence agencies of Ghana respectively. However, BNI is referred to in the new Act as National Intelligence Bureau (NIB). This is to enable the Bureau focus primarily on the gathering and dissemination of intelligence to relevant stakeholders in a timely manner.

In addition, the Bureau of National Communications (BNC), now denominated the National Signals Bureau (NSB), provides specialist communications and signal intelligence support to all security and intelligence agencies in Ghana.

Given the surge in cyber-related threats and the enormity of its mission, the National Signals Bureau Act, 2020 (Act 1040) was enacted to enable it brace up for the challenges.

The intelligence agencies operate directly under the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) of the MNS.

All policy directives for the operations of the Agencies emanate from the Minister to the National Security Coordinator, who acts as the Security Operations Manager. The Office of the National Security Coordinator derives its mandate from ACT 1030.

An outline structure of the Intelligence Agencies and their line of operational reporting is captured in Figure 2.2.

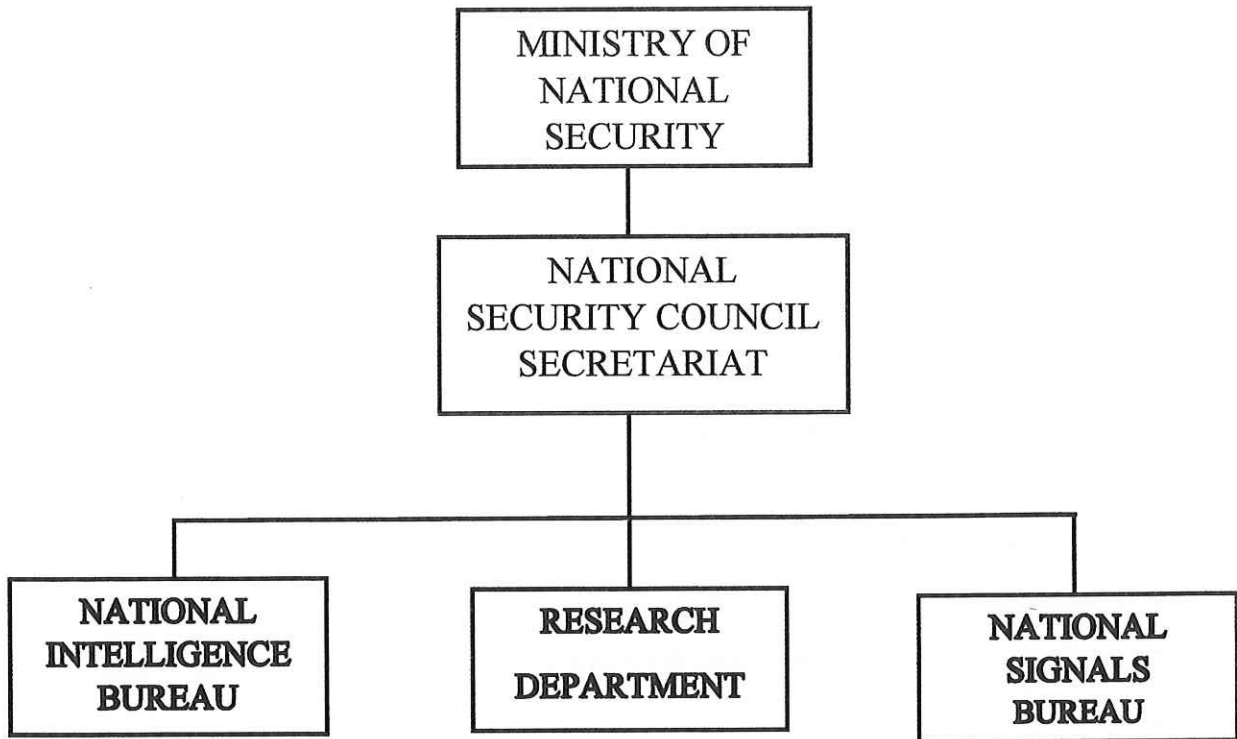


Figure 2.2: Structure of the National Intelligence Agencies

The functions of the Intelligence Agencies are geared towards providing the necessary intelligence and early warning to government, from both internal and external sources, to enable government safeguard the country's interests. The ultimate aim is to preserve and deepen the country's democracy and also create an enabling environment for the population to carry on their daily activities peacefully.

