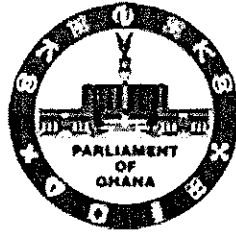


**IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF
THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**



**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL
BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT
MACHINERY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2023**

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government by the Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori Atta for the year ending 31st December, 2023 on Thursday, 24th November, 2022, the Budgetary Estimates for the Office of Government Machinery (OGM) was laid in the House and referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with Article 179 of the Constitution and the Standing Orders of the House.

The Committee met with the Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Emmanuel Adumua-Bossman, the Chief Director of the Office of Government Machinery, Mr. Henry W. Wood, and a team of officials from the Office of Government Machinery and the Ministry of Finance to consider the referral. The Committee appreciates their immense contributions.

1.1. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee referred to the following documents in its deliberations:

- The 1992 Constitution;
- The Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921);
- The Standing Orders of Parliament; and
- The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2023 Financial Year.

2.0. BACKGROUND

The Government Machinery embraces the constitutional view of the Office of the President as the Seat of Government, those Organizations whose operations fall outside traditional areas of sectoral responsibilities, for which the Office of the President (Core Government Machinery) exists to provide administrative, managerial and technical services.

The Office of Government Machinery comprises:

1. Office of the President and other Agencies
 - i. Office of the President
 - ii. Vice President Secretariat
 - iii. Office of the Chief of Staff
 - iv. Cabinet Secretariat
 - v. Press Secretariat
 - vi. Millennium Development Authority(MiDA)
 - vii. Public Sector Reforms Secretariat (PSRS)
 - viii. Policy Coordination and Delivery Unit
2. Public Enterprises
3. Ghana AIDS Commission
4. State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)
5. Commissions and Councils
 - i. *Council of State*
 - ii. *Office of the Chief of State Protocol*
6. National Population Council
7. Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
8. Internal Audit Agency (IAA)
9. Office of the Administrator – General
10. Scholarships Secretariat
11. Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)
12. National Identification Authority
13. Inner City and Zongo Development
14. Special Development Initiatives
 - i. Northern Development Authority

ii. Middle Belt Development Authority

iii. Coastal Development *Authority*

15. Monitoring and Evaluation

2.1. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Office of Government Machinery exists to institutionalize open, transparent and accountable governance for the attainment of government's development agenda of improving the quality of life of Ghanaians. The Office of Government Machinery's policy objectives among others include:

- a) Improving the balance among arms of government, governance institutions and their functioning;
- b) Ensuring inclusive and equitable political system;
- c) Ensuring effective implementation of the decentralization policy and programme;
- d) Ensuring efficient and effective resource mobilization, internal revenue generation and resource management;
- e) Strengthening policy and development planning processes for equitable and balanced spatial and economic development;
- f) Rationalizing and defining structures, roles and procedures for state institutions;
- g) Enhancing supervision and productivity in the public service;
- h) Improving the responsiveness of the public service in service delivery; and
- i) Mainstreaming development communication across the public-sector policy cycle.

3.0. 2022 PERFORMANCE

The under-listed were some of the activities undertaken by the Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery during the year under review:

3.1 Office of the President

For the period under review, the Office

- Facilitated the organization of Six (6) Extra ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Heads of State and Government meetings.

- Organised the Sixty-Fifth (65th) Independence Day Anniversary held at Cape Coast in the Central Region.
- Trained Two Hundred and Seventy-Three (273) staff of the Presidency.
- Organised Sixteen (16) Cabinet meetings and Three (3) Cabinet retreats.

3.2. Public Enterprise Secretariat

The Secretariat in collaboration with SIGA and the Ministry of Finance published the Public Enterprises League Table. It also concluded meetings with Board Chairs and Chief Executive Officers of GIHOC, Ghana Reinsurance and Tema Development Corporation.

The Secretariat has also developed Cabinet Memoranda on Assets Verification and Disposal of Assets of Defunct Entities, Equity Study and Information Paper on the Register of Specified Entities.

