

**IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE
FOURTH PARLIAMENT**

OF THE

FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORTS**



**ON THE ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORTS**

MONDAY, 10TH DECEMBER 2007

**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORTS &
CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ON THE 2008 ANNUAL
ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORTS**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the 2008 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government by the Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Planning on Thursday 15th November 2007, and subsequent Motion for its adoption, the Annual Estimates for the Fiscal year 2008 of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports was referred to the Joint Committee on Education, Youth, Sports & Culture and Environment, Science & Technology for consideration and report pursuant to Orders 140 (4) 186 and 187 of the Standing Orders of the House and Article 179 of the Constitution.

1.1 COMMITTEE SITTING

The Committee held a number of meetings to consider the Estimates of the Ministry. Those who assisted the Committee in this endeavour were the Minister of Education, Science and Sports, Prof. Dominic Fobih, his Deputy in-charge of Girl Child and Basic Education, Mrs. Angelina Baiden-Amissah, the Chief Director, Mr. Ato Assuman and the Directors of the various agencies and departments under the Ministry. The Committee also had assistance from officials of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. The Committee is grateful to them for their cooperation during the hearing.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENT

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

- (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 2007 financial year.
- (d) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the December 2008 financial year.
- (e) The Draft Annual Estimates of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports for the 2007 financial year.
- (f) The Draft Annual Estimates of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports for the 2008 Financial Year.

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports exists to provide relevant education, promote science and technology and develop sports as a vehicle for human and national development. In pursuit of this, the Ministry will provide:

- i. Basic education for all;
- ii. Education and training for skill development with emphasis on science, technology and creativity;
- iii. Higher education for the development of middle and top level manpower requirements;
- iv. Facilities to ensure functional literacy and self-reliance;
- v. Opportunities for application of science and technology, research and development; and
- vi. An enabling environment for the use of sports for physical and health fitness as well as means of fostering peaceful co-existence.

In providing these services, the Ministry will be guided by the under-listed values:

- a. Quality education.
- b. Efficient management of resources.
- c. Accountability and transparency.
- d. Equity.

Consequently, the Ministry seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To enhance the quality of teaching and learning;
- ii. To increase access to and participation in education and training;
- iii. To upgrade and extend technical and vocational, agricultural and business education and training;
- iv. To promote good health and environmental sanitation in schools;
- v. To strengthen governance, planning and resource management within the education sector;
- vi. To promote and extend provision of science and technology education and training
- vii. To improve the quality and relevance of academic and research programmes.
- viii. To promote and extend provision of Science and Technology Education and Training;
- ix. To promote and extend Pre-School Education;
- x. To provide girls with equal opportunities to access full cycle of education;
- xi. To identify and promote education programme that will assist in the prevention and management of HIV/AIDS;

- xii. To promote Good Health and Environmental Sanitation in schools and Institutions of Higher Learning;
- xiii. To facilitate the provision of sports and recreational facilities in deprived communities;
- xiv. To strengthen the existing management system for optimum sports development;
- xv. To promote private sector involvement in sports development; and
- xvi. To research, formulate, monitor and evaluate policies to create enabling condition for sports development.

4.0 **REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE IN 2007**

4.1 The Ministry of Education Science and Sports' development in 2007 was geared towards the achievement of targets set under the Education (Sector) Strategic Plan, GPRS II and preparations towards the implementation of the new Education Reforms Programme. The year also witnessed Ghana's participation in international tournaments including All African Games in Algeria, the Africa Under-17 Football Tournament in Togo, FIFA Under-17 World Cup in Korea and the FIFA Women's World Cup Tournament in China.

4.2. EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

4.2.1 Basic Education

During the year under review, the Ministry collaborated with district assemblies, religious bodies and non-governmental organisations to provide 1,349 classrooms for

pre-schools as a means of mainstreaming pre-schools into basic education system. Consequently, the number of pre-schools increased from 8,659 to 10,008 within the same period. Enrolment at this level grew from 1,065,963 in 2005/2006 to 1,142,784 in 2006/2007 academic year.

Public education on the need to send children to schools was also intensified in churches, durbars, fora, market places and communities towards the achievement of Universal Primary Completion and Gender Parity by 2015.

In a bid to reduce the burden of parents and to increased enrolment, Government released a total amount of GH¢14.24 million during the year as payment of Capitation Grant to pupils in all public basic schools. In addition, government subsidized the conduct of Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) to the tune of GH¢3.39 million.

The Ministry continued with efforts to improve gender parity in public basic schools, especially in the 15 districts with the lowest Gender Parity Index (GPI). Educational inputs such as stationery, uniforms and protective clothing were provided to needy pupils especially girls and this went a long way to improve gender parity at the basic school level. Most districts encouraged the use of Girls Clubs and Role models within the schools to work towards gender parity.

In view of the fact that a hungry child can hardly absorb what is being taught in school, Government in the year under review expanded the School Feeding Programme which was initiated in 2005 on a pilot basis at some selected basic schools to cover 408,989 pupils nationwide.