2.2 NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU (NIB)

In the year 2022, the NIB, as the Intelligence Agency responsible for domestic intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination, made earnest efforts to streamline its activities to conform to the dictates of the Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 2020 (Act 1030). The Bureau thus came up with a National Intelligence Strategy which outlined contemporary measures and techniques for the effective provision of timely, insightful objective and relevant intelligence on domestic threats to prevent security surprises, ensure peace and security and aid policy formulation on security-related issues. The key objectives of the document are to develop and implement integrated warning capacity; strengthen core mission capabilities; deepen partnership; and improve cooperation with stakeholders in the Security fraternity.

2.2.1 Mission of NIB

The National Intelligence Bureau [NIB] in its operations within the confines of Ghana's National Security and Intelligence architecture, is charged primarily with the high responsibilities of collecting, collating, analyzing and securely disseminating internal intelligence for the advancement of Ghana's National Security goals. The Bureau is constantly and actively guided by the obligations of protecting national sovereignty, promoting constitutional democracy and safeguarding the freedom and general well-being of the citizenry.

2.2.2 Vision of NIB

To provide accurate, reliable and timely intelligence to government and other state agencies, to formulate strategic and operational decisions to ensure the security, stability and peace of the nation.

2.2.3 Review of Activities for 2022

The Bureau diligently focused on its core mandate of intelligence gathering and responded to other national duties assigned. The Bureau also responded to requests for technical sweeping and polygraph examinations.

There were regular collaborative engagements with Regional, Municipal and District Security Councils nationwide. Further, the Bureau was represented on Joint Intelligence Committees and Inter-Agency Meetings where contributions were made towards taking proactive decisions in the security interest of the nation. Public reactions were also gathered to keep government informed about the views of the populace regarding government initiatives.

Intelligence was actively shared by the Director General of the NIB at the National Security Council Level with relevant stakeholders for preventive actions against security threats, policy formulation and amendment.

The Bureau also undertook intelligence gathering on various threats including the following:

- Financial Crimes.
- Money Laundering.
- Tax Evasion.
- Visa Fraud.
- Gold Scam.

- Advance Fee Fraud.
- Terrorism.
- Subversion.
- Kidnapping/Abduction.
- Examination Fraud.
- Land and Chieftaincy Disputes.
- Identity Theft.
- Impersonation.
- Cyber Fraud.
- Piracy of Products.
- Counterfeiting (Currencies).

The Bureau continued with active participation in some special national operations including the following:

2.2.4 Operation Motherland

The NIB Headquarters has deployed a number of its personnel to the VOLTA, OTI and EASTERN Regions, to assist in operations to contain the activities of the Western Togoland/Homeland Study Group Foundation. The teams are assisted by the local personnel at the respective Regional Commands with effective monitoring and intelligence collation.

2.2.5 Operation Conquered Fist

The Bureau, in a drive to counter the activities of violent extremists/terrorists, tasked selected personnel to enhance intelligence gathering along GHANA's border with BURKINA FASO, TOGO and LA COTE D'IVOIRE. The operation is being conducted in collaboration with other Security Agencies.

2.2.6 Operation Koudanlgou IV

The operation, which is under the "ACCRA INITIATIVE" is intermittently carried out as and when the member States raise security concerns regarding threats which have the tendency of affecting them.

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2.2.7 Secure Communication System (SCS)

Management of the SCS in August, 2022 updated the system to enhance its ability.

2.2.8 Challenges

The Bureau did not encounter any challenges during the year under review.

2.2.9 Outlook for 2023

The under listed activities have been planned for implementation in 2023.

The Bureau plans to undertake the following activities in the year 2023:

- Continue to enhance the capacity of personnel through training programmes for Senior and Middle-Level Officers as well as drivers and canteen staff
- Training of thirty (30) Senior Officers as trainers of trainers
- Pursue the supply of the seventy percent (70%) deficit of vehicles, which were to be supplied by government since 2020
- Pursue the construction of the new NIB Headquarters building
- Continue with the construction of the NIB Training Academy at KOFORIDUA
- Continue with the digitalization processes and procedures of the Bureau.
- Continue with the retooling of the Bureau
- Continue with the implementation of the five (5) year Strategic Plan for the Bureau which commenced in 2021

2.3 RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

In accordance with its mandate, the Research Department, in 2022, continued to plan, collect, process and analyse critical external intelligence and disseminated same to His Excellency, the President, the Honourable National Security Minister, the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and other relevant government agencies to assist in decision making.