3.3. Scholarships Secretariat

For the period under review, the Secretariat

- Paid GH¢29,918,586.86 as tuition fees for 9169 continues students from Sixty-Two (62) institutions under the District Level Decentralisation Scholarship Schemes
- Paid GH¢25,225,604.95 as stipends for Six months for bilateral students as well as tuition fees 2021/2022 academic year.
- Made part payment of GH¢142,626,961.60 as tuition fees for non-bilateral students and one month stipends.
- Made part payment of GH¢2,228,846.57 as tuition fees, stipends and other allowances for language proficiency students in Benin and Togo.

3.4. Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

For the period under review, the Center

- disbursed 221 vehicles to beneficiaries amounting to GH¢22,201,375.69.
- allocated 642 tricycles to beneficiaries amounting to GH¢6,664,152.60.
- disbursed a total of GH¢2,323,500.00 and GH¢248,000.00 to 1,247 micro credit and 13 small loans beneficiaries respectfully.

- disbursed 2,529 sewing machines made up of 1,695 hand and 834 leg amounting to GH¢2,111,090.00 and GH¢341,940.00 to beneficiaries.
- distributed 627 hair driers amounting to GH¢244,216.50 to beneficiaries.
- monitored and followed up on 15,520 micro credit, 95 small loans and 55 special project clients respectfully.

3.5. Internal Audit Agency (IAA)

For the period under review, the Agency

- Facilitated the establishment of Six hundred and Thirty-Two (632) Internal Audit Units.
- Facilitated the establishment of Five Hundred and Thirty Nine (539) Audit Committees.
- Trained and built the capacity of One thousand, Nine Hundred and Forty-Three (1,943) public officers from One Hundred and Twenty-One (121) covered entities.
- Monitored the activities of Two Hundred and Thirty-Nine (239) Audit Committees in Fifteen (15) regions.
- Conducted a special follow-up exercise on various infractions in reports from Internal Audit Units (IAU) and findings referred to the EOCO and CID for further action.
- Successfully held the 2022 Internal Audit Conference.

3.6. State Protocol Department

For the year 2022, the Department

- Facilitated Eight (8) visits by ECOWAS Heads of States
- Facilitated Three (3) sessions for the presentation of letters of Credence by Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- Facilitated Twenty-Two (22) internal and Twenty-One (21) external visits by H. E. the President.
- Assisted in commemorating Eight (8) National Events
- Facilitated Five (5) Swearing in ceremonies
- Organized Two State Funerals

3.7. Council of State

During the year under review, the Council held three (3) meetings with H. E. the President. It also successfully organized thirty-One (31) meetings and deliberated with Ministers and Heads of a number of Institutions on national issues.

The Council also recommended Four Hundred and Twenty-Three (423) nominees for appointments to Sixty-Six (66) governing boards. It also paid a working visit to the Nsawam Medium Security Prison. Four (4) Committees of the Council held Nineteen Committee meetings during the year under review.

3.8. Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)

During the period under review, the Center

- recorded a total of 132 projects with a total estimated Investment value of US\$1,079.82 million. The FDI component from these investments amounted to US\$ 939.31 million. The local component by value is US\$ 140.52 million. The total initial capital transfers registered for the period also amounted to US\$ 50.90 million. The investments in the three quarters are expected to create a total of 7,953 jobs at full capacity.
- registered a total of 76 wholly Ghanaian owned projects giving an increase close to 41 percent over the same period in 2021 with total estimated investment amount of US\$ 2,956.54 million as at end of September 2022.
- Implemented the *Grow in Ghana, Grow with Ghana* Initiative
- embarked on thorough research is aggressively promoting sectors such as Agriculture and Agro- Processing; Manufacturing; Tourism, Infrastructure among others to facilitate the realization of government's vision of development beyond aid.
- installed and configured an electronic records management system for accessing files electronically
- set up online application system to reduce physical contact with investors and to facilitate speedy processing of projects and keep track of all applications in real time.