The combined effect of these interventions resulted in significant increases in Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) and other targets as indicated below:

Level of Education	2005/2006	2006/2007
GER (Pre-School Level)	75.2%	83.6 %
GER (Primary Level)	92.1%	93.7%
GPI (Primary Level)	0.95%	0.96%

The resultant expansion of enrolment necessitated the construction of classrooms. In 2007, government spent a total amount of GH¢6.2 million on the construction of new classrooms whilst GH¢5.6 million worth of furniture made up of school desks, teachers' and library tables and chairs were supplied to basic schools to help accommodate the increased enrolment in schools.

4.2.2 Teacher Deployment

To correct the existing regional disparities in teacher supply in order to improve the quality of education delivery, postings were made to areas that lacked teachers, especially remote rural areas with emphasis on the 3 regions in the north where pupil/teacher ratio (PTR) is very high. Incentive packages including 8,280 bicycles were distributed to teachers in deprived schools. Consequently, the pupil-teacher ratios for these regions improved as indicated below:

Region	2005/2006 PTR	2006/2007 PTR
Northern	38:1	34:1
Upper East	48:1	42:1
Upper West	40:1	34:1

The District Sponsorship Scheme for teachers continued to be used as a reliable means of ensuring and securing services of teachers in basic schools. In all, the District Assemblies sponsored a total of 9,300 out of 9,401 teacher trainees enrolled in various teacher training colleges for 2006/2007 academic year. All the teacher

trainees have been bonded and will be posted to teach in the districts that sponsored them. Additionally, to attract teachers to remote rural areas, Government spent a total amount of GH¢4.1 million on teacher accommodation.

4.2.3 National Service Scheme

The National Service Scheme remains an important source of teacher supply in the sector. In 2007, out of a total of 21,981 service personnel, 15,386 representing 70 per cent were deployed as teachers to schools in remote rural areas. In addition, 8,350 volunteers were also recruited as teachers under the National Volunteer Programme to make up for the shortfall in teacher supply within the sector.

4.2.4 Upgrading of Teacher Training Colleges

In view of the important role teacher education is expected to play under the new education reforms which took off in September 2007, government started a programme of upgrading teacher training colleges throughout the country. Work on the construction of classrooms and libraries continued in all the 38 Teacher Training Colleges. In addition, construction of science laboratories continued in the 15 selected colleges specialising in the teaching of science, mathematics and technology.

A total of 3 classroom blocks, 6 library blocks and 5 science laboratories were completed in the course of the year. To enhance management, monitoring and supervision of teacher trainees, thirty-eight (38) vehicles were procured for distribution to all the Principals of Teacher Training Colleges.

4.2.5 Model Senior High Education

Under the first phase of the Government's programme of upgrading facilities in at least one senior high school in each district of the country, 20 out of the 31 senior high schools being upgraded were completed in 2007. The other 11 schools are almost complete. A total amount of GH¢20.940 million was paid in 2007 in respect

Of works executed on the projects. Since the inception of the policy in 2003, Government has released an amount of GH¢143.26 million for the programme.

Work has also commenced on the second phase of upgrading physical facilities in 25 Senior High Schools and the projects are at various levels of completion. Additionally, to reduce the burden on parents, Government provided an amount of GH¢12.10 million to subsidise feeding in these schools.

4.2.6 Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS)

To ensure more objective and efficient placement of pupils in Senior High schools, Government continues to improve the Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS). After thoroughly addressing the problems faced in the first two years of implementation, a total of 166,000 out of 320,000 students were placed in various senior high schools and technical institutes in the country in 2007 by the CSSPS.

4.2.7 Ghana Library Board

The Board procured books, periodicals, journals and equipment for distribution to the 62 libraries throughout the country. A total of 10 Mobile Library Vans were also procured to enhance their operations. Work continued on the construction of Ho, Sunyani and Cape Coast Regional Libraries. In addition, the Central Library in Accra was also rehabilitated in the course of the year. A National Youth Essay Competition was also introduced in 2007 by the Board.

4.2.8 Non-Formal Education

The Programme continued to support the promotion of non-formal literacy with the recruitment of 1,822 facilitators to help sustain the programme.

4.2.9 Tertiary Education

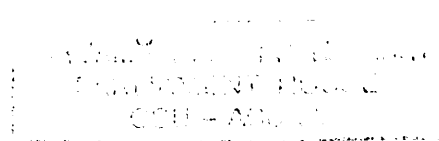
The rapid increase in enrolment at tertiary level continued to engage the attention of Government. In order not to compromise quality of education due to expansion in enrolment, the following measures were introduced:

- Strengthening and developing the capacity of the regulatory bodies through sponsoring of staff from these bodies for further studies;
- Revision in the curricula of the polytechnics to make them competency-based and relevant to the needs of industry and national development;
- A committee was set by the National Board for Professional and Technician Examinations (NABPTEx) to develop and improve the practical attachment policy for lecturers and students of polytechnic institutions. Through the Association of Ghana Industries (AGI), 1,400 industrial establishments have been registered to provide attachment for lecturers and students of the Polytechnics and technical institutes.

Additionally, to improve upon the quality of teaching at the tertiary level, the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF) provided GH¢7.48 million to tertiary institutions to promote change and innovation.