2.3.1 Vision

The vision of the Directorate is to transform the Research Department into a modern Intelligence Organisation with a higher standard of professionalism among officers and broadens the scope of operations in the core mandate both in substance and form.

The vision is earmarked to advance the Research Department's role through the promotion and enhancement of contemporary tools of the trade to address Ghana's security imperatives.

2.3.2 Mission

The Research Department, as a component of the National Security System, dealing primarily with external intelligence, exists to provide timely Intelligence to the National Security Council for the Protection, Promotion and Enhancement of National Security, National Sovereignty, the Constitution and Freedom of the citizens.

2.3.3 Review of Activities for 2022

The Department operated from Fifty-Two (52) Embassies/High Commissions and Twelve (12) Consulates throughout the year. It continued to diligently execute its core mandate, in accordance with Section 14 (2) of the Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 2020 (Act 1030).

The following activities were undertaken by the Department during the reporting period

- As of 31st December, 2022, 3062 reports were submitted to the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and other consumers, including sister intelligence and security agencies. The reports included intelligence information, situational reports, briefs, estimates and assessments, positive vetting, due diligence and security assessments to our Liaison Partners.
- A comprehensive pre-posting training and briefing were organized by the Department in the second and third quarters of the year for its officers who were earmarked for postings abroad for the years 2022 and 2023.
- The 2022 pre-posting training programme took place from April to July 2022. Resource persons for the training programme comprised selected senior Branch 'A' 'B' and 'C' officers of the Department, as well as external resource persons. The topics and subject

themes treated included Tradecraft, Diplomacy, Consular Affairs, Intelligence Analysis and Report Writing, Memory Training, Ghana's Strategic National Interests: Act 1030 in Perspective, as well as Administrative and General Knowledge.

- At the behest of the Presidency, officers of the Department accompanied H.E. the President on international visits, during which they performed counter-intelligence and general security duties in the first, third and fourth quarters of the year.
- The Department's Signal and Technical Intelligence Team continued to conduct checks for electronic surveillance devices in key government institutions in Ghana and abroad.
- As part of its cover schedule, the Department continued to discharge its responsibilities of rendering consular and welfare services in all Ghana Missions abroad during the year 2022. In this regard, the Department's officers at post continued to assist Missions in the issuance of Ghana passports, and Ghana entry visas, as well as the legalization, authentication and attestation of other official Government of Ghana documents for applicants abroad.
- In addition to processing Visas and Passports, officers of the Department also handled schedules such as political, economic, trade/investment promotion and protocol duties in Ghana's Missions abroad, complementing the mainstream activities of the Missions.

2.3.4 Challenges

The Department did not encounter any challenges during the year under review.

2.3.5 Outlook for 2023

The under listed activities have been planned for implementation in 2023.

In the year 2023, the Department intends to continue expanding its Liaison relations and cooperate with liaison partners to organise training programmes for officers in the areas of:

- Cyber Security
- Critical Thinking, Analysis and Report Writing
- Surveillance and Counter-Surveillance

- Debriefing and Elicitation
- Social Media Monitoring
- Counter-Terrorism
- Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)
- Managerial and Inclusive leadership Course
- Closely monitor the security situation in the West African sub-region, particularly with regards to the Transitional Regimes in Mali, Burkina Faso and Guinea. Terrorist activities in the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin area will also be a priority.
- Develop a strategic liaison relations policy to guide its liaison partnerships with our counterpart agencies around the world.
- Sign new MoU's and review existing ones with other intelligence agencies to clarify ambiguities and enhance our strategic national interests in the pursuit of liaison relations.
- Train officers in specialized fields such as cybercrime, infiltration of terrorist organisations, vigilantism, and money laundering, among others, and equip them with the requisite skills to collect intelligence on and analyse modern threats.
- Organise training programmes for all categories of officers to enhance their potential to undertake operations.
- Continue monitoring the development of officers either through mentorship or assigned handlers to supervise less experienced officers.
- Continue to reward hardworking officers and sanction officers found culpable of wrongdoing in an effort to enhance discipline in the Department.
- Continue with infrastructural development of the facilities of the Department with emphasis on the expansion and renovation of the Transport Section.

2.4 NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU (NSB)

The Bureau was established by an Act of Parliament in 2020, with the mandate to provide reliable and secure communications for the security, intelligence and emergency response and other government agencies; provide information assurance and cybersecurity for critical government infrastructure or communications, and provide finished intelligence to ensure political tolerance, stability, security and peace in Ghana and the sub-region.

