

**IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH
REPUBLIC OF GHANA**



**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE**

ON THE

**2015 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES
OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH
AND SPORTS**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In accordance with article 179 of the 1992 Constitution, the Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Seth Terkper presented the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2015 Financial Year to the House on Wednesday, 19th November 2014. Pursuant to Order 140(4) and 187 of the Standing Orders of the House, the Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Annual Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Youth and Sports to the Committee on Youth, Sports and Culture for consideration and report.

1.2 Subsequently, the Committee met with the Hon. Minister for Youth and Sports, Mr. Mahama Ayariga, his Deputy Mr. Vincent Oppong-Asamoah and officials of the Ministry of Youth and Sports on the 8th and 9th December, 2015 and considered the referral.

The Committee is grateful to the Hon. Minister and his team for their co-operation.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee made reference to the under-listed documents during its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana.
- iii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2015 Financial Year.
- iv. The 2014 Annual Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is responsible for the formulation, implementation, co-ordination as well as monitoring and evaluation of youth and sports policies in the country.

4.0 IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The under-listed Agencies and Institution are responsible for the implementation of the policies and programmes of the Ministry.

- i. The National Sports College (NSC –Winneba).
- ii. The National Youth Authority (NYA).
- iii. The National Sports Authority (NSA).

5.0 POLICY OBJECTIVES

The broad policy objectives of the Ministry are to:

- i. Strengthen national capacity for sports management.
- ii. Support the development of lesser known sports.
- iii. Provide adequate and disability friendly infrastructure for sports in communities and schools.
- iv. Ensure the provision of adequate training and skills development in line with global trends.
- v. Ensure adequate capacity and skills development of the youth with disability.
- vi. Ensure integration of youth concerns into national development planning, processes and programmes.

6.0 PERFORMANCE FOR YEAR 2014

Table 1

Allocation and Summary of releases as at October 2014

Items	Annual Budget (GHC)	Actuals (GHC)	Variance(GHC)
Compensation	9,887,937.00	8,403,967.13	1,483,969.87
Goods and services	19,431,401.00 + (IGF)448,450.00	35,128,970.37	-15,249,119.37
Assets	6,366,328.00	616,857.28	5,749,470.72
Total	36,134,116.00	44,149,794.78	- 8,015,678.78

6.1 The Ministry of Youth and Sports was allocated a total amount of **Thirty-Six Million, One Hundred and Thirty-Four Thousand, One Hundred and Sixteen Ghana Cedis** (GH¢36,134,116.00) comprising GH¢35,685,666.00 as GoG component and GH¢448,450.00 as IGF for its programmes and activities for the 2014 financial year.

However, as at October 2014, actual expenditure stood at GH¢44,149,794.78. While the Ministry was allocated an amount of GH¢19,879,851.00 for Goods and Services, it ended up with an expenditure of GH¢35,128,970.37. The Ministry attributed the over expenditure of GH¢15,249,119.37 to the following activities:

- i. Black Stars participation in the 2014 FIFA World Cup tournament in Brazil.
- ii. Black Princesses participation in the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup in Canada.
- iii. Black Maidens participation in the FIFA Under-17 World Cup tournament in Costa Rica.

- iv. Ghana's participation in the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.
- v. Ghana's participation in the Africa Youth Olympics in Botswana.
- vi. Ghana's participation in the World Youth Olympics in Nanjing, China.

The Committee noted that out of an amount of GH¢6,366,328.00 provided for Assets, only GH¢616,857.28 representing 9.7% was released. Generally, the non-release of funds for Assets affected the execution of key projects of the Ministry.

6.2 ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN YEAR 2014

For year 2014, the Ministry accomplished the following among others:

- i. Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with DDY Wing of Canada to provide technical and financial support for the rehabilitation of the 11 Youth Leadership and Skills Training Institutes under the National Youth Authority.
- ii. Facilitated the participation of various National Teams and Associations in both local and international competitions.
- iii. Finalised and submitted to Cabinet for approval, the Action Plan for the National Youth policy.
- iv. Finalised and submitted for Cabinet's approval and onward submission to Parliament, the Youth Employment Agency Bill, 2014.
- v. Completed and submitted to the Presidency, concept papers and drawings for the proposed District Youth and Sports Centres in selected districts.

