



**IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION
OF THE THIRD
PARLIAMENT**

OF

THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**REPORT
OF**

**THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH SPORTS AND
CULTURE ON THE 2002 ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF
THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CULTURE**

1TH MARCH 2002

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2002 Financial Year by the Hon. Minister of Finance the 2002 Draft Annual Estimates of the National Commission on Culture was referred to the Select Committee on Youth, Sports and Culture pursuant to Orders 140(4) and 86 for consideration and report.

2.0 DELIBERATION

The Committee had a total of four sittings during its deliberation on the referral. The Chairman and Directors of the Commission and officials of the under listed Institutions attended upon the Committee.

- (i) Bureau of Ghana Languages
- (ii) Copy rights Administration
- (iii) National Symphony Orchestra
- (iv) Abibigroma Theatre Company
- (v) Museums and Monuments Board
- (vi) Ghana Dance Ensemble
- (vii) WEB. Du Bois Memorial Centre
- (viii) Pan African Writers Association
- (ix) National Theatre
- (x) Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park
- (xi) Folklore Board

The Committee is grateful to the Officials of the Ministry of Finance.

3.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

In considering the Estimates, the Committee had recourse to the following documents:

- a. 1992 Constitution of the Republic;
- b. The Standing Orders of Parliament;
- c. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2002 Financial Year;
- d. The State of the Nation's Address, 2002 by His Excellency the President; and
- e. Report of the Committee on the 2001 Annual Estimates of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

4.0 MISSION OF THE COMMISSION

In accordance with the Directive Principles of State Policy, the Commission exists to maintain the unique cultural identity and values for the promotion of an integrated national culture as well as contributing to the over all economic development of the Nation. In furtherance of its mission, the Commission has set the following objectives:

- (i) To create confidence and national pride in Ghanaians and ensure peace and harmony among all ethnic groups.
- (ii) To research, preserve, develop and promote cultural values and practices that encourage national unity, social cohesion and harmony.
- (iii) To integrate culture in National Development as a basis for wealth creation.
- (iv) To create awareness to make the arts self-supporting assist rural craft and art production to

enhance the quality and marketability of their products to create revenue and to improve their quality of life.

- (v) To encourage and support private participation in the development and implementation of cultural programmes.
- (vi) To maximize Ghana's comparative advantage as a major center for cultural tourism.
- (vii) To enhance, monitor and evaluate (all) cultural activities.

5.0 PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 2001

During the period under review, Parliament approved a total amount of ₵9,819,827,680.00 for the Services of the Commission and its agencies. Of this amount Personal Emoluments for the year totaled ₵7,509,000,000.00 representing over 85% of the entire allocation.

Even though ₵1,280,000,000.00 was approved for Administration Expenses, the actual amount released as at 31st December, 2001 was ₵808,188,935.25 indicating a shortfall of ₵471,811,064.75.

Under Service Expenses, this House approved a total amount of ₵531,991,974.00. However, at the end of the fiscal year, the amount released was ₵137,843,370.00, representing a shortfall of ₵394,148,604.00.

For Investment Expenses, the actual releases made during the 2001 fiscal year amounted to ₵936,878,000.00 as against the ₵956,729,973.00 approved by this House.

In its 2001 Report on the Estimates of the Commission, the Committee deplored the problem of non disbursement of approved funds by the Ministry of Finance. Unfortunately, the Commission suffered price depreciations during the period under review with particular reference to its service activities, although, service activities are key factors in judging the performance of all MDAs.

6.0 ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2002 FISCAL YEAR

For the 2002 fiscal year, the Commission and its affiliated bodies have been allocated a total amount of **Twelve Billion, Eight Hundred and Thirteen Million Cedis (¢12.813)** to cover their expenses on Personal Emoluments, Administrative, Service, and Investment Expenses.