4.2.10 Distance Education

Government continued to encourage teachers to enroll in the Distance Learning Programmes offered at the University of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, University of Education, Winneba and University of Cape Coast as an alternative way of acquiring tertiary education. This, among other things helped to ease the pressure on the study leave scheme, whilst ensuring the availability of teachers in the classrooms. Total number of learners in these institutions for the 2006/2007 academic year was 20,772 out of which about 90 per cent were teachers.



4.2.11 Promotion of Science, Technology and Research

Government's policy of ensuring an enrolment ratio of 60:40 in favour of science and technology guided the admission process in the tertiary educational institutions. In the light of this, funds were made available to expand and equip science laboratories in the tertiary educational institutions to make teaching and learning of science and technology more constructive and attractive.

4.2.12 Infrastructure Development

In 2007, government provided GH¢34.0 million for improvement of infrastructural facilities in the tertiary institutions. In the course of the year, a lecture theatre and a classroom block for applied arts, 2 staff accommodation, 2 library blocks, 3 halls of residence, 2 sports stadia, a computer laboratory, an auditorium, agricultural engineering workshop and 2 administration blocks were completed for the Universities and Polytechnics. About 50 other projects are also at various stages of completion.

4.2.13 Polytechnics

The Polytechnics have been repositioned to offer bridging programmes to enable students from technical and Vocational institutes to upgrade themselves in Mathematics, English and Science to enable them pursue higher education. The Ministry continued to equip and strengthen the Polytechnics to enable them efficiently offer technical and practical oriented programmes in order to meet the needs of industry and national economy.

Emphasis is now on competency-based training whilst strengthening industrial attachment. As recommended in the White Paper on the Reports of the Education Reform on Review of Education, Takoradi Polytechnic started a degree programme in Building Technology whilst Ho Polytechnic also started degree programmes in Hospitality and Tourism and Automobile Engineering. The Accra Polytechnic, also, commenced a degree programme in Fashion Technology.

4.2.14 Education Reforms

The Education Reforms designed to make education more responsive to the current challenges in the country took off smoothly in September 2007. Curricula and syllabi for all the core subjects from basic to senior high school level have been developed and distributed to all schools in the country. Orientation courses on the use of the syllabi have already started.

4.3 SCIENCE-SUB SECTOR

4.3.1 The following activities were undertaken by the Science Sub-sector:

- Work on harnessing Research, Science and Technology in national development;
- A draft bill on Chemical Weapon Convention was sent to the Ministry of National Security for further work. This would form part of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Bill under the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 of 2000;
- Co-ordination of nuclear safety and waste management by the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC);
- Sensitisation programmes on GAEC products and services;
- Establishment of two bio-technology centres at Plant Genetic Resource Institute at Bunso in the Eastern Region and Crop Research Institute at Kumasi in the Ashanti Region. Equipment were purchased and installed at the Kumasi Centre;
- Construction of a Library and a Computer centre; and Contract for the construction/rehabilitation of the National Accelerator Project was awarded and work is ongoing.

4.4 SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

4.4.1 The Government's vision of making sports development and management central in its developmental agenda is being pursued. In line with this, an elaborate plan for the

development of sports with special emphasis on the provision of sports infrastructure and the hosting of a number of international sport tournaments have been prepared.

4.4.2 Work on the sports stadia for the hosting of the Ghana 2008 (African Cup of Nations (CAN) tournament) is almost complete. Currently, the external works and the construction of 16 training pitches are also nearing completion.

4.4.3 Government further provided funds for the various national teams' participation in international tournaments including the All African Games in Algeria where Ghana won 24 medals, the Africa Under-17 Football Tournament in Togo with the team winning bronze medal, FIFA Under-17 World Cup in Korea and the FIFA Women World Cup Tournament in China.

4.4.4 The lesser-known sports were also supported to develop. The programme of building the national teams through the organisation of Schools Sports Festivals and Security Services Sports Association (SESSA) Games also received the Government's attention.

5.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2008

5.1 EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

5.1.1 The main focus of the Ministry in 2008 will be the implementation of the Education Reforms Programme, which took off in September 2007. The reforms, among other things, will address the challenges in management, structure and content of education.

5.1.2 Basic Education

Pre-school

Government recognises the vital role pre-school plays in the formative years of the child. Consequently, pre-school has been mainstreamed into the basic education

system. The Government's intention is to ensure that by 2015, all children of school-going age will have had access to pre-school education before entering primary one.

In line with this vision, public education on the importance of pre-school will be intensified whilst enrolment drives aimed at increasing access to and participation at this level of education will continue to be pursued. The Ministry will continue to encourage District Assemblies, religious bodies and other non-state actors to provide classroom blocks in locations which lack them. Government will also continue to support the construction of infrastructure for pre-schools.

Primary Education

As part of the reform, fewer teaching subjects will be taught at the primary level. Curricula have been developed to ensure that all the required skill areas are attained by learners.

Junior High Education

This level will last three years as is currently the case. However, measures, including changes in the curriculum, a well-structured assessment procedure, guidance and counseling will be instituted at this level to ensure that students are well prepared before they enter the senior high school system.