3.9. Monitoring and Evaluation Secretariat

The Secretariat developed Government Results Framework for High Priority programmes (2021-2024). It conducted monitoring and spot-checks of Government flagship. Coastal Fish Landing sites and the One Village One Dam projects (1V1D) programmes were also evaluated. The Secretariat conducted a rapid evaluation of fertilizer subsidy under the Planting for Food and Jobs programme and built capacity of M&E focal persons in indicator development

3.10. Inner City and Zongo Development

During the period under review, the Inner City and Zongo Development

- Recruited Three Thousand (3000) Arabic Instructors.
- Provided vocational skills training to over 100 Zongo Youth in Adentan and Madina Municipalities.
- Provided entrepreneurial training and support to 116 youth in the Ashanti Region.
- Updated the register of needs of Zongo Communities in the country.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Global Communities-Ghana and USAID to deliver water and sanitation facilities and offer training to 210 communities in 21 districts in the country.
- Reached a Development Cooperation Agreement with the Turkish Embassy.

3.11. National Identification Authority (NIA)

During the period under review, the Authority

- Supplied office supplies and equipment to 16 Regional and 276 Operational District Offices to enhance their operations.
- Achieved continuous registration figure of 1,220,265 enrolments out of 1,500,000 target for the year 2022 bringing the total number of Ghanaians enrolled to 17,220,265 as at 30th September 2022.
- Printed a total of 564,324 cards from January 2022 to 30th September 2022 bringing the total cards printed to 16,655,937.
- Issued a Total of 36,917 Ghana Cards for update service for citizens.
- Replaced a total of 170,430 Ghana Cards.
- Continuously registered a total of 17,056 foreigners.

- Established One (1) Premium Registration Centre at the Head Office of CalBank Ghana Limited.
- On boarded 25 universal banks, 145 Rural Banks, 15 Savings and Loans companies, three (3) Micro Finance companies, three (3) Finance Houses and 15 Fintechs onto the Data Verification framework.
- Provided data verification services to the Ghana Police Service, Economic and Organized Crime Office (EOCO), National Intelligence Bureau (NIB) to assist in crime detection, investigation and prosecution.
- Prosecuted 10 citizens for registration related offences out of which four (4) were convicted and six (6) are still under investigation.
- Prosecuted seven (7) suspects for foreigner registration related offences with three (3) convicted cases and four (4) cases under investigation.
- Established seven (7) temporary registration points to support ongoing SIM Card re-registration exercise at public stadia and other facilities in some major cities.

3.12. State Institutions and Governance Authority (SIGA)

For 2022, the Authority organized the 2022 policy and Governance Forum. It also collaborated with the Ministry of Finance, the Ghana Revenue Authority, Controller & Accountant-General's Department and Internal Audit Agency to hold a forum on Non-Compliance with reporting requirements for all Special Entities and some MDAs.

It developed Governance, Risk and Compliance Audit Monitoring Framework for mid-year offsite monitoring of specified entities and developed a Visibility Communication and Advocacy Documents and materials for Specified Entities and other stakeholders. It assessed the performance of 40 Specified Entities.

3.13. Special Development Initiative Secretariat

The Secretariat successfully handed all projects initiated by the erstwhile Ministry of Special Development Initiatives to the Development Authorities. It undertook impact assessment of One Village One Dam (1V1D) initiatives in collaboration with M&E Secretariat and the Northern Development Authority and facilitated the release of financial resources to National Ambulance Service for

effective operations of the one Constituency, one Ambulance initiative. It revised the Client Service Charter of the Secretariat.

3.14. Office of the Administrator-General

For the period under review, the Office

- Successfully conducted Stocktaking exercise of official assets in the residence of Sixty-two Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives in Greater Accra and Eastern Regions.
- Evaluated the quality of the database of official assets of Sixteen Regional Coordinating Councils (RCC)
- Collected data from the Lands Commission to assist in the preparation and compilation of the National Register of all Official Assets, and
- Reviewed the Presidential (Transition) Act, 2012 (Act 845)

3.14. 2022 EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE OUTTURN

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities in 2022, a total amount of **Two Billion, Six Hundred and Twenty-Seven Million, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighty Ghana Cedis (GH¢2,627,722,680.00)** was the revised budget for the Office of Government Machinery for the 2022 financial year. Actual Expenditure for the period was Four Hundred and Forty-nine Million, Five Hundred and Eighty-Eight Thousand, One Hundred and Sixty Two Ghana Cedis (GH¢449,588,162.00) leaving a variance of **GH¢2,178,134,517.00**