- vi. Completed drawings and technical details for the proposed Sports Senior high Schools in the 10 regional capitals in the country.
- vii. Continued the construction of the super-structure of the Cape Coast Sports Stadium.
- viii. Collaborated with the private sector to convert the National Sports College into a Centre of Excellence in Sports in West Africa through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement.

7.0 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR YEAR 2015

A total allocation of **Thirty-Six Million, One Hundred and Eighty-Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventeen Ghana Cedis (GH¢36,186,217.00)** has been provided for the implementation of the programmes and activities of the Ministry of Youth and Sports for the 2015 fiscal year. This comprises a GoG component of GH¢35,906,402.00 and an IGF of GH¢279,816.00 (IGF).

The table below indicates the breakdown:

	Agencies	Compensation GH¢	Goods & Services GH¢	Assets GH¢	IGF GH¢	Total GH¢
1	Headquarters	909,795.00	9,490,000.00	2,000,000.00		12,399,795.00
2	National Sports Authority	4,494,708.00	5,316,818.00	1,500,000.00	279,816.00	11,591,342.00
3	National Sports College	382,464.00	1,558,882.00	200,000.00		2,141,346.00
4	National Youth Authority	4,403,734.00	4,350,000.00	1,300,000.00		10,053,734.00
	Totals	10,190,701.00	20,715,700.00	5,000,000.00	279,816.00	36,186,217.00

8.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Main Ministry/Headquarters

8.1.1 An amount of GH¢12,399,795.00 has been allocated to the main Ministry for year 2015. The main Ministry plans, among others, to commence preparatory works for the construction of District Sports Arenas and District Youth Centres, initiate and finalise preparatory works towards the construction of a modern boxing gymnasium at Bukom, and participate in international youth and sports conferences and programmes. It also intends to revise the existing sports policy and undertake monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects of the Institution and Agencies under the Ministry.

8.1.2 The Committee was informed that the 2015 budgetary allocation of GH¢9,490,000.00 for Goods and Services to the Main Ministry is woefully inadequate to cater for the activities of the thirty-eight National Sports Associations, Black Stars participation in the 2015 African Cup of Nations in Equatorial Guinea and the participation of all the other National Football Teams in various qualification matches. The Committee noted in particular that no budgetary provision had been made for the AFCON 2015, a development similar to year 2014 where provision was not made in the Ministry's budget to cover Ghana's participation in the World Cup and other tournaments, thus resulting in an over expenditure.

The Committee strongly recommends that the Ministry of Finance, in providing ceilings for the Ministry should take into account Ghana's

participation in such important tournaments and make the appropriate budgetary provision.

8.1.3 The Ministry has been allocated an amount of GH¢2,000,000.00 for Assets. The Committee observed that several construction and rehabilitation works will be undertaken by the Ministry in year 2015. The Ministry has put in a bid to host and organise the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) in 2017, and in anticipation of winning the bid, it will commence works on the rehabilitation of the Accra, Baba Yara, Essipong and Tamale sports stadia which are expected to serve as match venues. Preparatory works on two new modern sports stadia will commence in Ho and Bolgatanga next year. Work on the Cape Coast Sports Stadium is also expected to be completed in October 2015 and could also serve as an alternative match venue for AFCON 2017.

Considering the numerous projects to be undertaken in year 2015, the Ministry indicated that the allocation for Assets is inadequate. Consequently, key projects such as the construction of the Cape Coast and Ho sports stadia which require counterpart funding may face serious funding challenges.

8.1.4 It came to the attention of the Committee that the Ministry is seriously constrained by office space. Currently, it is located within the premises of the Ministry of the Interior and the state of its building calls for urgent rehabilitation. The Ministry also lacks vehicles to carry out constant monitoring of the activities of its Agencies which are decentralised in nature.

It is therefore imperative that the Ministry is adequately resourced to rehabilitate its office building and purchase vehicles to enable it play its oversight role effectively.