Access to Basic Education

Strategies including sensitisation programmes, continued implementation of the capitation grants scheme, school feeding among others, that will lead to increased enrolment with the sole aim of attaining Universal Primary Completion by 2012 and Gender Parity at basic school level will be adopted. Programmes on the value of education and the role of parents and the community in assisting government to achieve targets set under the Millennium Development Goals will be intensified.

5.1.3 Capitation Grant and BECE Subsidy

Government will provide sufficient funds to sustain the payment of Capitation Grant in 2008. For effective utilization of the funds, Regional Directorates of Education will be required to intensify the monitoring of implementation of the scheme and assist weaker districts in this regard.

In addition, Government will continue to reduce some of the burden on parents by subsidising the conduct of the 2008 Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE). An amount of GH¢3.80 million has been earmarked as Government subsidy towards the BECE.

5.1.4 Subsidy for Senior High Schools

Government will continue to reduce the burden on parents with wards in senior high schools by providing an amount of GH¢11.40 million to subsidise feeding fee in these schools in 2008.

Furthermore, District Assemblies and District Directorates of Education will be encouraged to put in measures such as scholarship schemes and provision of educational inputs that will assist in addressing gender imbalance in basic schools. Educational inputs and other rewards will be provided to needy pupils, especially girls.

5.1.5 Infrastructure Facilities for Basic Schools

Conscious effort will be made to provide more infrastructural facilities for basic schools. The 'Schools Under Trees' Project involving 230 No. 6-Unit Classroom Blocks and 147 No. 3-Unit Classroom Blocks which started last year will be completed in 2008. A total amount of GH¢10.0 million has been earmarked. With these interventions, the enrolment targets set for 2008 are:

Level of Education	2006/2007	2007/2008
GER (Pre-School Level)	83.6%	85.7%
GER (Primary Level)	93.7%	96.4%

GPI (Primary Level)

0.96%

0.97%

5.1.6 Teacher Preparation, Upgrading and Deployment

Teacher Education holds the key to the successful implementation of the education reform programme. In tackling the challenges facing teacher training colleges and ensuring that qualified and specialized teachers are produced for our basic schools, facilities in teacher training colleges are being upgraded. Work on 38 libraries, 15 science laboratories and 38 classroom blocks being constructed will be completed and equipped in 2008.

Teachers will be prepared and deployed through appraisal and in-service training. Various incentive packages will be introduced into the service to motivate teachers to give off their best. The upgrading of teachers under the Untrained Teachers Diploma in Basic Education (UTDBE) programme, which started in the three regions in the North and Afram Plains District in the Eastern Region in 2004 will produce a total number of 24,000 teachers nation-wide.

The phase four of the Untrained Teachers Diploma in Basic Education programme covering the Greater Accra and Volta Regions will begin by December 2007. It is estimated that over 4,000 untrained teachers will avail themselves of this opportunity to enroll for the programme.

To correct the existing disparities in teacher supply, targeted supply of teachers to areas with shortfalls will be enforced. It is also expected that the 33,000 youth to be recruited under the Community Teaching Assistance Module of the National Youth Employment Programme will assist in teaching in schools, mostly in deprived rural areas. With the decentralisation of this Programme, it is hoped that the problem of regional disparities in teacher supply will be corrected.

5.1.7 National Service Scheme

in 2008, the National Service Scheme is expected to post 22,400 out of 32,000 service personnel representing 70 per cent to various schools to make up for the shortfall in teacher supply. It is also estimated that about a third of volunteers recruited under the National Volunteer Programme will be deployed as teachers to schools in rural areas.

5.1.8 Quality and Assessment

The sector's objective is not only to ensure quantitative access to education but also to improve and maintain quality of education standards. Towards this end, Ghana Education Service will continue to monitor the smooth implementation of the textbook policy to ensure that pupils have access to textbooks supplied. The Basic Education Comprehensive Assessment System (BECAS) will continue to be used to strengthen school monitoring, supervision and inspection in order to enhance accountability.

5.1.9 Senior High Education

A major change introduced under the education reform programme is the duration of senior high school. The present three-year senior secondary education is being changed to 4 years with four main specialised programmes namely Grammar, Agriculture, Technical and Vocational. Consequently, government will provide additional classrooms required for the fourth year of the senior high education.

5.1.10 Information, Communication and Technology

In line with the reforms programme, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) have been introduced into the curriculum as a core subject at the pre-tertiary level. In view of this, ICT equipment and furniture will be supplied to 250 senior high schools. The equipment will include desktop computers, laptops, LCD projectors,

printers, and education software as well as internet connectivity together with 6 months subscription of internet to sustain the programme.

Other activities include the hosting in May, 2008 of the 3rd International Conference for Development, Education and Training dubbed *e-Learning Africa Conference*. Training of teachers in ICT and connecting District Directorates of Education to the internet will enable personnel at the District level to access information for management decision making.

5.1.11 Upgrading of Senior High Schools

Work on the second phase of upgrading of 25 senior high schools will be continued in 2008.

5.1.12 Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS)

The System will continue to be used to place qualified junior high school graduates into the senior high schools. Public education will be intensified to increase public support for the system.

5.1.13 Technical, Vocational and Agricultural Education

The Education Reforms Programme envisages a radical transformation of technical, vocational and agricultural education, to this end, Government will provide funds for the expansion of infrastructure in these institutes.