The breakdown is shown in Table 1:

Table 1: OGM Budget Outturn ending 30th September, 2022

Item	Revised Budgeted (GH¢)	Actuals (GH¢)	Variance(GH¢)
Employee Compensation	736,769,000.00	153,714,151.00	583,054,849.00
Goods and Services	1,070,622,640.00	213,015,879.00	857,606,761.00
CAPEX	820,331,040.00	82,858,133.00	737,472,907.00
Total	2,627,722,680.00	449,588,163.00	2,178,134,517.00

4.0. 2023 BUDGETARY ESTIMATES FOR THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT MACHINERY

For the implementation of the various programmes and activities, an amount of **One Billion, Four Hundred and Twenty-Eight Million, Three Hundred and Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty-Four Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,428,303,634.00)** has been allocated to the Office of Government Machinery for the year 2023 as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of Estimates for 2023

	Compensation of Employees	Goods and Services	CAPEX	TOTAL GH¢
GoG	251,326,642.00	503,765,457.00	216,923,200.00	972,014,299.00
IGF	19,049,551.00	53,527,917.00	15,002,587.00	87,580,055.00
ABFA			337,109,280.00	337,109,280.00
Donor			31,600,000.00	31,600,000.00
Total	270,376,193.00	557,293,374.00	600,635,067.00	1,428,303,634.00

Allocations to the Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery is attached in Table 3 below:

Table 3: Allocation to Agencies under the Office of Government Machinery

	Agency	Amount
1	Office of the President and other Agencies	363,568,833.00
2	Commissions and Councils	23,658,451.00
3	Ghana AIDS Commission	8,262,913.00
4	Scholarships Secretariat	227,318,121.00
5	National Identification Authority (NIA)	95,963,186.00
6	Office of the Administrator – General	2,892,623.00
7	National Population Council (NPC)	2,379,378.00
8	Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)	41,375,394.00
9	Internal Audit Agency (IAA)	11,535,644.00
10	Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)	22,734,721.00
11	Inner City and Zongo Development	28,036,838.00
12	Special Development Initiatives	539,712,523.00
13	Monitoring and Evaluation	2,021,920.00
14	State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)	58,136,440.00
15	Public Enterprises	706,650.00
	TOTAL	1,428,303,634.00

5.0. OUTLOOK FOR 2023

5.1. Office of the President and other Agencies

For 2023, the Office would, among others

- Organize H. E. the President's local travels to deepen his monitoring activities in the country
- Organize Cabinet meetings and retreats
- Organize seminars and retreats for Ministers of State
- Cater for Heads of State and other foreign guests and their delegations
- Train and re-train staffs of the Presidency locally
- Maintain existing assets of the Presidency
- Organize official national Celebrations

5.2. Council of State

For the year 2023, the Council would

- Facilitate quarterly meetings with H. E. the President
- Hold a Committee meeting per week
- Hold monthly three-day plenary sessions
- Organize four-day interactive sessions for four Regional Representatives
- Publish the Council's special Report
- Organise Two Outreach Programmes
- Undertake research on issues under consideration by the Council.
- Implement the Council of State Act, 2020 (Act 1037) in respect of Budget preparation and management.

5.3. Ghana AIDS Commission

For 2023, the Commission would undertake a number of programmes aimed at

- Reducing new HIV infections in the general population by 85% by 2025.
- Reducing new HIV infections in young people (15-24 years) by 85% by 2025
- Achieving epidemic control and the fast track targets of 95-95-95 by 2025

5.4. Scholarships Secretariat

For the year 2023, the Secretariat would allocate

- GH¢233,271,039 as fee component to the year 2023

- GH¢12,248,760 to support the vulnerable especially the disabled continuing students who are on full scholarship
- GH¢211,022,279 for the payment of existing liabilities for the foreign awards

5.5. National Identification Authority (NIA)

For 2023, the Authority would, among others

- Continue with the registration of citizens abroad
- Maintain the Tier 3 Data Center
- Set up three (3) additional Premium Registration Centers
- Undertake continuous registration of Ghanaians aged 15years and above
- Continue the registration of Ghanaian children aged under 15years
- Procure ISO certification for the national Identification System (NIS)

5.6. Office of the Administrator - General (OAG)

For 2023, the office would

- Conduct stocktaking of all official assets and properties in the residence of all Executives in the remaining Fourteen Regions
- Enhance the capacity of MDAs/MMDAs in the preparation and update of assets database
- Prepare national Register of all official assets
- Review the Presidential (Transition) Act, 2012 (Act 845)
- Acquire and operationalize a software on the Ghana Integrated Official Assets Management Information Programme (GIOMIP) to help achieve the mandate of the office.