2.4.1 Vision

To be the leading signals intelligence agency to safeguard Ghana's national security.

2.4.2 Mission

To leverage technological solutions and provide information assurance that enhances decision-making to achieve National Security objectives and economic well-being.

2.4.3 Major Events and Activities:

The Bureau, in implementing its programmes, has undertaken several projects and addressed major issues that include:

- Provision of secure communications for the Security, Intelligence and other Government Agencies;
- Expansion in surveillance capabilities through the installation of CCTV camera systems across the country;
- Signal intelligence gathering and tactical support for stakeholder security agencies;
- Recruitment, training and development of highly qualified professional staff to maintain deployed systems;
- Information Assurance in securing communication from susceptible intrusion by external parties;
- Emergency call centre operations across the country to ensure prompt response to crises.

2.4.4 Challenges

2.4.4.1 Budgetary Allocation/Release

The smooth and efficient operations of the Bureau have been significantly hampered by its inability to access and in a timely manner, the budget allocated to it. Operational requirements such as fuel for network and field intelligence vehicles to respond to issues, fueling of generators at cell sites, and tools and spare parts for network maintenance, among others, require prompt action. The lack of needed funding to attend to the above results in network outages and loss of systems or critical intelligence responses.

2.4.4.2 Retooling of Aging Infrastructure

Sections of the network infrastructure, especially the GoTa platform deployed over seven (7) years ago are old and require investments to retool and operate them at optimal levels. Lack of the requisite funding has impeded the ability to source relevant spare parts and tools to maintain these systems.

2.4.4.3 Network Coverage

Although the Government of Ghana has made huge investments in the network infrastructure and intelligent sensors deployed, they are still inadequate and many coverage gaps exist. It is very important that the network is expanded to extend its reach and also fill in current coverage gaps.

2.4.4.4 Lack of Vehicles

The Bureau has been experiencing major setbacks in the effective execution of its mandate due to its ageing fleet of vehicles, coupled with a significant expansion of its mandate over the period. Urgent steps are required to retire and replace some of the vehicles owing to operational inefficiencies and risk to personnel. Augmenting the fleet with robust pickup and saloon vehicles will facilitate the Bureau's operations and ensure a more effective response to its enhanced mandate. At least two (2) Staff Buses with 30-seater capacity are also required to convey staff to and from work on a daily basis.

2.4.4.5 Construction/Renovation of Offices

The Bureau needs a new Head Office block to address an increasing staff strength and the expanded role. Regional and District Offices also need to be constructed or acquired to ensure the Bureau has the requisite personnel deployed across the country to enable it carry out its mandate.

2.4.4.6 Training & Development

There is the need for more funds to be released for both local and foreign training programmes, to reorient staff and cater for the training needs of the growing numbers of staff.

2.4.4.7 Tools and Equipment for Intelligence Operations

Deployed systems have made available, access to big data that would facilitate the Office's ability to use intelligent analytics and predictive capabilities to analyze, detect crime and assist

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in investigations. However, the relevant data fusion and analytic tools are currently lacking and the requisite investments are required in this regard.

2.4.4.8 Acquisition/Renting of Accommodation

The Bureau requires official accommodation for its officers. Over the years, as staff strength has increased tremendously, challenges with providing accommodation have come to the fore, a development that has adversely affected operations.

Personnel who travel long distances to work have complained about their inability to find accommodation around the office enclave, exorbitant rent prices and excessive vehicular traffic, among others, and have appealed to the office to intervene.

2.4.4.9 Warehouse

The warehouse the Bureau currently uses belongs to the National Intelligence Bureau (NIB) and the Operations Department of the Ministry of National Security, both of which have very limited space available. There is a need to acquire a permanent warehouse facility to secure equipment.

2.4.4.1 Disposal of Obsolete Items

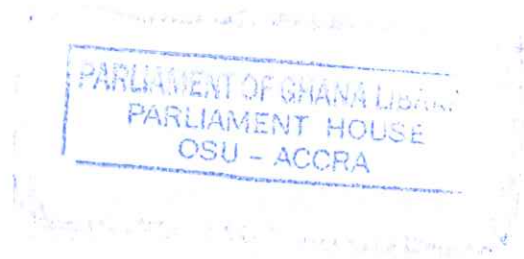
In July 2018, the Bureau presented a request to the National Security Coordinator to dispose of its obsolete equipment currently located at the Labone Headquarters - at a section of the compound, and spaces that hitherto were used as offices. It has become necessary to discard old equipment, to free up the premises and office spaces for use by personnel.

