

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

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

ON

**THE
2011 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF
THE MINISTRY OF CHIEFTAINCY AND
CULTURE**

10TH DECEMBER, 2010

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the 2011 Budget Statement and Economic Policy (MoFEB) by the Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Planning Hon. Kwabena Duffuor on Thursday 18th November 2010, the Annual Estimate for the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture was referred to the Select Committee on Youth, Sports and Culture for consideration and report in accordance with Order 140 (4) and 187 of the Standing Orders of the House and Article 179 of the Constitution.

In considering the referral, the Committee met on 7th December 2010 to examine the Estimates. Present at the meeting was the Sector Minister, Hon. Alex Asum-Ahensah, (MP) and his team from the Ministry led by the Ag. Chief Director.

The Committee is grateful to the Hon. Minister and all the officials for their kind assistance.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Reference documents used by the Committee during its deliberations were:

- i) The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana
- ii) The Standing Orders of the House.
- iii) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2011 financial year
- iv) 2011 draft Annual Estimate of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture
- v) 2010 Committee Budget Report.

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture is to develop an effective interface between government and society on matters relating to chieftaincy and culture for the promotion of peace, good governance and international partnership for the overall development of Ghana.

4.0 OBJECTIVES FOR 2011

In order to realize the above Mission, the Ministry has set for itself the following objectives to be realized in the fiscal year 2011:

- i. Strengthen the regulatory and the institutional framework for the development of national culture.
- ii. Strengthen the National/Regional Houses of Chiefs and all Traditional Councils
- iii. Deepen on-going institutionalization of policy formulation, planning, monitoring and evaluation systems at all levels.
- iv. Increase the capacity of the legal system to enhance speedy and affordable access to justice.
- v. To ensure the reduction of HIV/AIDS/TB transmission, its proper management and promote healthy life style.
- vi. Promote sustainable and responsible tourism in such a way to preserve historical, cultural and natural heritage.
- vii. Develop Eco- tourism/ Cultural/ Historic sites in five regions.

5.0 PERFORMANCE OF 2010 ALLOCATION

The Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture was allocated a total sum of Fifteen Million, Two hundred and Fifty Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty Five Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 15,250,565.00) to enable it and its agencies undertake their planned program in the fiscal year 2010.

The breakdown of the allocation in the year under review was as follows:

1. P.E	-	9,988,452.00
2. Administration	-	2,385,153.00
3. Service	-	67,085.00
4. Investment	-	696,275.00
5. IGF	-	1,395,584.00
6. Donor	-	<u>718,016.00</u>
Total	-	<u>15,250,565.00</u>

The actual expenditure of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture in the year under review as at the end of September 2010 was as follows:

Table 2 Expenditure Returns For 2010

ITEM	ANNUAL BUDGET	CUMULATIVE RELEASE	% RELEASE
P.E	9,988,452.00	4,091,343.05	41%
ADMINISTRATION	2,385,153.00	1,331,879.68	56%
SERVICE	67,085.00	20,761.59	31%
INVESTMENT	696,275.00	406,696.47	59%
TOTAL	13,136,965	5,850,680.79	

6.0 ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry was able to achieve the following in the year under review:

Madam Speaker, your Committee was informed that the Ministry was able to successfully organize and celebrate the bi-annual National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFAC) in Tamale and promoted the richness of our Cultural diversity to the admiration of foreigners and Ghanaians. Indeed, the people of Tamale and the Nation at large benefited immensely from the economic activities generated by the festival.

Compilation of Customary Laws:

The committee was further informed that the Ministry collected and documented data on 100 Paramountcies in the country and 21 of these were converted into draft customary declaration laws for the respective stools. Twelve (12) out of the Twenty one (21) customary declarations were submitted to Parliament for passage into legislative instruments to regulate succession to the respective stools and skins. The 12 Paramountcies concerned are Nkoraza, Drobo, Sunyani, Prang and Atebubu in the Brong - Ahafo Region. Also, Kpone in the Greater Accra Region Kaleo in the Upper West Region and Navrongo in the Upper East Region were covered. The rest are Gonja in the Northern Region, Lower Axim in the Western Region and Buem in the Volter Region.

Codification of Customary Laws:

The Committee was also informed that the first phase of the research work into customary land law and family laws were completed. 2 Traditional areas in each of the ten Regions of Ghana were covered, bringing the total number of Traditional areas covered to 20.

Adjudication and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR):

The Judicial Committees of the National and Regional Houses of Chiefs determined about 320 cases and disposed of 33 while 287 cases were still pending. Also, about 352 cases were successfully determined by the ADR mechanism in the Ashanti Region.