5.7. National Population Council (NPC)

For the year 2023, the Council would

- Organize the World Population Day 2023
- Develop and disseminate 1000 copies of reproductive health, family planning and other related fact sheets
- Organize the 4th Adolescent Reproductive Health Summit
- Undertake media engagements
- Organise two seminars for both in and out of school young people

- Organize two capacity building workshop for Sixty identified population ambassadors
- Organize the 2nd Demographic Summit in Ghana
- Train Twenty Ministries, Departments and Agencies/ Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to integrate population and development into their planning

5.8. Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)

For 2023, the Center would

- Work with the Ghana Export Promotion Authority to attract investment into the priority areas identified in the Export Development Plan
- Engage other investment promotion and implementation agencies such as the Minerals Commission, Petroleum Commission, Ghana Freezones Authority to identify and profile specific opportunities for promotion
- Step up leads with prospective investors in the development and promotion of the economy through the integrated iron and steel industry and its related industry for industrialization and economic growth
- Facilitate the resolution of challenges and bottlenecks encountered by investors
- Continue to register foreign and local investments in Ghana
- Digitalize the Center's processes, procedures and workflows to ensure efficiency
- Undertake regional sensitization and monitoring programmes
- Organize in-country investor outreach programmes.

5.9. Internal Audit Agency (IAA)

For 2023, the Agency would

- Restructure, rebrand and reposition the Institution
- Improve resource mobilization and financial management of the Institution
- Improve capacity of staff and professionalism in the Institution
- Prove services to Covered Entities
- Regulate internal audit practices in the public sector
- Improve collaboration with Development partners and other critical institution.

5.10. Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

For 2023, the Center would, among others

- Disburse GH¢25,877,000 to 25,877 micro credit beneficiaries
- Disburse GH¢3,123,040 to 288 small loans beneficiaries
- Allocate 800 tricycles to the youth
- Allocate 140 cars to beneficiaries

5.11. Inner City and Zongo Development

For 2023, the Secretariat would

- Pay the allowances of 3000 Arabic Instructors
- Construct 100 boreholes
- Construct 100 public toilets facilities
- Train 500 Zongo youth
- Provide entrepreneurial training and support to 200 Zongo youth
- Acquire a new office equipment
- Mobilize donor support
- Undertake monitoring and evaluation

For 2023, the Fund would

- Develop investment and fundraising policy and strategy
- Organize donor conference for fundraising
- Develop proposals for development partner support
- Complete the Comprehensive Development Needs Assessment from Zongo communities
- Complete ongoing works on the Zongo infrastructure Development
- Train 2000 Zongo youth in assorted vocational skills
- Provide tuition grant to 300 Zongo students in local tertiary institutions.

5.12. Special Development Initiatives

For 2023, the Secretariat would, among others

- Continue ambulance operations,
- Procure incubators for distribution to hospitals across the country, and
- Coordinate meetings with the Development Authorities.

For 2023, the Development Authorities would, among others

- Complete on-going construction activities, and
- Carry out planning and implementation activities and programmes.

5.13. Monitoring and Evaluation Secretariat

For 2023, the Secretariat would, among others

- Update Government Results Framework for High Priority programmes,
- Conduct monitoring/spot-checks of Government flagship programmes, and
- Conduct rapid evaluation of Government flagship programmes.