A Council for Technical, Vocational Education and Training (COTVET) is to be established during the year to guide policy makers and sensitise the public on the Government's new focus for education. COTVET would be made up of representatives from industry and MDAs to direct the establishment of a demand-driven Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system. This will include:

- development of a competency-based curriculum in consultation with industry;
- National Certification Framework for TVET;
- accreditation of all TVET providers in the country; and

- establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit.

Government will continue to liaise with industries to provide places for teachers and students of technical institutes for industrial attachment.

The modalities for an apprenticeship programme for graduates of junior high schools who would not be able to enter into the senior high school programme will be worked out. The National Apprentice Training Board will be constituted under COTVET to handle issues relating to apprenticeship training for the informal sector.

5.1.14 Education Management at Pre-tertiary Level

The Ghana Education Service has lined up measures towards improving resource planning, management, monitoring and evaluation in 2008. These include giving priority to the decentralisation process with the aim of assisting the districts and schools to respond effectively to local conditions and priorities, thereby enhancing education service delivery.

Following the distribution of vehicles to district and regional directorates of education, it is expected that monitoring and supervision of schools will be enhanced. It is also envisaged that school governance and community participation will be strengthened through effective functioning of school management committees at the basic level and board of governors at the second cycle level. In addition to these, management skills of Heads of Schools, Inspectors, Circuit Supervisors, Frontline Assistant Directors and Directors will be upgraded.

5.1.15 Financing the reforms programme

The biggest challenge for the successful implementation of the reforms is finance. Government will provide funds to facilitate the implementation of the reforms within budgetary constraints, however, other alternatives and options for additional resources such as cost-sharing arrangements, internal efficiency measures and community participation will be explored to implement and sustain the programme.

5.1.16 Distance Education

The Distance Learning Programme will continue and teachers will be encouraged to use it as an alternative way of acquiring tertiary education. Financial support will be given to teachers who enroll on the programme.

5.1.17 Ghana Library Board

Government will provide funds to equip District and Regional Libraries. Books, journals, periodicals and equipment will be procured by the Board for distribution to libraries. The rehabilitation of the Cape Coast Regional Library will be completed in 2008 whilst constructional works, currently ongoing on the Ho and Sunyani Regional Libraries will continue.

The Ghana Library Board will continue the mobile library service, provide service to distant learning students and continue the Ghana Library Board Youth Essay Competition. The computerisation of the Sekondi Regional Library will also begin and the construction works on the suspended regional library block will also be reactivated.

5.1.18 Non-Formal Education

The National Functional Literacy Programme will be expanded in 2008. The Non-Formal Division will recruit and train additional 4,000 facilitators and open 4,000 literacy classes. About 1,000 literacy classes will undergo basic management training for income generation.

5.1.19 Tertiary Education

The Government will continue to support, strengthen and develop the capacity of regulatory bodies in order to ensure quality delivery of education at this level. Government through the GETFund will continue to support faculty development.

In addition, the polytechnics will be supported to make their courses competency-based and relevant to the needs of industry and national

development. The collaboration with the Association of Ghana Industries (AGI) will be sustained to enable more students and lecturers benefit from practical industrial attachment.

Resources from the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF) will continue to be made available to tertiary institutions to promote change and innovation and improve upon the quality of teaching and learning.

The current pace of infrastructural development will be sustained. Construction works on lecture halls, staff accommodation, science laboratories, workshops and hostels for students will continue.

5.2 Promotion of Science, Technology and Research

To continue to promote science, technology and research in the country, funds will be provided to expand and equip science laboratories and technical workshops in educational institutions at secondary and tertiary levels.

Research institutions will also be resourced to carry out research activities that will enhance productivity and national development. The policy of an enrolment ratio of 60:40 in favour of science and technology will still hold and tertiary institutions will be encouraged to respect this policy.

5.2.1 SCIENCE SUB-SECTOR

In line with the education reforms programme, the Science sub-sector of the Ministry will be supported to play its mandated role. Specifically, Government will support the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to commercialise its activities and thereby transfer technology and application of new knowledge. Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CSIR and PTPP London, Sumatra, Indonesia TBK (LONSUM), a New Seed Company is to be established that will develop high yielding and disease resistant planting materials for both local market and export. Revenue accruing from local sales will go to Oil Palm Research institute, Kade whilst

those generated from exports will be shared between CSIR and LONSUM based on an agreed term.

5.2.2 Science and Technology Endowment Fund

The Science and Technology Endowment Fund, which was established in 2007, will be made operational in 2008. Major activities planned for the year include the following:

- Advanced research into local materials as substitute for Portland cement;
- Bio-fuel research;
- Development of energy efficiency standards for households appliances;
- Bio-fortification of maize, cowpea and sweet potato with micro-nutrients and vitamin A using molecular biology tool;
- Production of activated carbon from agricultural waste for pharmaceutical and water companies;
- Development of Sorghum as an industrial crop;

The Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) will upgrade the Gamma Irradiation Facility, which is used for the treatment of food and medical items in the country.

GAEC will collaborate with the International Atomic Energy Association to implement the National Accelerator Project for efficient application of nuclear technology to improve human health delivery services, assist in material engineering, environmental pollution and agricultural studies.

