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



REPORT OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET COMMITTEE ON THE 2023 BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CIVIC EDUCATION (NCCE)

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta presented the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2023 Financial Year to Parliament on Thursday 17th November, 2022 in accordance with Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Section 21(3) of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921).

Pursuant to Order 140 (4) of the Standing Orders of the House, the Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Annual Budget Estimates of the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) to the Special Budget Committee for consideration and report.

2.0. DELIBERATIONS

In the consideration of the Estimates, the Committee was assisted by the Deputy Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Samuel Asare Akuamoah and Officials from the NCCE and technical officers from the Ministry of Finance.

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Deputy Chairman and the Officials for the assistance.

3.0. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee referred to the following additional documents in the cause of its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana;
- iii. National Commission for Civic Education Act, 1993 (Act 452)
- iv. The 2023 Programme Based Budget Estimates for National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE).
- v. The Coordinated Program of Economic and Social Policies
- vi. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- vii. The African Union (AU) Agenda 2063.

4.0. MISSION AND VISION

The objective of the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) is to promote and sustain democracy and inculcate in Ghanaian citizenry the awareness of their rights and obligations through civic education. The Commission would achieve this through public education of the citizenry on the awareness of their civil rights and obligations.

The vision of the Commission therefore is to be an effective independent governance institution providing civic education to all Ghanaians and working towards sustaining Ghana's democracy.

5.0. FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The NCCE Act, 1993 (Act 452), enjoins the Commission to perform the following functions;

- a) Create and sustain within the society, the awareness of the principles and objectives of the Constitution as the fundamental law of the people of Ghana;
- b) Educate and encourage the public to defend the Constitution at all times against all forms of abuse and violation;
- c) Formulate for the consideration of Government from time to time, programmes at national, regional and district levels aimed at realising the objectives of the Constitution;
- d) Formulate, implement and oversee programmes intended to inculcate in the citizens of Ghana awareness of their civic responsibilities and an appreciation of their rights and obligations as free people;
- e) Assess for the information of Government, the limitations to the achievement of true democracy arising from the existing inequalities between different strata of the population and make recommendations for re-dressing these inequalities.

6.0. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

During the 2022 financial year, the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) undertook the following activities;

- a. Focused its sensitisation activities on COVID-19 Vaccine, core national values, the need for constitution reforms;
- b. Fought against violent extremism to sustain Ghana's democracy and limit the spread of COVID-19;
- c. Devise robust sensitisation campaign on COVID-19 vaccines uptake to diminish hesitancy;
- d. Undertook public education on Sim-Card Re-registration across the country;

- e. Dialogued on Risks/Threat analysis on violence Extremism under the Prevention of Electoral Violence and Providing Security to the Northern Border Regions of Ghana (NORPREVSEC) programme;
- f. Executed school-based quizzes on national values/ the duties of citizens as enshrined in Article 41 of the Constitution;
- g. Community Engagement on the Duties of Citizens as enshrined in Article 41 of the 1992 Constitution;
- h. Launched NCCE/EU funded Preventing and Containing Violent Extremism in the five regions of Northern Ghana and three regions (PCVE Project).
- Celebrated the Annual Constitution Week on the theme- "Three Decades of Uninterrupted Constitutional Rule: Revisiting the Agenda for Reforms;
- j. Celebration of the Annual Citizenship Week Celebrations in basic Schools at the District level; and
- k. Engaged in Civic Education Club (CEC) Activities in Schools

6.1. 2022 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

In the year under review, an amount of Eighty-Eight Million, One Hundred and Forty-Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH\$88,145,000) was appropriated to the National Commission for Civic Education for its activities in the 2022 financial year. This sum is made up of Eighty-Seven Million, Seventy-Six Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH\$87,076,000) from GoG source and One Million and Sixty-Nine Thousand Ghana Cedis. (GH\$1,069,000) from Development Partners Fund. The allocation was disbursed among the three main expenditure items as follows:

| TOTAL | | 88,145,000.00 |
|--------------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| Capital Expenditure | ~- | 5,805,000 |
| Goods and Service | - | 14,073,000 |
| Compensation of employee | _ | ALLOCATION (GH¢) 68,267,000 |
| 1 | | |

The 2022 Appropriation was revised to **GH¢81,357**, **320** during the mid-year review. The revised amount was allocated to the three main cost centers of the Commission as follows:

| ITEM Compensation of employee | | ALLOCATION (GH¢) 68,267,000 |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Goods and Service | | 9,937,100 |
| Capital Expenditure | - | 3,153,220 |
| TOTAL | - | 81.357.320 |