2.4.5 Outlook for 2023

The under listed activities have been planned for implementation in 2023.

- Retooling of the Bureau's network infrastructure with modern equipment and software to enable its operational requirement.
- Provision of additional handsets to enhance the operations of served agencies.
- Enhance network coverage by providing additional cell sites and intelligence sensors like cameras, and automatic number-plate recognition systems, among others in currently unserved and underserved areas.
- Construction of a Head Office Building, Regional and District Offices, Safe Houses and staff accommodation.

- Acquisition of robust vehicles to facilitate the Bureau's operations.
- Training personnel to enhance their capabilities to respond effectively to the Bureau's mandate.
- Acquisition of capabilities in big data fusion and analytics for intelligence activities.
- Acquisition of gadgets to fight Terrorism and E-Crime.
- Disposal of obsolete equipment.



SECTION THREE

REGIONAL AND DISTRICT SECURITY COUNCILS AND THE JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

3.1 INTRODUCTION

As part of the National Security architecture, the Regional Security Councils (REGSECs), Metropolitan Security Councils (METSECs), Municipal Security Councils (MUSECs), and District Security Councils (DISECs), continued to function under Act 2020 (Act 1030).

3.2 TASKS OF REGSECS AND DISECS

All REGSECs, METSECs, MUSECs, and DISECs discharged their constitutional mandates during the year under review as stipulated in the ACT.

- a. They provided early warning to government on the existence or likelihood of a security threat to the region, the district, the country or the government;
- b. The REGSECs and DISECs took appropriate steps to reinforce and maintain peace in conflict areas in each region and district in consultation with the NSC.
- c. They also took immediate steps to ensure law and order and assisted the population in emergencies and disaster situations.

3.3 JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

The Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC), comprising Heads of all State Security and Intelligence Agencies and chaired by the National Security Coordinator, continued to perform its constitutional functions during the year under review. As part of this, it constantly reviewed the security situation in the country and proposed appropriate measures to ensure public safety and maintenance of law and order.

SECTION FOUR

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE SECURITY SITUATION OF GHANA IN 2022

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The security situation in the country for the year under review remained largely stable. However, a number of internal and external factors that threatened its stability include agitations over stalled projects, anti-government sentiments, educational challenges, health issues, challenges in the fisheries sector, illegal mining, border security and the Bawku conflict among others.

4.2 AGITATIONS OVER STALLED PROJECTS

The period under review noted widespread agitations in the Oti, Volta, Northern, Eastern, Ashanti, Bono, Central, and Greater Accra Regions over stalled developmental projects, particularly roads, bridges, and initiatives under the Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP). It is assessed that prolonged agitations would be exploited by opposition groups, exacerbating prevailing challenges.

4.3 ANTI-GOVERNMENT SENTIMENTS

The review period highlighted widespread anti-government sentiments among citizens over the rising cost of goods and services. Consequently, some interest groups, notably the United Krobo Foundation (UKF), #FixTheCountry, Arise Ghana, and Economic Fighters League, organised a series of demonstrations in parts of the country. The reported intended use of arms by some demonstrators, signaled an intent to destabilise the country.

4.4 EDUCATION

Checks at various schools across the country during the review period revealed a myriad of challenges, notably understaffing; shortage of food; and inadequate funding, infrastructure, and logistics undermining academic activities. The agitations were widespread in Ashanti, Bono, Central, Eastern, Oti, Upper East and Volta regions which culminated in the temporal closure of some schools, mainly Bolgatanga Girls SHS, Bolgatanga SHS, Ghana National College, and Adisadel College.

4.5 HEALTH

Healthcare facilities in parts of the country, mainly Eastern, Greater Accra, Upper East, Central, and Northern regions were beset with financial, infrastructural, and operational challenges, including shortages of essential medicines, dysfunctional ambulances, and delayed

settlement of National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) claims, undermining effective healthcare delivery, especially in rural areas.

Further, checks revealed delayed construction of health facilities under the Ghana Priority Health Infrastructure Projects Initiative (Agenda 111) due to disagreements over hospital locations, in addition to financial and logistical constraints.