Chieftaincy Bulletin:

The National House of Chiefs issued the first edition of chieftaincy bulletin which is expected to serve as the official mouth piece of the House to report on matters affecting the chieftaincy institution in Ghana.

7.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2011

Looking forward into the year 2011, the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture set out to undertake the following planned program of activities:

- i. To review the legal framework regulating the mandate and activities of the National Commission on Culture, Ghana Museums and Monuments Board, National Theatre of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park, Bureau of Ghana Languages and the National Symphony Orchestra to streamline the law to reflect their current status.
- ii. Continue to research and codify customary lines of succession laws and its usage at the traditional council level and develop them into laws in the 30 traditional areas.
- iii. Organize cultural exchange programs and joint commissions in 2011.
- iv. Complete the construction of Museum of Science and Technology building and 2 Regional Theatres as well as commence the construction of security walls to protect the Ministry's acquired lands at Kawukudi.
- v. Install Local Area Network (LAN) at the National and 3 Regional Houses of Chiefs to improve internal and external communication.

8.0 PROVISION FOR 2011 BUDGET

In order to realize the above set of objectives, the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture and its agencies have been provided with an amount of **Fifteen Million, and Thirty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢15,039,993.00)** for the year 2011. The amount is made up of GOG component of Thirteen Million, Sixty Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢13,066.993.00) and with an expected Internally Generated Fund (IGF) of One Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,973,000.00).

The breakdown of the allocation is as follows:

1. P.E	-	10,288,106.00
2. Administration	-	2,102,915.00
3. Service	-	327,835.00
4. Investment	-	348,137.00
5. IGF	-	<u>1,973,000.00</u>
Total	=	<u>15,039,993.00</u>

Table 3. Comparative Analysis of 2010 and 2011 Provisions

	Activities	2010 Allocation	2011 Allocation	Variance	Percentage %
1	P.E	9,988,452.00	10,288,106	299,654	3%
2	Administration	2,385,153.00	2,102,915	-282,238	-13.4%
3	Service	67,085.00	327,835	260,750	79.5%
4	Investment	696,275.00	348,137	-348,138	-100%
5	IGF	1,395,584.00	1,973,000.00	57,742	29%
6	Donor	718,016	-	-718,016	
	Total	15,250,565.00	15,039,993.00	-210,572	-2%

9.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Shortfalls in Allocations

Madam Speaker, in comparing the provisions for 2010 and 2011 fiscal year revealed that the total allocation to the Ministry has reduced by 2% even though the Ministry has planned to undertake more activities in the year 2011.

Similarly, the committee observed that the Administrative allocation has been slashed down by 13.4% even though the Ministry is still expected to undertake the same level of administrative activities if not more.

The Committee is of the view that this situation will hamper the ability of the Ministry to undertake its activities unless the Ministry of Finance make an upward adjustment to the allocation of the Ministry in mid – year.

Indeed the Ministry lamented that Traditional Council Committees will not be able to sit to deliberate on chieftaincy, Land and other matters as the Ministry will not be able to pay sitting allowances to Members. The inability of the Committees to function will lead to delaying in the settlement of disputes thereby disturbing social harmony and cohesion.

9.2 Absence of Cost Center for General Administration

In the course of deliberation the Committee observed that one of the challenges militating against adequate provision to the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture is the non-existence of Cost Centers in the Ministry. This Phenomenon has been in existence since the creation of the Ministry. Consequently, no specific budgetary allocation has ever been approved for General Administration thereby reducing

the Ministry's budgetary allocation to only 2 sectors i.e., Chieftaincy and Culture. The Ministry is therefore depending on the inadequate resources of the two bodies which are still operating as separate entities

The Committee is of the view that, the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture is a fully Fledged Ministry just like any other Ministry in Ghana. There is therefore the need for the Ministry of Finance to establish a Cost Center to cater for the General Administrative needs of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture.

9.3 OUT-STANDING BILLS

The Committee was informed that the 2010 budgetary allocation to the Ministry did not cater for the organization of The National Festival of Arts and Culture(NAFAC). Consequently, the Ministry had to rely on the support of the Ministry of Finance to meet its financial requirements for the organization of NAFAC 2010 in Tamale. The GH ₵200,000.00 provided by the Ministry of Finance could not cover the total Cost of NAFAC 2010 which stood at GH₵400,000.00. There is therefore out-standing arrears of GH₵200,000.00 to be cleared with various people and agencies that were contracted to render specific services during the celebration of NAFAG 2010.