5.3 SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

As part of sports development plan, government intends to acquire a 10 square mile plot of land in each of the 5 regions without a modern stadium, for the construction of regional sports stadia. The construction of the Cape Coast, will commence in 2008 whilst work on the Ho, Bolgatanga, Sunyani, Koforidua and Wa Stadia is scheduled to start in 2009.

The new stadia will realise income from the following sources:

Shares of gate proceeds from both international and local matches, hiring of the facilities for sporting and other social activities, hire of training grounds for international teams, proceeds from business centres operating in the stadia ground, adverts on bill boards and score board advertisements, and from sports tourism. These revenues will be used to support the development of the regional stadia planned for the remaining five regions.

For 2008, the Government's pre-occupation in the sports sub-sector is the hosting of the African Cup of Nations (CAN) Tournament from January to February. Financial and logistical support will therefore be provided to the Local Organising Committee. Similarly, every support will also be given to the national football team in their preparation for and participation to enable them annex the Continental Trophy.

The Sports Sub-Sector will again embark on a special programme to identify and develop talents in the various sporting events as a way of building national teams. In this regard, schools and colleges will be provided with sporting facilities and equipment. In addition, funds will be made available for professional training and retraining of personnel to manage sporting activities.

Finally, Government will continue to provide funds for the development of sports to promote good health, peace and national unity. This, in a large measure will address and prevent some of the causes of conflict, improve health and bridge cultural and ethnic divides.

6.0 **TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR THE YEAR 2008**

For the implementation of the above activities and policy initiatives, the Ministry of Education Science and Sports and its affiliated bodies have been allocated a GOG and Donor ceiling of **Nine Hundred and Thirty-Two Million, Two-Hundred and Thirty Thousand GH¢ (GH¢932,230,000.00)** to cover Personnel Emoluments,

Administrative, Service and Investment Expenses. Apart from the GOG/Donor funding mentioned above, it is expected that an amounts of **One Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty GH¢ (GH¢ 122,256,630)** of retained IGF, **Sixteen Million, Four Hundred and Eighty-Five Thousand GH¢ (GH¢ 916,485,000)** of HIPC, **Thirty Million, Nine Hundred Thousand GH¢ (GH¢ 30,900.000)** of MDRI and **One Hundred and Sixty-Three Million, Twenty-Five Thousand and Five Hundred and Thirteen GH¢ (GH¢ 163,025,513)** would be realised during the year for the programmes and projects of the Ministry. Below is the breakdown of the GOG/Donor allocation for year 2008:

2008 Ceiling Allocation GH¢ Millions

HEAD	PE	ADMIN	SERVICE		INVESTMENT		TOTAL
			GOG	DONOR	GOG	DONOR	
Main Ministry	41.80	8.15	2.24	6.34	0.46	-	58.98
Sports	1.30	3.88	1.04	0	0.84	-	7.06
Science	23.80	6.31	0.81	0	0.67	-	31.59
Tertiary	100.00	16.10	1.50	16.87	0.36	-	134.80
GES	639.90	21.64	5.84	14.20	3.30	14.88	699.88
Grand total	806.80	56.08	11.43	37.41	5.63	14.88	932.23

7.0 **OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

Education Annual Review

The Committee observed that in connection with the National Educational Annual Review the Ministry for the first time was able to organize the Annual Review in all the ten (10) regions of the country. The Committee considers this laudable and urges the Ministry to put in measures to sustain it and also explore the possibility of extending it to the districts.

National Inspectorate Board

The Committee also observed that the Ministry is far advance with preparations for the establishment of the National Inspectorate Board in the year 2008. The Committee holds the view that all the monies invested in the education sector will be a waste if supervision of personnel and monitoring of programmes are not regularly carried out. The Committee therefore urges the Ministry to adequately resource the Board when established to effectively carry out its mandate.

Ghana Education Service

Budgetary Allocation

The Ghana Education Service's, (GES) share of the Education Sector's budget (GOG/Donor) is Six Hundred and Ninety-Nine Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty Thousand GH¢ (GH¢699,880,000). Out of this amount, GH¢639,928,000 is for Personnel Emolument leaving a meagre GH¢59,860,000 for non salary expenditures (Administration, Service and Investment). However, considering the number of infrastructure needed to be provided and activities to be carried out under the new Educational Reforms, the budgetary allocation of GH¢59,860,000 for items 2-4 is woefully inadequate

The Committee holds the view that implementation, monitoring and supervision programmes will therefore be seriously constrained and will have a negative impact on educational delivery in the country if the allocation is not increased. The Committee therefore calls on the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to as a matter of urgency find supplementary budget for the Ministry to successfully implement the new educational reforms.

The Committee noted that GES had initiated a number of programmes such as Manpower budgeting and Establishment Control, Personnel Audit and Monthly Payroll

Analysis and Reconciliation to ensure efficiency. The Committee views this development laudable and urges the GES to strengthen these measures and also put in place other measures to reduce waste in the system.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that in addition to the provision of text books and other teaching and learning materials as a means of improving quality educational delivery in the country, GES has scheduled a number of activities to strengthen school monitoring, supervision and inspection with the view of enhancing accountability. The Committee commends and entreats GES to staff its inspectorate unit with quality personnel to achieve the desired results.