4.6 CHALLENGES IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR

Reports indicated challenges in the fisheries sector despite the adoption of the National Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (NPOA-IUU). For instance, the National Union of Seamen, Ports and Allied Workers (NUSPAW) highlighted the abuse of members at sea and the indiscriminate activities of Chinese trawlers in Ghanaian waters.

In a related development, checks at some districts revealed intermittent shortages and/or hoarding of premix fuel, adversely impacting livelihoods and courting disaffection for government. The development was prevalent in Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolises, Krowor and Korley Klottey Municipalities, and Shama, Gomoa West, and Kwahu Afram Plains North Districts.

It is worthy of note that global resource challenges have rendered West African waters a hotspot for unsustainable fishing practices and piracy, exposing States to risks of a Yellow Card from the European Union. It was noted that enforcing NPOA-IUU is essential to the fishing industry due to the inherent measures to curtail the activities of unlicensed trawlers.

4.7 ILLEGAL MINING

The period under review noted the prevalence of illegal mining in Ashanti, Central, Eastern, Western, and Western North regions, destroying fertile lands, polluting water sources, and threatening installations of the Ghana Water Company Limited. Also, residents in the Kwahu Afram Plains North and Fantekwa North Districts bemoaned the activities of nomadic herdsmen, a number of whom are allegedly involved in criminal activities, including armed robbery, theft, and sexual assault, culminating in potential reprisal attacks, and threatening food security.

4.8 BORDER SECURITY

The period under review recorded heightened insecurity along Ghana's borders with neighboring countries, notably Burkina Faso and Togo. The development culminated in an estimated 4,000 displaced persons, migrating to Ghana, through the northern frontiers.

Further, the Upper East Region remained volatile following renewed hyperlocal conflicts, particularly the Bawku Chieftaincy Dispute. The proximity of the area to Burkina Faso, an extremist-stricken country, raises concerns over potential terrorist infiltration.

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SECTION FIVE

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section deals with the Administration and staffing of the Ministry of National Security and its agencies, namely the National Intelligence Bureau, the Research Department and the National Signals Bureau.

5.2 MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

The staffing strength of the Ministry of National Security (MoNS) including staff of the National Security Council Secretariat as of 31st December, 2022 was one thousand, two hundred and eighteen (1218). This comprised Five Hundred and Thirty-Five (535) Senior Officers, Five Hundred and Two (502) Middle-Level officers and One Hundred and Eighty-one (181) Junior Level Officers.

5.3 NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU

The total staff strength of the Bureau stood at Two Thousand and Sixty (2,380) as of December, 2022. This comprised of One Thousand and Two Hundred and Seventy-Nine (1,279) Senior Officers, Seven Hundred and Eighteen (718) Middle-Level officers and Three Hundred and Eighty-three (383) Junior Level officers.

5.4 RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

The Department has a staff strength of four hundred and ninety-nine (499) permanent staff. This comprised Two Hundred and Seventy-Five (275) Senior Officers, One Hundred and Ninety-Four (194) Middle-Level officers and Thirty (30) Junior Level officers

5.5 NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU

The total staff strength of the National Signals Bureau as of the end of the last quarter of 2022 stood at Six Hundred and Sixty (660). This comprised of Five Hundred and Fifty-Five (555) Senior Officers, Seventy-Nine (79) Middle-Level officers and Twenty-Six (26) Junior Level officers

Table 5.5 : MDAs STAFF STRENGTH

S/ N	GRADE	Staff Strength target for 2022	No. at post as at 31 st December 2022
1	CHIEF DIRECTOR	1	1
2	NATIONAL SECURITY COORDINATOR	1	1
3	DEPUTY SECURITY COORDINATOR	1	-
4	DIRECTOR GENERAL	3	3
5	DEP. DIRECTOR GEN.	5	3
6	DIRECTOR	7	18
7	DEP.DIRECTOR	8	1
8	CHIEF ANALYST	96	110
9	PRINCIPAL ANALYST	139	93
10	SENIOR ANALYST	168	186
11	ANALYST	368	478
12	DEPUTY ANALYST	262	502
13	ASSIST ANALYST	1380	1248
14	CHIEF DESK OFFICER	429	252
15	PRIN. DESK OFFICER	453	202
16	SENIOR DESK OFFICER	230	368
17	DESK OFICER	479	236
18	DEPUTY DESK OFFICER	227	260
19	ASSIST. DESK OFFIER	105	175
20	SENIOR TECH ASSIST	149	141
21	TECH ASSIST GD I	78	117
22	TECH ASSIST GD II	99	77
23	TECH ASSIST GD III	199	85
24	TECH ASSIST GD IV	98	92
25	TECH ASSIST GD V	60	108
TOTAL		5045	4757

SECTION SIX**FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENDITURE****6.1 BUDGET FOR 2022**

A budget allocation of Eight Hundred and Sixteen Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-Seven Thousand (**GH¢816,787,000.00**) was approved by government for the Ministry and its Agencies to cover Compensation, Goods & Services and Capital Expenditure (Capex) for the 2022 financial year.

