

**THE REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**ON THE**

**2011 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF**

**EDUCATION**

**10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2010**

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**OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Following the presentation of the 2011 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government by the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Hon. Dr. Kwabena Duffuor on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010, and subsequent motion for its adoption, the Annual Budget Estimates for the Fiscal Year 2011 of the Ministry of Education was referred to the Select Committee on Education for consideration and report pursuant to Orders 140 (4) and 186 of the Standing Orders of Parliament and Article 179 of the Constitution.

**2.0 DELIBERATIONS**

In considering the estimates, the Committee met with the Sector Minister, Hon. Alexander Tettey-Enyo, and his Deputies, Hon. Dr. J. S Annan and Hon. Mrs. Elizabeth Amoah-Tetteh and officials from the Ministries of Education and Finance and Economic Planning. The Committee is grateful to them for their cooperation and useful contributions during the deliberations.

**3.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The following reference documents were used:

- (a) The 1992 Constitution of Ghana
- (b) The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- (c) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2010 financial year.
- (d) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2011 financial year.
- (e) The Draft Annual Estimates of the Ministry of Education for 2011 Financial Year.
- (f) The Mid-Year Review of the 2010 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana

**4.0 MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES**

**4.1 National Goal**

The goal of the Ministry of Education is “to attain a “Better Ghana”, in which growth and economic prosperity are anchored on creating opportunities for improved standard of living,

ensure continuous stability and stimulate growth within an environment of good governance for all Ghanaians”.

#### **4.2 Mission Statement**

To provide relevant education with emphasis on science, information, communication and technology to equip individuals for self actualization, peaceful co-existence as well as skills for the workplace for national development.

To fulfill this mission, the Ministry is guided by the following policy Objectives:

##### ***a. Socio-Humanistic***

- Improve equity in access to and participation in education and training at all levels
- Bridge the gender gap in access to education
- Mainstream issues of population, family life education, gender, health, HIV/AIDS/STI, fire and road safety, civic responsibility and environment in the school curriculum.

##### ***b. Educational and Skills Acquisition***

- Improve quality of teaching and learning achievements
- Extend and improve technical and vocational education and training
- Promote Science, Mathematics, Technology and ICT education at all levels

##### ***c. Economic and Value for Money***

- Improve management of education service delivery
- Strengthen linkage between tertiary education and industry

#### **4.3 Implementing Departments and Agencies**

The above policies and programmes are carried out by the following implementing departments and agencies under the Ministry:

- i. Ghana Education Service (GES)
- ii. Council for Technical, Vocational Education and Training(COTVET)
- iii. National Council for Tertiary Education (NTCE)
- iv. National Service Secretariat (NSS)
- v. West Africa Examination Council (WAEC)
- vi. Ghana Library Board (GLB)
- vii. Non-Formal Education Division (NFED)
- viii. Centre for National Distance Learning and Open Schools (CENDLOS)

- ix. Ghana Book Development Board (GBDB)
- x. Students Loan Trust Fund (SLTF)
- xi. National Commission for UNESCO
- xii. National Accreditation Board (NAB)

## 5.0 PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE 2010 FINANCIAL YEAR

### 5.1 Summary of the 2010 Budget Performance as at September, 2010 (GH¢)

ITEM	CEILING	ACTUAL RELEASES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	% BALANCE
P.E	1,203.4	809.9	809.9	32.3
Administration	33.5	20.6	18.88	38.5
Service	24.8	5.5	3.1	77.9
Investment	4.3	0.14	0.14	96.8
Donor	89.2	40.0	40.0	55.2
MDRI	21.8	21.8	21.8	-
HIPC	81.4	66.5	66.5	18.3
IGF	270.9	128.3	128.3	52.3
<b>Grand-Total</b>	<b>1,729.3</b>	<b>1,092.74</b>	<b>1,088.62</b>	<b>371.3</b>

### 5.2 GETFund Allocation for 2010

- Actuals – GH¢326,693,000
- Releases - GH¢120,321,484

To enhance quality education, achieve the targets set for the MDG-2 and the Education Strategic Plan (2010-2020), the Ministry in the year under review accomplished the following activities:

- i. Conducted Annual Education Sector Review on Regional basis in 10 Regions (ESAR)
- ii. A total amount of GH¢15.7 million was released for payment of Capitation Grant which covered a total of 5,281,602 basic school pupils.
- iii. Subsidies for the conduct of the 2010 BECE in April to the tune of GH¢4.91 million for 350,888 BECE candidates was expended.