The Committee is of the view that NAFAC is a well-known bi-annual festival in Ghana and is cherished by Ghanaians and our brothers and sisters in the diaspora. Indeed if properly managed , NAFAC could serve as a major source of revenue as it has the potential to galvanize and attract resources around the world as a result of participation of foreigners and tourists in the event.

The Committee therefore wishes to recommend to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to consider making adequate funds available at the right time to the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture and its agencies to enable them unearth the fullest economic potentials of NAFAC.

9.4 Delays in the Construction of Regional Theatres

The Committee observed that the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture commenced the construction of theatres in all the Regional capitals about 10 years ago. Unfortunately, works on these projects have been put on hold due to lack of adequate funding.

The Committee wishes to express its displeasure in the continuous holding up of these projects in view of the fact that the completion of these projects will create a lot of job opportunities for the youth as well as help unearth hidden potentials in the various Regions as well as enhance the financial opportunities available to the Nation.

Again, a comparison of the 2010 and 2011 allocation to the Ministry revealed that provision for Investment has also been reduced by about 100% notwithstanding the fact that the Ministry has planned to undertake construction projects in the year 2011.

The Committee therefore wishes to recommend to the Ministry of Finance to pay attention to the investment needs of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture and its agencies when the opportunity arises in mid – year or increase the provisions of the Ministry in the next fiscal year.

9.5 National Symphony Orchestra

The Committee was informed that the National Symphony Orchestra established by our First President, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah is gradually losing its experienced members and it cannot adequately replace them due to lack of Funds. The institution has managed to establish a Youth Orchestra in order to ensure that orchestras would be available to fill in the gap when resources are eventually made available for people to be employed.

The Symphony Orchestra expressed its worry about the willingness of the state to even use the existing expertise and good performance at state functions. The good work and performance of the Orchestra is recognized by some private individuals who invite them to perform at their private functions.

The Committee therefore wishes to remind the State Protocol to patronize the activities of the National Symphony Orchestra whenever state functions are being organized. Proceeds realized from the hiring of their services could help develop the Orchestra and also reduce the high cost of hiring private artists.

9.6 Abibigroma Theatre Company

The group complained about the rate at which it is losing its performers to the more lucrative private groups. At the moment the group can only boast of only 28 Members. The group is therefore compelled to hire private performers to augment the existing number whenever there is performance. This brings additional expenditure to bear on the cost of production.

The group also lacks basic logistics such as transport and computers to help move members to the regions to carry out educational campaigns through performance and to enhance administrative work.

The Committee therefore wishes to call on the Ministry of Finance to consider making funds available to the group to enable them travel to the hinterland to educate and inform people about government policies and programmes by the use of theatre arts.

9.7 Museums and Monuments

The Committee was informed that the inadequate allocations to the Investments items over the past few years has led to the inability of the institution to continue works on accommodation facility the construction of which started years ago. In

the year 2011, the situation is unlikely to change as allocation to the investment item of the institution cannot allow them to do the work.

9.8 Cultural Initiative Support Programme

The Committee observed the Cultural Initiative Support Program under the auspices of the National Commission on Culture and funded by the European Union is about to come to a halt in the first quarter of 2011.

The activities of the programme has been closely monitored by the Committee as the directorate of the project continually gave an account of their stewardship to the Committee for the last three years.

The objective of the project is to collect data on the cultural heritage of Ghana and to harness and add value to the cultural products of Ghana for higher socio-economic values in both the domestic and international markets.

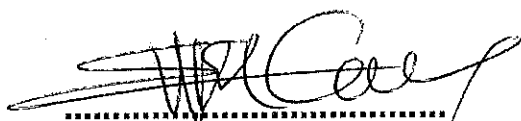
The programme has created a lot of value addition activities in the Kente industry of Ghana and trained Ghanaian artifacts producers in management skills to be able to better package their products to meet international standards.

The results of their achievements in preserving, marketing and promotion of value activities in Ghanaian artifacts industry has led to the decision of the Committee to recommend to the Ministry of Finance and the Government of Ghana to endeavor to find an alternative source of funding for the continuation of the programme.

The Committee is of the view that the programme holds the key to the opening of yet another most reliable source of foreign exchange for the development of our dear nation.

10.0 CONCLUSION

Considering the relevance and the contribution of Culture to the socio-economic and political development of our nation, the Committee wishes to recommend to the House to adopt its report and approve the total sum of **Fifteen Million, Thirty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety Three Ghana Cedis (GH¢15,039,993.00)** for the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture for the Financial Year 2011.



.....
Hon. Stephen M.E.K. Ackah
Chairman



.....
Inusah Mohammed (Alhaji)
Clerk to the Committee

10th December 2010