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



REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE 2024 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMISSION (NDPC)

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The 2024 Programme Based Budget Estimates for the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) were presented to the House on 15th November, 2023 and *referred* to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with the Constitution and Standing Orders of the House. This referral followed the presentation of the 2024 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government to the House by the Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta.

The Committee hereby presents its Reports as follows:

2.0. DELIBERATIONS

The Committee, in considering the Estimates, met with the Director-General of the Commission, Dr. Kodjo Mensah-Abrampah and a technical team from the Commission as well as officials from the Ministry of Finance and hereby presents this report to the House.

3.0. BACKGROUND

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) exists to advise the President on national development planning policy and strategy, to prepare and ensure the effective implementation of approved national development plans and to coordinate the decentralized planning system.

3.1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The objectives of the Commission as derived from the Medium-Term Development Policy Framework: the 2022-2025 National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework (NMTDPF) are as follows:

- i. Build an effective and efficient government machinery.
- ii. Enhance capacity for policy formulation and coordination.
- iii. Strengthen plan preparation, implementation and coordination at all levels.
- iv. Strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems at all levels.
- v. Improve research and development (R&D), innovation and sustainable financing for industrial development.

Pursuant to the National Development Planning Commission Act, 1994 (Act 479), the core functions of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) are to advise the President on development planning policy and strategy and to do any of the following *suo motu* or at the request of the President or Parliament.

- Formulate comprehensive national development policy frameworks and ensure that the strategies, including consequential policies and programmes, are effectively carried out.
- ii. Undertake studies and strategic analysis of macro-economic and structural reform options and make recommendations on development and socio-economic issues.

- iii. Make proposals for the development of multi-year rolling plans taking into consideration the resource potential and comparative advantage of the different districts of Ghana.
- iv. Make proposals for the protection of the natural and physical environment with a view to ensuring that development strategies and programmes are in conformity with sound environmental principles.
- v. Make proposals for ensuring the even development of the districts of Ghana by the effective utilization of available resources.
- vi. Monitor, evaluate and co-ordinate development policies, programmes and projects.
- vii. Undertake studies and make recommendations on development and socio-economic issues.
- viii. Prepare broad national development plans.
- ix. Keep under constant review national development plans in the light of prevailing domestic and international economic, social and political conditions and make recommendations for the revision of existing policies and programmes where necessary and perform such other functions relating to development planning as the President may direct.
- x. Coordinate the decentralized national development planning system by prescribing the format and content of development plans for the districts, ministries and sector agencies to reflect integration of economic, spatial and environmental principles and ensure their compatibility.

4.0 2023 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

The budget estimates approved for the Commission for the 2023 financial year amounted to $\mathbf{GH} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{13,265,311}$. This was revised in the Mid-Year Review to $\mathbf{GH} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{15,522,128}$. The outturn for January to September 2023 is as shown in the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Summary of 2023 Budget Performance as at September, 2023 (GH¢)

Classification	Approved Budget (A)	Revised Budget	Releases	Actual Expenditure (D)	Variance (E=B-C)
Compensation of Employee					
GoG	7,950,493	7,950,493	4,330,919.00	4,330,919.00	3,619,574.00
Goods /Services					
GoG	5,072,190	5,312,643.30	2,960,387.52	2,419,357.01	2,352,255.78
Others (DP Funds)	0.00	2,144,728.48	2,144,728.48	1,225,157.01	0.00
CAPEX					
GoG	242,628	114,262.80	113,127.60	0.00	1,135.20
TOTAL	13,265,311	15,522,128	9,549,163	7,975,433	5,972,965

Achievements of the Commission as at September 2023 include, but not limited to the following:

- i. Effective implementation of the national medium-term development policy framework leading to achievement of 46% national medium-term development policy framework targets compared to a target of 50%.
- ii. 100% of District and Sector Budgets complied with planning and budgeting regulations.
- iii. Enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of the national policy, planning and M&E system at all levels.
- iv. Reviewed and completed the 2022 Annual Progress Report (APR).
- v. Received, reviewed and certified 21 out of 43 MDAs' development plans and 191 out of 261 MMDAs' development plans.

- vi. Strengthened Coordination of Food and Nutrition Security
 Issues. To this end, twelve (12) meetings were organised to
 review Ghana's implementation of Addis Ababa Declaration on
 Population and Development (AADPD) and the 30-year
 Implementation of the International Conference on Population
 and Development (ICPD30)
- vii. Strengthened capacity for Public Policy formulation through orientation for Chief Directors of MDAs in April 2023. Also, technical officers from PPMEDs and RSIMs of all MDAs (42) were trained in September 2023.