5.14. State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)

For 2023, the Authority would, among others

- Undertake Performance Contracts Negotiations with 175 Specified Entities and sign the 2023 Annual Performance Contracts,
- Carryout Monitoring and Compliance visits to Specified Entities to ensure efficiency of operations,
- Evaluate strategic plans and performance of State owned Enterprises and make recommendations to the relevant sector ministries,
- Develop a Register of Specified Entities in accordance with SIGA Act (Act 990),
- Work with the Attorney General’s Office to finalise the Regulations of the SIGA Act,
- Finalise the development of the Dividend Policy, and
- Prepare and publish the 2021 State Ownership Report

5.15. Public Enterprises Secretariat

For 2023, the Secretariat would

- List some state owned companies on the Ghana Stock Exchange,
- Dispose of assets of defunct entities of the State,
- Seek Cabinet approval to implement key policy initiatives,
- Hold stakeholder engagements with Specified entities, and
- Organise capacity building for staff.

5.16. State Protocol Department

For 2023, the Department would

- Host Nine State visits,
- Organize Five Credential sessions for Ambassadors and High Commissioners,
- Arranged Six farewell calls for outgoing Ambassadors and High Commissioners,
- Organize Thirty-Two external and Ninety internal visits to be undertaken by H. E. the President,
- Assist other agencies to organize Ten State Anniversaries,
- Facilitate meetings between H. E. the President and visiting dignitaries,
- Organize state and assisted state funerals, and
- Assist other agencies to organize ten swearing-in ceremonies.

5.17. Public Sector Reforms

For the year 2023, the Secretariat would

- Reorient Public Sector structures and strengthen ethical foundations to improve discipline
- Review the National Public Sector Reform Strategy (NPSRS 2018-2023)
- Organise workshops to reorient public sector institutions on the culture and best practices of reforms
- Pilot One-Stop-Shops for service delivery in selected districts across the country
- Build the capacity of staff in key areas of institutional reforms
- Revise the Ghana Beyond Aid Charter and strategy document
- Translate Ghana beyond Aid Charter into selected Ghanaian Languages.

6.0. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The Committee made the following observations:

6.1. Inner City and Zongo Development

6.1.1. Engagement of Arabic instructors

The Committee inquired from the Secretariat whether it would not be better off if the Ministry of Education engaged the Arabic Instructors

The technical team explained that the aim of the initiative was to main stream the teaching of Arabic into the education curriculum. The policy is currently

temporal and that in due time the appropriate decision would be taken by Government.

6.1.2. Needs Assessment of Zongo Communities

The Committee was informed that needs assessment was carried out within the Zongo communities and it came to the fore that education, skills empowerment and infrastructure development are the main needs of the communities. These findings had helped the Zongo Development Fund to develop interventions to help to address the needs of the Zongo communities.

6.1.3. Classification of Infrastructure Development projects as Goods and Services

The Committee observed that a number of development projects undertaken by the Zongo Development Fund were capital projects; yet these projects were classified under Goods and Services in the Budget Estimates. This in the Committee's view sends the wrong signal that more funds have been allocated to Goods and Services instead of CAPEX.

The technical team explained that most of the projects of the Fund when complete are handed over to the communities and not kept in the books of the Fund. The team agreed that there was the need to look at the classification and assured the Committee that it would liaise with the Ministry of Finance in order to properly classify the said projects.

6.2. Microcredit and Small Loans Center (MASLOC)

6.2.1. Recoveries

The Committee observed that for 2022, the Center recovered a total of GH¢11,354,634.36 out of a total amount of GH¢36Million granted as loans to beneficiaries.

6.2.2. Micro Credit disbursement

The Committee also observed that for the year 2023, the Center expects to disburse an amount of GH¢50,000,000. Out of this amount, an amount of GH¢35,600,000.00 is expected to come from recoveries over the reporting period.

6.3. Special Development Initiatives

6.3.1. Transfer of Assets of the Ministry of Special Development Initiatives

The Committee observed that during the year under review, the Secretariat transferred all projects initiated by the erstwhile Ministry of Special Development Initiatives to the Development Authorities.

This was necessary to ensure continuity in the implementation of the IPEP projects which were started by the erstwhile Ministry.