- iv. A total amount of **GH¢15.0** million was released for the provision of school uniforms and exercise books for the most deprived basic schools.
- v. An amount of **GH¢1.6** million for school uniforms was awarded on contract and 526,263 uniforms and 23 million exercise books out of a total of 39.5 million were distributed to some deprived schools
- vi. Government spent a total of **GH¢14.0** million on 472, 564 SHS students and 37,450 TVET students as subsidy
- vii. A total of 40,000 service personnel were deployed in addition to 20,000 volunteers
- viii. The sector also saw a steady increase in enrolment in a number of schools from the Basic Levels to the Tertiary Levels
- ix. Paid arrears and outstanding contributions to Commonwealth of Learning and West African Examination Council (WAEC) International
- x. Initiated and completed a number of infrastructural facilities in many schools in most of the regions across the country.

#### **6.0 THE 2011 BUDGET ESTIMATES**

For the 2011 financial year, an amount of **GH¢1,983,217,447** has been allocated to the Ministry of Education to pursue its programmes and activities. Below is the list of the sources of the fund.

<b>SOURCES</b>	<b>AMOUNT (GH¢)</b>
<b>A. GOG</b>	<b>1,477,730,827</b>
<b>B. <u>Donor/Others</u></b>	
IGF	314,252,860
SIP	102,938,410
DONOR	88,295,350
<i>Sub-total</i>	<u><b>505,486,620</b></u>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<u><b>1,983,217,447</b></u>
<b>C. <u>Total GETFund Allocation for 2011</u></b>	
<b>273,943,103</b>	

## 6.1 Summary of the 2011 Budgetary Allocations of the Ministry

Item	Requirement	Approved Ceiling (GOG)	Donor/Others (IGF, SIP&DONOR)	GAP
P.E	1,746,134,475	1,424,529,713	-	321,604,762
ADMIN	381,361,182	30,000,000	90,410,926	260,950,256
SERVICE	358,072,586	21,027,820	267,123,157	69,921,609
INVESTMENT	1,360,426,184	2,173,295	147,952,537	1,210,300,352
<b>TOTAL GOG</b>	<b>3,845,994,427</b>	<b>1,477,730,827</b>	<b>505,486,620</b>	<b>1,862,776,979</b>

Among the areas the Ministry intends focusing more attention during the year include:

1. Basic Education
2. Second Cycle Education
3. Non Formal Education
4. Inclusive and Special Education
5. Tertiary Education
6. Education Management

## 7.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following were the Committee's observations:

### 7.1 Council for Technical and Vocational Training (COVET)

The Committee observed that COTVET was confronted with a number of challenges in the past years. These included lack of office accommodation, staff recruitment, payment of salaries, monitoring and evaluation, etc. In 2011 the Council intends to embark on recruitment to meet its staff strength, properly establish and equip its monitoring and evaluation department, construct and furnish its office complex and embark on sensitization programmes to create awareness of its programmes. In view of this an amount of **GH¢690,000** have been approved with donor funding of **GH¢16,932,143** to enable the Council undertake its projected activities.

The Committee therefore recommends that with the launch of the Skills Development Fund (SDF), the release of the GoG component of the said amount should be a priority. This will

not only equip the Council, but also to sustain and improve the programmes to achieve the Council's objective of training quality middle level manpower, take advantage of the opportunities of the labour market in both the formal and informal sectors of the economy, including the oil and gas production sectors.

## 7.2 National Council for Tertiary Education

- The Council informed the Committee of its policy to enhance access, quality, equity and relevance at the Tertiary Level of education through a number of strategies it intends to pursue during the ensuing years. These include promotion of effective distance education, facilitation of the establishment of Universities of Health and Allied Sciences and Energy and Natural Resources at Ho and Sunyani respectively. However, the Council faces huge challenges in terms of funds and other resources to implement these laudable policies. For instance, out of the total budgetary allocation of **GH¢272,504,089** approved only **GH¢198,889,276** were released as at September, 2010.

The Committee recommends that since government subvention is the main source of income for the tertiary sub-sector of education, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning through the Ministry of Education should ensure that enough resources are made available for the implementation of these policies to enable the nation train and produce the needed human capital required to boost growth and development.