8.2. National Sports College (NSC)

8.2.1 For the effective implementation of its activities for year 2015, the College budgeted for an amount of GH¢5,000,000.00 but was allocated GH¢2,141,346.00 representing 42.8% of its budgetary requirement.

The College will apply its resources to undertake programmes and activities including the following:

- i. Establish two Academies in the Central and Northern Regions.
- ii. Collaborate with local and international experts to organise seminars, technical and administrative courses for prospective coaches, administrators, paramedics and journalists.
- iii. Participate in international training tournaments.

8.2.2 Due to funding constraints, facilities at the College have deteriorated over the years, and have become unattractive to the various national teams and other private sports groups. This development has affected the College's ability to generate funds internally to support its programmes.

The Committee was happy to note that in year 2015, the College through a Public Private Partnership arrangement, will rehabilitate its existing infrastructure and upgrade the facilities at the College by constructing a multi-purpose sports complex and offices. The upgrade of the facilities will transform the National Sports College into a Centre of Excellence in Sports in the West African sub-region.

Given the above initiative, the Committee is optimistic that the College would be well positioned to attract Private Sports Groups such as the Ghana Football Association (GFA) Clubs and most importantly, make its facilities available to all National Sports Contingents. This will go a long way to reduce the huge expenditure on Government in accommodating the various national teams in hotels and also enable the College generate enough funds internally to maintain its facilities.

8.2.3 The Committee observed that the College will establish two Academies in the Central and Northern Regions to unearth new talents and offer them regular academic education and sports training.

The College however expressed concern that the GFA in the selection of players into the Junior National Teams do not pay much attention to the Academy. The Committee is of the opinion that considering the balanced training offered by the College, its graduates are more likely to possess the requisite skills and discipline for the profession. The Committee therefore urges the GFA to pay more attention to players/products of the College in the selection of players.

8.2.4 The issue of inadequate qualified staff continues to be of great concern to the College. The College indicated that on several occasions, it had to engage experts from the universities as facilitators/instructors for some of its programmes. The Committee observed that by this arrangement, the College stands the risks of losing its customers to its competitors. It is therefore necessary that the College is adequately resourced to attract the needed qualified staff.

8.3. National Youth Authority

8.3.1 The National Youth Authority was allocated an amount of GH¢10,183,734.00 to implement its programmes in year 2014. Out of this amount, GH¢4,283,734, GH¢4,200,000.00 and GH¢1,700,000.00 were provided for compensation, Goods and Services and Assets respectively.

The Committee was informed that as at October 2014, only GH¢690,000.00 had been released for Goods and Services while no release had been made for Assets. The Authority indicated that the irregular/non-release of funds affected the smooth organisation of statutory programmes such as the International Youth Day and the African Youth Day as they were either held late or poorly organised, thus affecting their intended purpose.

8.3.2 The Authority generally seeks to empower deprived and unskilled youth with leadership and vocational skills training in carpentry, masonry, dressmaking, catering, plumbing, electrical and general agriculture at the 11 Youth, Leadership and Skills Training Institutes nationwide to make them employable.

For year 2015, the Authority has been allocated GH¢10,053,734.00 to undertake a number of programmes including the following:

- i. Provide vocational/technical skills training for 1,430 deprived and out of school youth.
- ii. Sensitize 1,000,000 youth on the National Youth Policy.
- iii. Educate the youth on peer and reproductive health, the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and infections including HIV/AIDs and other social issues.

iv. Organise the International Youth Day and the African Youth Day.

8.3.3 The Committee observed that the Authority plans to use its Asset allocation of GHC1,300,000.00 to carry out the following:

- i. Complete and furnish the National Youth Resource Centre multipurpose building at the National Headquarters at Kaneshie.
- ii. Rehabilitate the Volta Regional Secretariat Office.
- iii. Refurbish and equip the Youth Response Centre at Sekondi.
- iv. Construct two workshops and two dormitories at the Nzema Manle and Ajumako Youth Leadership and Skills Training Institutes.

