

REPORT

of the Committee on Defence and Interior

ON THE 2019 BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY



DECEMBER, 2018

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1.0 **INTRODUCTION**

On Thursday, 15th November, 2018, the Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta on authority of H.E. the President presented the Budget Estimates and Economic Policy to Parliament in compliance with Article 179(1) of the Constitution.

Pursuant to Orders 140(4) and 158 of the Standing Orders, the Rt. Hon. Speaker, Prof. Michael Aaron Oquaye, referred the Annual Estimates for the Fiscal year 2018 of the Ministry of National Security to the Committee on Defence and Interior for consideration and report.

1.1 COMMITTEE SITTING

The Committee met on Wednesday, 12th December, 2018 to consider the Estimates of the Ministry. The Hon. Minister of State in charge of National Security, Mr. Bryan Acheampong and his technical team as well as officials from the Ministry of Finance were in attendance at the invitation of the Committee to assist in the deliberation.

The Committee is grateful to the Hon. Minister and all the officials for their assistance in this regard.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENT

The following documents were used as reference guide during the Committee's deliberations:

- a. The 1992 Constitution
- b. The Standing Orders of the Parliament
- c. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2018 financial year.

- d. The Budget Statements and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the December 2019 financial year.
- e. The Draft Annual Estimates of the Ministry of National Security for the 2019 financial year.

3.0 BACKGROUND

The Ministry of National Security was established by Executive Instrument in January, 2017 and in line with Sections 11 and 13 of the Civil Service Act, 1993 (PNDCL 327) and Section 17 (1) and (2) of Act 526, Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 1996. It exists to formulate, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of security and intelligence policies through the deployment of skilled human resources and modern technology for stakeholders to enhance security, freedom of the citizenry and national development as well as present a report on the Intelligence agencies to Parliament.

The Ministry has oversight responsibility of the following:

- a. Ministry of National Security (Management and Administration)
- b. Bureau of National Investigation
- c. Bureau of National Communication
- d. National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS); and
- e. The Research Department

The Management and Administration offers all of the cross-cutting services essential for programmes and sub-programmes to succeed in accomplishing their objectives. Hence, the Management and Administration programmes are usually responsible for services that are undertaken to set the Ministry's policy direction.

4.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENT IN 2018

During the year under review, the Ministry:

delivered timely and precise security information to government,
 institutions and appropriate agencies, for preemptive and other

decision measures to advance the safety, wellbeing and economic prosperity of the citizenry both local and abroad;

- provided 24-hour protection to the Executive, VIPs, key installations, classified materials and the public;
- managed the emergency call centres across the country and liaised with the police to ensure prompt response to critical situations;
- provided security for the oil and gas installations as well as the cocoa and mining sectors;
- took actions to eliminate elements of subversion, espionage, drug trafficking, terrorism, e-crime and organized crime;
- analysed all security information presented by Bureau of National Investigations and the Research Department and took appropriate action; and
- commenced external intelligence operations at new foreign missions abroad.

4.1 TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR 2018

The Ministry was allocated an amount of Four Hundred and Fifteen Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty Seven Thousand and Forty One Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 415,927,041) for the implementation of its programmes for the 2018 financial year. This allocation was to cater for Compensation, Goods and Services and Capital Expenditure (Non-Financial Assets).

The breakdown of the total allocation is given in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Total Allocation for 2018

355,927,041		10,500,000	415,927,041
Compensation	Goods and Services	Capital Expenditure	Total

5.0 ALLOCATION FOR 2019

An amount of Five Hundred and Fifty Four Million, Nine Hundred and Nineteen Thousand and Nine Hundred and Twenty Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢554,919,923) has been earmarked for the completion of programmes and operations of the Ministry for the 2019 Financial Year. Of this amount, Three Hundred and Seventy Million, Eight Hundred and Nineteen Thousand, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 370,819,923), represents 67% of allocations for Compensation of Employees while One Hundred and Seventy Four Million, one hundred thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢174,100,000) is for the provision of Goods and Services. This represents 31% of total Ministry budget. The remaining 2% is allocated to Capital Expenditure.