- It was also observed that GETFund voted an amount of **GH¢2,600,000** for the development of infrastructure such as lecture halls, staff accommodation, halls of residence and equipment for laboratories, etc to the sub-sector in the year 2010. The sector will continue to develop and expand its infrastructural needs to take care of the promotion of research activities, increase in enrolment, review and expansion of programmes and as well as improve conditions of service of staff in the ensuing year, 2011.

The Committee strongly recommends that more effort should be made by the government to accelerate the rate of increase in the provision of these facilities to enable the sector implement the programmes enumerated.

- Again, the Committee noted significant improvement in the incomes generated internally by the institutions over the past five years, For instance, the increases within the period represent about 429%, that is, from **GH¢27,915,919** in 2005 to **GH¢147,694,341** in 2010.

The Committee was concerned about the huge disparities in the incomes generated by the Universities on the one hand, and the Polytechnics and the other tertiary institutions with similar potential in terms of population and facilities on the other.

The Committee is of the view that these institutions could do better, and therefore recommends that the Ministry of Education through National Council for Tertiary Education should improve monitoring and auditing of revenue accrued from the activities of these institutions and encourage them to step up their efforts to generate more funds to support their expenditure needs.

### **7.3 National Service Scheme (NSS)**

The Committee was impressed with the performance of the Scheme over the past years. It was realised that apart from its core mandate, the scheme has also been engaged in many other income generation ventures including agric, catering, water production and supply, etc. As a result of these initiatives the Scheme generated an amount of **GH¢1,200,000** to supplement its budgetary needs during the year.

The commending the management for its impressive performance, the Committee urged them to the Ministry to give the Scheme the necessary support to explore more opportunities to achieve its target for the year to supplement the subvention from the government.

### **7.4 Non-Formal Educational (NFE)**

The Committee recognized the critical contribution of Non-formal Education by providing opportunities for those outside the formal education system to have free access to meaningful high-quality user-friendly education and training. In 2010, the division initiated a facilitators training programme and trained 2,000 people to handle 2,000 classes nation-wide and 1,822 classes are fully operational currently.

The Division intends to increase youth and adult literacy in Ghana towards creating a productive human resource base and has therefore targeted 240,000 learners in 2011. It also plans to improve its supervisory and monitoring activities to ensure the achievement of its strategic plans. Therefore, an amount of **GH¢35,748,661** was budgeted for its programmes and activities. However, it was observed that the vote has been drastically reduced to **GH¢6,130,000**.



The Committee views this huge leap to be over ambitious and unrealistic. Nevertheless, the Committee recommends that the Ministry of Education should collaborate with the sub-sector to review its activities. However, appeal is being made to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to consider providing sufficient funds to motivate the facilitators and also to sustain the benefits to be gained from the sub-sector.

#### **7.5 Centre for National Distance Learning and Open Schooling (CENDLOS)**

As part of government's efforts to make learning accessible, flexible and affordable to all citizens at home and abroad through open and distance learning technologies, CENDLOS was established to harmonise and regulate distance learning in Ghana at all levels and to boost training in skills, knowledge, resources and technology.

The Committee observed that the Centre's activities have mainly been funded through GETFund over the years, but that has not been sufficient enough to achieve maximum benefits of the initiative.

Whilst the Committee commends government for this effort, government is also urged to ensure timely release of the funds to support the Centre to develop the needed structures to internally generate additional funds to supplement its budgetary requirements.

#### **7.6 West Africa Examinations Council (WAEC)**

The Committee was informed that out of the approved BECE examination fee of **GH¢ 20.00**, government paid a subsidy of **GH¢ 14.00** per candidate representing 70% of the approved fee. However, all other examinations fees are borne by the candidates themselves. The Committee commends the impressive efforts of the Council to internally generate an amount of **GH¢1,719,799.34** to supplement the government's approved sum during the year. For the 2011 year, budgetary provision of **GH¢49,325, 826.14** has been allocated to the Council by the government, whilst the Council expects an IGF of **GH¢3,104,415.00** to supplement the subvention of government.

The Committee also observed a number of challenges including absenteeism of examiners, lack of commitment of supervisors and invigilators leading to increased examination malpractices and late release of examination results. Consequently, the Committee recommends to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to ensure timely release of the approved funds to help overcome these challenges.