8.3.4 Currently, the Authority faces some challenges in the area of office and residential accommodation for its staff in the regional and district secretariats. Its offices across the country also lack office equipment and furniture for effective youth service delivery.

The Committee however noted that no release was made out of an allocation of GHC1,700,000.00 for Assets for year 2014. In order not to compound the already difficult financial situation of the Authority, it is important that the Ministry of Finance ensures that releases for year 2015 are made fully and on time to the Authority.

8.3.5 The Authority is also confronted with the challenge of inadequate infrastructural facilities, as well as basic tools and equipment at the various Youth Leadership and Skills Training Institutes. This situation affects the Authority's ability to provide training for the increasing number of targeted beneficiaries of its programme.

The Committee was happy to note that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the DDY Wing of Canada to provide technical and financial support for the rehabilitation and upgrading of facilities at the 11 Youth Leadership and Skills Training Centres nationwide. The completion of this project will meet the short and long term needs of the youth in the country.

8.4 National Sports Authority (NSA)

8.4.1 The Committee was informed that the National Sports Authority in year 2015 will among others:

- i. Prepare and organise National Unity games.
- ii. Prepare and participate in All African Games in Congo Brazzaville.
- iii. Prepare and participate in Olympic and Paralympic games qualifiers.
- iv. Prepare and participate in ECOWAS games.
- v. Support various National Sports Associations to compete in international and continental events.

For the execution of the above and other activities, the Authority has been provided a total sum of GHC11,591,342.00 made up of GH¢11,311,526.00 GoG component and GHC 279,816.00 IGF.

The Authority indicated that it presented a budget of GHC26,140,150.00 for Goods and Services to the Ministry of Finance but was allocated GHC5,316,818.00 representing only 20.3% of the total requirement. To ensure the successful organisation of the programmes of the Authority, the Ministry of Finance is requested to provide the needed resources to the Authority.

8.4.2 For Assets, the Authority presented a budget of GH¢25,000,000.00 but was allocated GH¢1,500,000.00 representing 6% of its budget requirement. The Authority lacks state-of-art facilities, equipment and kits for training to enhance performance and achieve excellent results. To ensure the provision of such facilities, the Committee recommends that the Ministry of Finance should make additional resources available to the Authority.

8.4.3 The issue of inadequate administrative and technical personnel especially coaches remains a challenge to the Authority. The Authority indicated that it has been unable to secure financial clearance from the Ministry of Finance to enable it engage more administrative and technical staff. The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to give clearance to the Authority to engage the needed personnel to provide the relevant support for sports development.

8.4.4 It came to the attention of the Committee that the Authority is saddled with several court cases arising from the non-payment of services rendered to it. The Committee was informed by the Ministry that it has brought to the attention of the Ministry of Finance all court cases for quick settlement. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Finance should as a matter of urgency settle the debts of the Authority to avoid further embarrassment.

9.0 Conclusion

The Ministry of Youth and Sports plays a crucial role in fostering peace, national integration and promoting macro-economic stability, and good health.

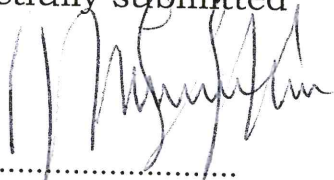
While the Youth sector empowers the youth through the delivery of leadership and skills training to make them responsive to the labour

market, the Sports sector unearths talents to participate in local and international sports events to win laurels for the country as well as foster international co-operation, friendship and solidarity.

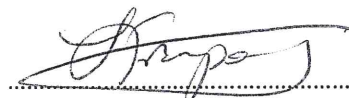
To this end, it is important to continue to ensure the sustainable development of these two sub-sectors by resourcing them adequately.

The Committee hereby recommends for the approval of the House, an amount of **Thirty-Six Million, One Hundred and Eighty-Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventeen Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 36,186,217.00)** for the implementation of the programmes and activities of the Ministry of Youth and Sports for the fiscal year ending 2015.

Respectfully submitted



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HON. KOBENA MENSAH WOYOME
(CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE)



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JANET FRIMPONG
(CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)

December 2015