Out of the revised allocation, an amount of GH¢64,908,545 was released to the Commission to finance its activities. The actual expenditure as at November, 2022 is Sixty-One Million, Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty Ghana Cedis (GH¢ GH¢61,847,660) leaving a balance of GH¢16,448,775 unreleased. The releases and actual expenditure of the Commission as at 30th November, is presented in table 2 below:

Table: 3: 2022 Releases and Actual Utilisation

| ltem | 2022 Revised Allocation (GH¢) A | Amount Released 30/09/2022 (GH¢) B | Actual Expenditure (GH¢) C | Variance (GH¢) A-B | % Relea sed |
|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Compensation | 68,267,000 | 60,997,430 | 60,740,475 | 7,269,570 | 89.4 |
| Goods and Services | 9,937,100 | 2,483,976 | 851,467 | 7,453,124 | 25.0 |
| CAPEX | 3,153,220 | 1,427,139 | 255,718 | 1,726,081 | 45.3 |
| Total | 81,357,320 | 64,908,545 | 61,847,660 | 16,448,775 | 79.8 |

7.0. OUTLOOK FOR 2023

In furtherance of its mandate and stated objectives, the NCCE will undertake the following activities among others in the 2023 Financial Year:

- 1. Embark on tax education on e-commerce;
- 2. Deepen District Assembly Election's (DLE) outreach engagements with communities;
- 3. Undertake election-related civic engagements with in-school youth (civic challenge /project citizen/ constitution game contest)
- 4. Sensitisation on anti-corruption and NACAP activities;
- 5. Training and capacity building for NCCE staff;
- Engagement on sustainable management of the environment (climate change);
- 7. Sensitisation on preventing violent extremism and promoting peaceful coexistence; and
- 8. Continue its education on core national values.

7.1, 2023 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

For the implementation of its planned programs and activities, the Commission has been allocated an amount of Eighty-Four Million, Four Hundred and Thirty-Eight Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty Ghana Cedis (GH¢84,438,420) for the Financial Year 2023. The 2023 budgetary allocation will be disbursed among the three (3) main expenditure items as follows:

| ITEM | | ALLOCATION (GH¢) |
|---------------------------|----|------------------|
| Compensation of employees | - | 76,400,720.00 |
| Goods and Service | - | 6,025,000.00 |
| Capital Expenditure | +- | 2,012,700.00 |
| TOTAL | _ | 84.438.420.00 |

For the Financial Year 2023, the budgetary allocation for the NCCE will be expended on two programs and seven sub programs as follows:

Table 2: 2023 Budget Allocation by Program and sub-program

| | Programme | Sub Programmes | 2023 Allocation (GH¢) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | Management and Administration | General Administration and Human Resource | 28,567,724 |
| | | Finance | 597,013 |
| , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | | Research, Gender and Equality | 292,329 |
| 79990 | | Communication and Corporate Affairs | 494,413 |
| | Civic Education | Constitutional Awareness Creation | 21,709,984 |
| | | Deepening and Sustaining Civic Awareness | 16,221,933 |
| | | Patriotism and Good Governance | 16,555,024.00 |
| Total | | | 84,438,420.00 |

8.0. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee after a careful consideration of the Estimates of the National Commission for Civic Education, made the following observations:

8.1. Intensification of Public Education

The Committee noted that, the Commission as part of its programs for 2023 intends to embark on public education on the upcoming District Level Election. Officials from the Commission informed the Committee that the public education is an integral part of the Commission's mandate. However, financial allocation for electoral education are always

appropriated to the Electoral Commission. Notwithstanding, Commission intends to incorporate public education especially about the role of the various actors in the democratic architecture. The Committee urges the Commission to focus its public education efforts on the role of the executive and the legislature in the constitutional arrangement of Ghana.

The Committee further urged the Commission to fully take charge of its responsibility of public education for elections from the Electoral Commission to enable the EC focus on educating the public on electoral processes.

9.0. CONCLUSION

The Committee having regards to the critical role of NCCE in promoting a civic education, creating awareness on principles and objectives of the Constitution as the fundamental law of the land and promoting citizenship education in Ghana, recommends to the House to adopt its Report and approve the sum of Eighty-Four Million, Four Hundred and Thirty-Eight Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty Ghana Cedis (GH¢84,438,420) for the implementation of the Commission's programs and activities for the Financial Year ending 31st December, 2023.

Respectfully submitted.

HON, PATRICIA APPIAGYEL

(VICE-CHAIRPERSON, SPECIAL BUDGET COMMITTEE)

JOANA ABENA SAKYI ADJEI (MRS.)

(CLERK, SPECIAL BUDGET COMMITTEE)