Ghana Library Board - GLB

Inadequate Budgetary Allocation

The Committee noted that inspite the yearly increase in budgetary allocation to the Ghana Library Board, inadequate budgetary allocation continues to be a major constraint of the Board. This, state of affairs has halted the Board's plan of engaging new staff to replace those who had retired or left to join other establishments.

In addition, the Board was unable to acquire adequate up-to-date books, periodicals and other publications for all its 62 service points.

Poor Working Conditions

Related to the problem of inadequate funding is the issue of poor working conditions of the staff of the Board. This manifests itself in low compensation packages and poor working environment (employee health and safety).

The Committee therefore recommends that since the libraries play an important role in the provision of quality education in the country, special intervention in terms of funding and review of the working conditions of staff should be made to enable the Board improve its service delivery.

The Committee was also happy to note that its earlier calls on the Board to explore networking with other organization is receiving the needed attention and urges the Board to do more in this area.

National Council for Tertiary Education

Internally Generated Funds

The Committee observed that there has been an improvement in the records and accounts of internally generated funds by the tertiary institutions. This, it considered commendable. The Committee therefore recommends that the NCTE continues to strengthen its income generating activities so as to supplement Government efforts.

Open University

The Committee also observed that a Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. J. Anamuah-Mensah, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Education, Winneba had been set up to work out modalities for the establishment of an Open University in the country. The Committee therefore urges the Anamuah-Mensah Committee to be prompt with its assignment for the Open University to be established as early as practicable to provide avenue for the large number of people who require further education.

Enrolment Ratio

The Committee noted with regret that inspite of the numerous programmes and incentives to promote Government policy having an enrolment ratio of 60:40 in favour of science and technology, the 2006/7 ratio indicated 62:38 and 68:32 for public universities and polytechnics in favour of Arts/Humanities. The Committee views this trend as worrying and urges the NCTE to put in place pragmatic measures to reverse the trend. The Committee further calls on the teachers at the Basic and the Secondary levels to come up with more innovative methods to make the teaching and learning science easy and more interesting. The government and for that matter the

GES should also provide the schools with basic laboratory equipment and consumables to enhance the teaching and learning of science at the basic and secondary levels.

Ageing Faculty

The issue of ageing faculty was also observed by the Committee. It came to light that about 31% of faculty members of the public universities were between the ages 51-60 years with further 13% above 60 years. However, considering the consequences of this situation in our public universities in the next five to ten years, NCTE is being called upon to put up realistic measures to attract young academics to take up faculty appointment.

National Service Scheme

Inadequate Budgetary Allocation

The Committee observed that inadequate funding continues to be a major constraint facing the National Service Scheme. For example the analysis of the 2007 Budget revealed that only 51% of Personnel Emoluments, 14.85% of Administration Activity, 6.38% of Service Activity and 3.04% of investment Activity of the actual requirements were approved for the Scheme. In view of the substantial cuts in the Budget Estimates, most especially P.E, the Scheme was unable to meet the payment of allowances of National Service Personnel for the fourth quarter of 2007.

The Committee learnt that a supplementary budget detailing the shortfall in the P.E. had been submitted to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning for consideration and approval. The Committee therefore appeals to the Ministry to approve and release this supplementary fund to enable the Scheme pay the affected Service Personnel.

Internally Generated funds

The Committee was however, glad to note that inspite of the budgetary shortfall, in the year under review, the National Service Scheme was able to generate an amount of GH¢630,502.78 from among others, the catering, Borehole and Manufacturing Units, to support its activities. The Committee commends the Scheme and urges it not to be complacent with this achievement but to strengthen these activities to enhance their income generation.

SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

Inadequate Funding

The Committee observed that the budgetary allocation to the sub-sector although it represents an increase of 11.12% of the previous year's budget, is woefully inadequate. The Committee is of the opinion that this allocation will adversely affect the sector in view of the its new programmes.

NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL (NSC)

Lack of Districts Development Offices

The Committee observed with concern, the absence of sports development offices in the district. This in the view of the Committee has contributed to the decline of sporting activities in the districts in particular and the country in general. The Committee therefore request the NSC to explore the possibility of establishing more district sports development offices. The NSC is also being urged to organise a national sports festival to tap the undeveloped talents to augment the overstretched sportsmen.

Inadequate Staffing

The Committee observed that the National Sports Council (NSC) does not have full complement of staff at the Regions and Districts in the country. This situation does not augur well for the development of Sports in the country especially at the

grassroots. The Committee therefore urges the NSC to put in place pragmatic efforts in place to address the situation.

Internally Generated Funds

The Committee noted the lack of transparency in sporting activities in the country with regards to inflows. The NSC must have a mechanism that would monitor or track all the cash flows, especially in the case of gate proceeds. This, the Committee believes, would go a long way to support some of the activities and programmes of the NSC.

NATIONAL SPORTS COLLEGE

The Committee observed that the college should have been rehabilitated to cater for the camping and training of some clubs during the upcoming African Cup of Nations in 2008. It further realised that the College lacks a sports gym and an administration block. Also the football pitch has not been completed due to inadequate funding. It is the collective opinion of the Committee that if sports are to be harnessed in the country, the old sports college must be maintained and another one built to cater for the northern sector of the country.

