

IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2016

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Article 179 (9) of the 1992 Constitution and Order 169 of the Standing Orders of Parliament of Ghana, the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 was presented to Parliament on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Finance by the Hon. Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr. Cassiel Ato Baah Forson and read for the first time on Tuesday, 17 May, 2016 and referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report House.

Further to the referral, the Committee met and discussed the Bill with the assistance of the Hon. Deputy Minister for Finance, Mr. Cassiel Ato Baah Forson and the technical team from the Ministry of Finance and reports to the House in accordance with article 106(5) of the Constitution.

The Committee is grateful to the Hon. Minister and his Deputies and the technical team for the assistance.

2.0 REFERENCES

In examining the Bill, the Committee referred to the following additional documents:

- > The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- > The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana;
- > The Mid-Year Review of the Budget and Supplementary Estimates of the Government of Ghana for the 2015 financial year

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

After the approval of the 2015 Budget by Parliament, there arose significant development in the economy. These developments were mainly related to higher foreign-financed capital expenditure due to the exchange rate effects; rising inflation; impact of gold and cocoa prices; revisions in the benchmark crude oil prices used in the Budget; additional spending related to flooding and financing of existing debt stock.

As a result of these situations, and the urgent need to manage issues quickly to ensure that the adverse developments in the fiscal deficit do not undermine the macroeconomic programme for the year, Parliament upon the request on behalf of H.E. the President approved a Supplementary Estimates of Eight Hundred and Sixty-five Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Eighty Ghana Cedis (GH¢865,789,380.00) to be funded from domestic and foreign sources as well as excess amount from the Stabilisation Fund for debt repayment.

It is therefore, in pursuance of Article 179 (9) of the 1992 Constitution that the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 has been presented to Parliament.

4.0 OBJECT OF THE BILL

The object of the Bill is to provide for 2015 supplementary appropriation in the sum of Eight Hundred and Sixty-five Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Eighty Ghana Cedis (GH¢865,789,380.00) approved by Parliament to 2015 supplementary expenditure of government.

5.0 CLAUSES OF THE BILL

The Bill has two (2) Clauses and one Schedule. Sum of money issued from the Consolidated Fund for the 2015 financial year to meet the supplementary expenditure is provided for in Clause 1 whiles Clause 2 deals with the commencement date of the Act. The Schedule to the Bill specifies the purposes for which the sums were appropriated.

6.0 OBSERVATION

Constitutional Requirement

The Committee noted that the Bill is in accordance with Article 179(9) of the Constitution which states that "where, in the case of a financial year, a supplementary estimate has been approved by Parliament in accordance with Article (8) of this article, a supplementary Appropriation Bill shall be introduced into Parliament in the financial year next following the financial year to which the estimate relates, providing for the appropriation of the sum so approved for the purposes specified in the estimate"

7.0 AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

- Clause 1 Amendment proposed line 6, delete "XXXth day of XXX, 2015" and insert "24th day of July, 2015"
- Clause 1 Amendment proposed delete "XXXth day of XXX, 2015" and insert "24th day of July, 2015"

8.0 RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

The committee having carefully considered the Bill, recommends that the House adopts its report and approve the sum of Eight Hundred and Sixty-five Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Eighty Ghana Cedis (GH\$\psi\$865,789,380.00) issued from the Consolidated Fund to meet the 2015 supplementary expenditure of government.

The Committee further recommends to the House to pass the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 into law in accordance with Article 106 of the Constitution and Orders 126 and 127 of the Standing Orders of the House.

Respectfully Submitted

HON. JAMES AVEDZI KLUTSE

CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE

ROSEMARY ARTHUR SARKODIE

CLERK, FINANCE COMMITTEE

July, 2016