### **7.7 Ghana Library Board (GLB)**

The Committee was informed that the Board has not been able to implement its programmes due to lack of adequate funding and resources in the past years. Nevertheless, the Board plans to continue its sensitization programme to encourage MMDAs and communities to establish standard libraries and also support government's educational and literacy programmes including distance learning in the year 2011.

The Committee acknowledges the importance of inculcating the habit of reading and writing among the populace and therefore recommends that the government takes a critical view at the gains to be derived from the functions of the Ghana Library Board and adequately resource it to become functional.

### **7.8 Students Loan Trust Fund (SLTF)**

Student Loan Trust Fund (SLTF) has been allocated an amount of **GH¢24.9** million in the 2011 budget year to be used as loanable funds to about 45,500 Ghanaian students. This represents a 40% increase in the loan amount for the 2010/2011 academic year. The Committee also observed that the major activity for 2011 is to embark on an intensive recovery of the loans previously granted, and therefore urges the Ministry of Finance to release the approved funds on time to enable the Trust to implement this important activity.

### **7.9 Ghana Book Development Council (GBDC)**

The Committee was not impressed with the performance of the Council over the years. The Committee noted the important role the Council is suppose to play in the promotion and development of creative writing, translation and publication of Ghanaian languages for the general public; and especially facilitate the Bureau of Ghana Languages. The programme to produce books and other reading materials for the National Literacy Acceleration Programme (NALAP) has also failed miserably.

The Committee is of the view that the Ministries of Education and Finance and Economic Planning should collaborate to ensure that the Board is well resourced to perform its role as expected.

#### **7.10 Provision of durable furniture for Schools**

The Committee observed with concern the rate of breakdown of furniture provided to the school for the comfort of pupils and teachers. It was realized that a huge sum of investment fund of the Ministry is expended on the provision of furniture to the schools every year.

The Committee recommends to the Ministry to resource its Monitoring and Evaluation Unit to monitor procurement and the supply of furniture to schools to ensure that quality and durable products are supplied to avoid the routine purchase of furniture every year to, sometimes, the same schools.

#### **7.11 Incorporation of Pre-School into the Formal School System**

The Committee observed with much concern the lack of commitment from the government in the provision of the necessary infrastructure and other equipment to actually incorporate the Pre-School System into the Formal School System. In 2009 budget reviews, Members were informed that the government was collaborating with other stakeholders to put up infrastructure, and in 2010, it was re-affirmed that the government was embarking on the construction of 200 3-Classroom Blocks in 170 Cost Centres for that purpose. However, neither the 2010 performance review nor the 2011 budget mentioned anything about this issue.

The Committee recommends to the Ministry to review the issue about Pre-School Programme and make a conscious effort to ensure that it is well established and resourced and actually incorporated into the Formal School System.

#### **7.12 Funding Gap**

The Committee observed with grave concern, the gap between the 2010 budgetary requirement of the Ministry and what was actually provided by the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry's requirement was **GH¢2,834,612,491**, but the actual provision was **GH¢2,056,143,338** leaving a shortfall of **GH¢778,470,153.00**. The same trend is being repeated in the 2011 financial year. Out of the total requirement of **GH¢3,845,994,427**, **GH¢1,983,217,447** has been approved to implement the numerous expansion and improvement activities the Ministry intends to pursue. This leaves a short fall of **GH¢1,862,776,979**.

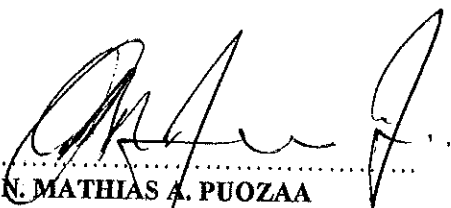
The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry of Education should be considered for additional funds, in the event of a supplementary budget in the course of the year.

**8.0 CONCLUSION**


The Committee considers provision of quality education as cardinal to effective human resource development, poverty reduction and national development.

The Committee, therefore, recommends for the approval of this House, an amount of **One Billion, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Three Million, Two Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Four Hundred and Forty-Seven Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,983,217,447)** for the Ministry of Education for the year 2011.

Respectfully submitted.



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**HON. MATHIAS A. PUOZAA**  
**CHAIRMAN, EDUCATION COMMITTEE**



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**JOANA A. S. ADJEI (MRS.)**  
**CLERK, EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

*DATE: 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2010*