The committee was astonished at the years the present Ag. Director of the college has been in the acting position and is of the view that the College must be headed by a substantive Director.

SCIENCE SUB-SECTOR

THE GHANA ATOMIC ENERGY

Poor Condition of Service

The Committee noted that lack of better condition of service is causing high attrition of young staff from the institute who normally leave for greener pastures abroad. The institute is now faced with the problem of ageing faculty which requires immediate attention.

The Committee calls on the Ministry to review the conditions of service to attract and retained qualified and experienced staff.

Ghana as Centre of Excellence

The Committee further observed that Ghana has been selected by International Atomic Commission as Centre of Excellence in Africa for the training of personnel in Radiation and Nuclear Energy. This means that massive infrastructural improvement is required to train local and international students. The Committee therefore urges the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to raise additional funding to support the institute in this regard.

Upgrading of Gamma Irradiation

The Committee again observed that no allocation was made for the upgrading of Gamma Irradiation facility at the Institute. Gamma irradiation has the potential to store food up to fifteen (15) years and thus upgrading of the gamma irradiation at the Institute to control some infections to the facility is vital. In addition the special facility established by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture for export of horticultural crops will be ineffective if the Gamma Irradiation facility is not upgraded.

Training of Nuclear Scientists

The Committee observed that the allocation of GH ₵ 24, 789 to the Institute for training of Nuclear Scientists, was inadequate especially at this crucial time when the Nation is exploiting the possibility of using Nuclear Energy to augment its energy sources.

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR)

Poor Condition of Service

The Committee observed that staff entry level into CSIR is the same as that of universities yet there is a wide dichotomy between the conditions of service of university staffs and that of the Council. There is therefore very high attrition of

experience staff from CSIR to the universities. The Committee recommends to the Ministry to rationalize the conditions of service of these institutions to avert this unfortunate trend

Discovery of 'Pozzolana' Cement

The Committee learnt that Building and Road Research Institute of CSIR has developed special cement called *Pozzolana*. This cement, the Committee learnt is made from local clay. The Committee views this as a positive development and calls on the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to support the Institute into commercial production. The Institute is also being urged to exploit the possibility of teaming up with the Industry for Commercial production.

Further more the Committee is of the view that if the Institute is well resourced, it would save the nation \$30 million annually from import of clinker.

Release of Science and Technology Endowment Fund Seed Money

The Committee further notice with satisfaction that 5 billion cedis provision made by government in the 2007 financial year as seed money for the establishment of Science and Technology Endowment Fund for Research and Development activity has been released. The Committee commends the Government for this and entreats the Council to ensure efficient utilization of this money.

General Observation and Recommendation

Funding Gap

The Committee also noted with concern, the gap between the 2008 budgetary requirement of the Ministry and what was actually provided. For the year 2008, the Ministry's budgetary requirement is **One Billion, Nine Hundred and Four Million, One Hundred and Ninety Thousand and Forty-Five GH¢ (GH¢1,904,190,045)** (all sources) whilst the actual provision is **One Billion, Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Million, Nine Hundred and Two Thousand and Forty-Three GH¢ (GH¢**

1,264,902,043) indicating a shortfall of **Six Hundred and Thirty-Nine Million Two Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand and Two GH¢ (GH¢ 639,288,002)**

This shortfall would adversely affect the implementation of the Ministry's programmes and activities since the Ministry's budgetary requirements were based on a costing of its programmes and activities.

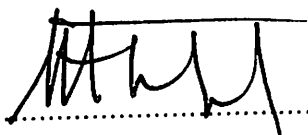
Adequate funding is therefore important if the Ministry is to implement its programmes and activities effectively and efficiently so as to bring about improvement in the quality of education we all desire.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee holds the view that, the provision of Educational and Science facilities, development and promotion of Sports infrastructure and training of teachers are cardinal to job creation, local tourism and poverty reduction.

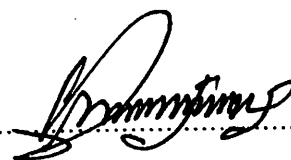
The Committee therefore finds the Draft Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports justifiable and recommends that the sum of **One Billion, Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Million, Nine Hundred and Two Thousand and Forty-Three GH¢ (GH¢ 1,264,902,043)** be approved for the Ministry for its activities for the year 2008 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.



**HON. STEPHEN KWAKU BALADO MANU
CHAIRMAN**

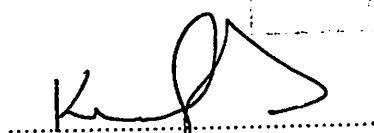
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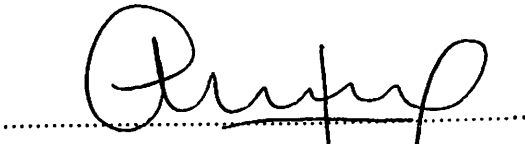
**HON. ISAAC KWAME ASIAMAH
CHAIRMAN**

**COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, SPORTS
AND CULTURE**

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CALL - 1999



HON. KWAME OWUSU FRIMPONG
CHAIRMAN
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