6.2 ACTUAL RELEASES

Actual releases amounted to a total of Eight Hundred and Eight – Eight Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand, Eight-Nine Ghana Cedis and Twenty-Three Pesewas (**GH¢ 888,450,089.23**). This means that there was a variance in expenditure over the approved budget to the tune of Seventy-One Million, Six Hundred and Sixty-Three Thousand, Eighty Nine Ghana Cedis, Twenty- Three Pesewas (**GH¢ 71,663,089.23**).

6.3 ALLOCATIONS TO THE MINISTRY AND AGENCIES.

The tables (Tab 6.3.1, Tab 6.3.2 and Tab 6.3.3) below set out in detail the total budgetary item lines as allotted to the whole Ministry including its Agencies.

AMOUNT UTILIZED FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022 (COMPENSATION).

Tab 6.3.1

AGENCY	APPROVED BUDGET (A) GH¢	REVISED BUDGET (B) GH¢	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (C) GH¢	VARIANCE (B-C) GH¢
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY/ HQ	103,221,000.00	103,221,000.00	120,257,094.29	(17,036,094.29)
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU	196,000,000.00	196,000,000.00	225,063,767.91	(29,063,767.91)
NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU	52,560,000.00	52,560,000.00	76,260,758.70	(23,700,758.70)
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT	251,000,000.00	251,000,000.00	273,019,013.61	(22,019,013.00)
TOTAL	602,781,000.00	602,781,000.00	694,600,634.51	(91,819,633.90)

AMOUNT UTILIZED FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022 (GOODS & SERVICES). Tab 6.3.2

AGENCY	APPROVED BUDGET Ghc	REVISED BUDGET Ghc	AMOUNT RELEASED AS OF YEAR-END Ghc	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE Ghc
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY/HQ	68,322,000.00	115,308,431.00	138,600,000.00	138,600,000.00
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU	12,500,000.00	21,096,505.00	20,615,000.00	20,615,000.00
NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU	8,800,000.00	14,851,939.00	15,560,000.00	15,560,000.00
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT	10,500,000.00	17,721,064.00	17,675,000.00	17,675,000.00
TOTAL	100,122,000.00	168,977,939.00	192,450,000.00	192,450,000.00

AMOUNT UTILIZED FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022 (CAPEX) Tab 6.3.3

AGENCY GHC	APPROVED/ BUDGET (A) GHC	REVISED BUDGET (B) GHC	ACTUAL EXPENDITUR E (C) GHC	VARIANCE (B-C) GHC
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY/ HQ	3,000,000.00	264,308.00	0	264,308.00
NATIONAL INTELLIGE NCE BUREAU	1,800,000.00	158,585.00	1,399,454.72	(1,240,869.72)
NATIONAL SIGNALS BUREAU	10,000,000.00	881,027.00	0	881,027.00
RESEARCH DEPARTME NT	1,800,000.00	158,585.00	0	158,585.00
TOTAL	16,600,000.00	1,462,505.00	1,399,454.72	63,050.28

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SECTION SEVEN

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 CHALLENGES

During the year under review, the Ministry, together with its agencies, experienced a number of setbacks in the execution of its mandates. However, two (2) major developments that affected the sector are worth mentioning.

- The inadequate budget funding and delay in the release of funds led to the late implementation of programmes and projects.
- Also, on the operational front, the continuous delay in Retooling the Intelligence Agencies with modern tools, software and Infrastructure adversely impacted operational requirements.

It is against this backdrop that the Ministry is calling for increased budgetary allocation to enable it carry out its mandate more effectively.

7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ministry looks forward to 2023 with an improved security situation within the country and the sub-region. In addition, the Ministry will intensify its intelligence-gathering efforts to forestall any attack by extremists operating within neighbouring countries and the sub-region. There is, therefore, the need for a timely release of its budget appropriation to enable it discharge its duties successfully.