6.3.2. Inadequate CAPEX Provision

The Committee observed that for the year 2023, an amount of **GH¢499,268,380.00** was allocated for CAPEX for the Development Authorities as follows:

Northern Development Authority	-	GH¢108,721,786.00
Middle Belt Development Authority	-	GH¢191,567,229.00
Coastal Development Authority	-	GH¢ 198,979,365.00

The technical team stated that the CAPEX amount for 2023 was woefully inadequate as the Development Authorities have also inherited liabilities of the erstwhile Ministry. Another challenge facing the three (3) Authorities is the backlog of unpaid Interim Payment Certificates. So far outstanding liabilities stood in excess of GH¢868,464,902.41.

In order to avoid the abandoning of these very useful projects and to ensure timely completion and payment of contractors, the Committee recommends that adequate CAPEX provision be made to the Development Authorities to enable them complete the projects and pay off the contractors.

6.4. Scholarship Secretariat

6.4.1. Fee Component

The Committee observed that for the year 2023, a total amount of GH¢223,271,039.00 was allocated to the Secretariat as fee component.

The technical team informed the Committee that the amount was wholly inadequate as there was an existing liability of GH¢408,362,227.09. Due to this, the Secretariat has resolved not to award any new scholarships for both local

and foreign in 2023 unless additional funds are provided to support the Secretariat.

In order to ensure that the Scholarship Secretariat to enable it undertake its mandate, the Committee recommends that additional funds to be made available to the Secretariat.

6.5. Office of the Administrator-General (OAG)

6.5.1. Stocktaking

The Committee observed that for 2023, the Office will undertake stocktaking of all national assets.

In the Committee's view, this is an important exercise to help safeguard the nation's assets. The Committee urged the Administrator-General to liaise with the Ministry of Finance to explore ways of taking advantage of the Ghana Assets Corporation in order to enhance the work of the Office.

6.6. National Identification Authority (NIA)

6.6.1. Slow issuance of Ghana Cards

The Committee observed that there are agitation in the country as several Ghanaians are complaining about the slow issuance of the Ghana cards.

The Authority attributed the poor issuance of the cards to poor releases. For the year 2022, an amount of GH¢108,000,000.00 was approved for the Authority as Goods and Services. As at 30th September, 2022, only GH¢8,177,598.40 has been released to the Authority, giving rise to a variance of GH¢99,822,401.60. The poor release has adversely hampered the operations of the Authority.

The Committee was assured that should the Authority get additional releases to the tune of GH¢47,556,321.00, it would procure additional blank cards and issue new cards to all Ghanaians who are waiting for their cards within Six (6) months. The Authority informed the Committee that so far, it has registered 17,338,055 with less than two million Ghanaians yet to be issued with cards.

In view of the demand for the Ghana cards as being a valid identification card, the Committee urges the Ministry of Finance as a matter of urgency to make funds available to the Authority to enable it carry out its mandate.

6.7. Millennium Development Authority (MiDA)

6.7.1. Ghana CARES "Obaatan Pa" Programme

The Committee observed that the Millennium Challenge Power Compact Programme has been completed. The Ministry of Finance has since engaged the Authority to take up the role of Lead/ Coordinating Entity for the Economic Enclave Project of the Ghana CARES "Obaatan Pa" Programme.

The Technical team further informed the Committee that the site has also been handed over to MiDA. It is expected that MiDA would bring its expertise to ensure that the enclave is viable. The goal is to facilitate the production of local rice in commercial quantities.

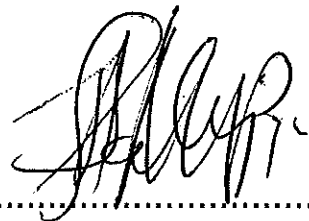
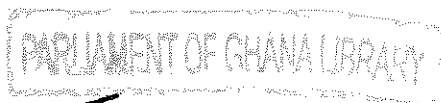
7.0. CONCLUSION

The Committee has critically examined the 2023 Budget Estimates of the Office of Government Machinery and recommends that the House approves the sum of an amount of **One Billion, Four Hundred and Twenty-Eight Million, Three Hundred and Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty-Four Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,428,303,634.00)** for the 2023 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.



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HON. KWAKU AGYEMAN KWARTENG
CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE



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MRS JOANA A. S. ADJEI
CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

14th December, 2022