TABLE 2: SOURCE OF FUNDING

2019 SOURCES OF FUNDING									
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION	GoG	%	IGF	%	TOTAL	%			
	GHc		GHc		GHc				
Compensation	370,819,923	67	_	-	370,819,923	67			
Goods and Services	174,100,000	31	_		174,100,000	31			
Capex	10,000,000	2		_	10,000,000	2			
TOTAL	554,919,923	100		-	554,919,923	100			

The Ministry received Sixty-Five Million, One Hundred and Twelve Thousand, Six Hundred and Five Ghana Cedis (GH¢65,112,605) for Compensation, One Hundred and Eleven Million, Seven Hundred and Ghana Cedis and Five Hundred Thousand Ninety One (GHC111,791,500) for the payment of Goods and Services, while Three Million and Five Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (3,500,000) was allocated to Capital Expenditure. Other allocations for the remaining agencies (i.e. Bureau of National Security, Bureau National Communication and Research Department) are provided in the Table 2 below:

Table3: GOG Allocation for Agencies of the Ministry, 2019

GOG ALLOCATION FOR 2019								
AGENCY	COMPENSATION	GOODS AND SERVICES	CAPEX	TOTAL				
Ministry of National Security	65,112,605	111,791,500	3,500,000	180,404,105				
Bureau of National Investigation	135,513,085	21,117,500	2,000,000	158,630,585				
Bureau of National Communication	•	20,073,500	2,500,000	22,573,500				
Research Department	170,194,233	21,117,500	2,000,000	193,311,733				
TOTAL	370,819,923	174,100,000	10,000,000	554,919,923				

6.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 INADEQUATE BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

The Committee observed that the Ministry of National Security has need of undertaking such foreign travels for intelligence coordination and transfer. Such undertakings will enable the Ministry develop new abilities and expertise in tackling security threats, in view of emerging new technologies. Insufficient budgetary allocations results in little resources to fund such inter-state travel and coordination. This could present unsavory consequences to the security of the state.

6.2 COST OF UTILITIES AND RUNNING COST OF VEHICLES

The Committee further observed that the costs of utilities and the running cost of official vehicles constitute a greater share of the Ministry's budget. The Committee recommends to the Ministry the efficient use of resources and utilities. However, it is oblivious that the Ministry needs to maintain

constant attention to the systems and monitoring units that assist in its operations. Undoubtedly, such year-round use of utilities and official vehicles would imply huge costs. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Finance review the allocation to the Ministry of National Security and make increments where necessary, in view of the concerns raised.

6.3 INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO FUEL GENERATORS

The Committee also noted with concern the insufficient funds allocated to the Ministry for the fueling of generators at the cell sites. These cell sites are installations to enable the smooth transfer of cellular information and other wireless communications. The insufficiency of fuel for the generators could lead to a breakdown in cellular communication in the country, a situation which portends tremendous national security threats. The cell sites ought to be functional at every point in time and the Committee is convinced of government's obligation to ensure it is realized consistently.

The Committee therefore recommends that sufficient funding is allocated to the Ministry to implement its programmes and activities effectively and efficiently. The shortfalls in allocation continuously disrupts the implementation of the programme of activities of the Ministry since its budgetary requirements are based on the costing of its programmes and activities. If the Ministry is to continue to grapple with these challenges there is the tendency of undermining the effective discharge of its mandate when the need arises. An increment in the allocation to the Ministry would ensure improvement in the quality of the security in the country.

7.0 CONCLUSION

Preventing, combating new and emerging crimes is a challenging task. Crime is continually evolving and adapting. In view of the changing trends of modern day crime as a result of modern technology and globalization, it is important to adequately fund the Ministry to enable it stay ahead of those emerging crimes.

The Committee after the consideration of the 2019 Estimates of the Ministry finds the Budget proposal of the Ministry justifiable but woefully inadequate. The Committee therefore recommends that the sum of *Five Hundred and Fifty Four Million, Nine Hundred and Nineteen Thousand and Nine Hundred and Twenty Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢554,919,923)* be approved for the Ministry of National Security for its activities for the 2019 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.

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INTERIOR

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