A breakdown of the total allocation under the various expenditure items are as follows:

NO	ITEM	2002 ALLOCATION ¢	2001 ALLOCATION ¢
01	Personal Emolument	9.329 billion	7,509,000,000.00
02	Administrative Expenses	1.458 billion	808,188,935.25
03	Service Expenses	1.337 billion	137,843,370
04	Investment Expenses	689 billion	936,878,00
	Total	12,813 billion	

6.1 Personal Emoluments

From the table above a total of **¢9.329 billion** has been allocated for Personal Emoluments. This represents a 24% increase over the **¢7,509 billion** actually approved for the 2001 year. The Committee observed that the percentage increase is expected to cater for projected increases in salaries as well as new recruitments.

6.2 Administrative Expenses

An amount of **¢1.458 billion** has been appropriated for Administrative Expenses for the Commission. The allocation constitutes about 80% increase over the **¢808,188,935.25** released for last year. Even though this year's allocation marks a significant improvement over the 2001 allocation, the Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the entire approved allocation is released timeously.

6.3 Service Expenses

A total of **¢1.337 billion** has been provided for Service Expenses and this represents 900% increase over the **¢137,843,370.00** released last year. The Committee took note of the fact that, the service vote for the Commission was virtually withheld by the Ministry of Finance in 2001. Accordingly, the Committee strongly recommends that the Ministry of Finance should ensure that, all approved funds for the Commission are released in good time to enable the Commission pursue its programmes as scheduled.

6.4 Investment Expenses

As indicated above, the Commission has been allocated ₦689 million for investment expenses. This amount represents a shortfall of about 27% as related to the ₦936,878,000.00 approved and released last year.

7.0 SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The Commission on Culture

The Committee observed that by virtue of the Commission's mandate, it is expected to organize biennial cultural festivities on regional basis, which requires the development of theatres in all the regions. However, the total allocation under items 2 to 4 is simply not sufficient for the Commission to achieve its objectives.

It came to the notice of the Committee that an amount of ₦4 billion is required to renovate the theatre in Western Region and bring it to modern standard. Further to this, the theatre project in Brong Ahafo Region is yet to be completed.

The Committee therefore recommends that the Commission should be adequately resourced to enable it discharge its functions under the constitution.

7.2 The Issue Of The Internally generated Fund

The Committee is happy to note that the Commission continues to generate revenue internally. The committee

however took note of the fact that the directive of the Ministry of finance that all revenue generated internally (i.e. IFF) should be paid to chest poses some constraints in view of the problem of non release of approved funds by the Finance. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Ministry of Finance duly consider the possibility of allowing the Commission to retain some percentage of the IGF to partly cater for service expenses.

7.3 National Museums and Monuments Board

It came to the notice of the Committee that the new Science Museum under construction in Accra has been near completion for some years now. Currently, about \$4 billion is required to complete the project for use. The Committee therefore recommends that in view of the colossal sum invested in the project, and to prevent any deterioration in the structures, the Ministry of Finance should take the necessary steps to factor the project cost in next year's allocation for the Commission.

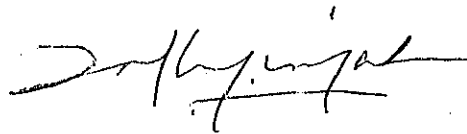
7.4 Performance Contract

The Committee's attention was drawn to the fact that the Commission is expected to sign a performance contract with the national Institutional Renewal Programme. However, the Commission signed a performance contract with the State Enterprises Commission which is yet to be terminated. Considering the need for improved and efficient service delivery by the Commission, the Committee recommends that the Ministry of Finance examine the issue of performance contract and resolve it in the mutual interest of the Commission and the Government.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The issue of timeous release of sufficient funds is very crucial in pursuance of the objectives of the Commission, which among others, seek to maximize Ghana Comparative advantage as a major Centre for cultural tourism and investment. The Committee upon a thorough examination of the 2002 draft estimate of the Commission and its affiliated bodies recommends that the sum of **Twelve Billion, Eight Hundred and Thirteen Million Cedis, (¢12.813)** be approved by this House for the activities of the National Commission on Culture.

Respectfully submitted.



Hon. Samuel Nkrumah-Gyimah
Chairman
Committee on Youth, Sports
and Culture



Ebenezer Ahumah Djietror
Clerk
Committee on Youth, Sports
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