5.0 2024 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMISSION

For the pursuit of its programmes and the above stated objectives, the sum of *Sixty-Three Million, Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand, One Hundred and Eighty-Seven Ghana Cedis* (GH¢63,275,187) has been allocated to the Commission for the 2024 financial year. The breakdown is as follows:

Compensation (Employees) GoG - GH¢8,709,899

Goods and Services GOG - GH¢5,250,000

DP - GH¢45,674,288

GH¢50,924,288

Capex - GH¢3,641,000

TOTAL - GH¢63,275,187

6.0. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Prioritized Policies for Medium Term

The Committee noted that the Commission's prioritized policies for the medium term include building an effective and efficient government machinery, enhancing the capacity for policy formulation and coordination, strengthening plan preparation, implementation and

coordination at all levels, strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems at all levels and improving research and development, innovation and sustainable financing for industrial development.

6.2. Review of Development Plans

The Committee was informed that the Commission has successfully reviewed draft sector and district medium term development plans to assist MDAs and MMDAs to finalize their development plans to serve as the basis for their annual budget estimates. Further to the review, the Commission provided follow-up technical assistance to the MDAs and MMDAs.

6.3. Strengthening Capacity for Public Policy formulation

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) in 2023 oriented Chief Directors and trained a total of 116 public sector officers, comprising of 23 Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) officials and 93 Technical Officers of PPMEDs and Research, Statistics and Information Management (RSIM) on the National Public Policy Formulation Guidelines as part of efforts towards strengthening capacity for public policy formulation. In addition, the Commission organized technical consultations with relevant stakeholders towards the development of a Human Capital Strategy.

6.4. 40-Year Development Plan

The Commission in 2023 reviewed the 40-year Development Plan to reflect current socio-economic status of the country and made recommendations for the formulation of a Long-Term Perspective Framework with proposals on indicative development projections for the country.

6.5. Preparation for Next Medium Term Development Plans

In 2024, the Commission will commence preparation towards the development of medium-term plans for the planning cycle of 2026 to Page 6 of 8

2029 as stipulated by the National Development Planning (System) Act, 1994 (Act 480) and National Development Planning (System) Regulations, 2016 (L.I. 2232). The plans will include the 2026-2029 Medium-Term Development Policy Matrix to provide the strategic and policy direction, as well as provide the planning guidelines to prescribe the content and format of the medium-term plan.

6.6. Bifurcation Report on Energy Efficiency

The Committee was further informed that in 2024, the Commission will review and publish a bifurcation report on energy efficiency and financial operations of the energy sector. The review will form part of the post compact M&E activities of the Millennium Challenge Corporation collaborative support. In addition, the Ghana CARES Obaatanpa programme will be evaluated to draw lessons and design policies to address possible challenges and make recommendations for improvement in the effectiveness of public spending.

6.7. Tracking the Progress of Development

Under the National Development Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (NDPPM&EP), the Commission will in 2024 track the implementation of policies, programmes, projects and activities in relation to national development policy framework and plans and provide feedback on attainment of targets to stakeholders.

6.8. Enhanced Coordination

In 2024, the Commission will strengthen its coordination, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation role to ensure that programmes and projects deliver positive development outcomes.

6.9. Other 2024 Programmes

In the year 2024, the Commission will continue to perform its constitutional mandate of advising His Excellency the President on national development planning policy and strategy.



Other specific operations to be undertaken by the Commission would include building the capacity of MDAs and MMDAs in application of ICT in plan preparation, preparing the Annual Progress Report (APR) on the implementation of the NMTDPF, preparing field monitoring reports on sectors and MMDAs, coordination of environmental policies and mainstreaming development communication.

7.0. CONCLUSION

The Committee, upon a thorough consideration of the Budget Estimates for the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), respectfully recommends that the House approves the sum of Sixty-Three Million, Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand, One Hundred and Eighty-Seven Ghana Cedis (GH¢63,275,187) for the implementation of the programmes and activities of the Commission for the 2024 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.

HON. KWAKU KWARTENG

(CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE)

EPHRAIM AMU

(SCHEDULE OFFICER,

FINANCE COMMITTEE)

19TH DECEMBER, 2023

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