

IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF
THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND FORESTRY

ON THE

RATIFICATION OF NINETEEN (19) TIMBER UTILISATION
CONTRACTS (TUCs)

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
OSU - ACCRA

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND FORESTRY ON THE
RATIFICATION OF NINETEEN (19) TIMBER UTILISATION CONTRACTS (TUCs)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 On 21st March, 2023, the Hon. Deputy Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Mr, Benito Owusu-Bio laid in Parliament nineteen (19) Timber Utilisation Contracts (TUCs) in accordance with Article 268 of the 1992 Constitution and Section 9 of the Timber Resource Management Act, 1997 (Act 547). The TUCs are as follows:

- i. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Samartex Timber & Plywood Limited in the Boin River Forest Reserve within the Aowin District of the Western North Region;
- ii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Samartex Timber & Plywood Limited in the Angoben Forest Reserve within the Wassa Amenfi Central District of the Western Region;
- iii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Timber and Consulting Limited in the Bemu Blocks I, II & III Forest Reserve within the Achiasie District of the Eastern Region;
- iv. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Timber and Consulting Limited in the Birim Extension Forest Reserve within the Birim South District of the Eastern Region;
- v. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and AngloGold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited in the Apamprama Forest Reserve within the Amansie Central/South Districts of the Ashanti Region;
- vi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Logs & Lumber Limited in the Sui River Forest Reserve within the Bodi, Sefwi Wiawso, and Sefwi Akontombra Districts of the Western North Region;
- vii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Logs &

- Lumber Limited in the Aboniyere Forest Reserve within the Asunafo South District of the Ahafo Region;
- viii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the MF-Timart Company Limited in the Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve within the Bia East District of the Western North Region;
- ix. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Ayipah Wood Company Limited in the Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve within the Bosome Freho District of the Ashanti Region;
- x. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Gimpex Limited in the Suhuma Forest Reserve within the Sefwi Akontombra District of the Western North Region;
- xi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and S.Y.T.T. Limited in the Bia-Tano Forest Reserve within the Asutifi North District of the Ahafo Region;
- xii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Rakhishem Company Limited in the Bimpong Forest Reserve within the Assin Fosu District of the Central Region;
- xiii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Rakhishem Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- xiv. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the R.K. Peprah Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- xv. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Joaddai Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- xvi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Kan Royal Timbers in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;

- xvii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Goodrich Packaging Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- xviii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Adras Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region, and
- xix. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Nasmo Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region.

1.2 The Rt. Hon. Speaker subsequently referred the TUCs to the Select Committee on Lands and Forestry for consideration and report pursuant to Orders 140(4) and 188 of the Standing Orders of the House.

2.0 DELIBERATIONS

The Committee met with the Chief Director of the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Patrick Agbesinyale and other Officials of the Ministry and considered the TUCs. A technical team from the Forestry Commission led by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. John Allotey also attended the meeting.

The Committee expresses its profound gratitude to the Officials of the Ministry and Forestry Commission for attending upon the Committee and assisting in the deliberations.

3.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

3.1 The Committee referred to the following documents during the deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- ii. The Standing Orders of Parliament;
- iii. The Timber Resource Management Act, 1997 (Act 547);
- iv. The Timber Resource Management (Amendment) Act, 2002 (Act 617);
- v. The Timber Resource Management Regulations, 1998 (L.I. 1649);
- vi. The Timber Resource Management (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 (L.I. 1721);
and

- vii. The Timber Resource Management and Legality Licensing Regulations, 2017 (L.I. 2254).

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Timber Resources Management and Legality Regulations, 2017 (L.I. 2254), which stipulates that all existing timber rights be converted into a Timber Utilisation Contract within six (6) months of the coming into force of the regulation was passed.
- 4.3 In furtherance with the above legal requirement, the Timber Rights Evaluation Committee of the Forestry Commission invited timber rights holders with existing timber rights holdings to submit their applications for conversion into Timber Utilisation Contracts.
- 4.4 Accordingly, the Timber Rights Holders submitted applications for the conversion to TUCs. Having satisfied the conditions for the conversion, the Hon. Minister, acting on the advice of the Forestry Commission, converted the unexpired term of the above-mentioned existing timber rights holdings into TUCs and subsequently signed the contracts to that effect on 25th July, 2022.
- 4.5 It therefore became imperative for the Minister for Lands and Natural Resources to lay the TUCs in Parliament for ratification in line with Article 268 of the Constitution and Section 9 of the Timber Resources Management Act, 1997 (Act 547)
- 4.6 These nineteen (19) TUCs are the first batch of one hundred and fifty-six (156) converted and regularised extant timber leases and permits.

5.0 BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE TIMBER UTILISATION CONTRACTS

5.1 TUC between the Government and Samartex Timber and Plywood Limited in the Boin River Forest Reserve within the Aowin District of the Western North Region

This TUC involves the Government of Ghana and Samartex Timber and Plywood Limited. The TUC covers the Boin River Forest Reserve area (all that parcel of land with a total area of approximately 234.10 square kilometers, lying North of Latitude 5° 48' and 5° 48', South of 5° 36' and 5° 36', West of longitude 3° 2' and 2° 48' then longitude 3° 2' and 2° 48' in the Aowin District Assembly of the Western North Region) for the period beginning on 28th May, 1993 and ending on 29th May, 2033.

Samartex Timber and Plywood Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢35,114.73 to the Forestry Commission for the contract area.

5.2 TUC between the Government and Samartex Timber & Plywood Limited in the Angoben Forest Reserve within Wassa Amenfi Central District of the Western North Region

This contract covers Angoben Shelterbelt Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with an approximate area of 33.07 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 5° 52' and 5° 52', South of 5° 48' and 5° 48', West of longitude 2° 16' and 2° 10', then longitude 2° 16' and 2° 10' in the Wassa Amenfi Central District Assembly of the Western North Region) for the period starting on 11th January, 1996 and ending on 10th January, 2036 into a Timber Utilisation Contract.

Samartex Timber and Plywood Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢4,960.71 to the Forestry Commission.

5.3 TUC between the Government and Timber and Consulting Limited in the Bemu Blocks I, II & III Forest Reserve within the Achiase District of the Eastern Region

Per the contract, Timber and Consulting Limited shall maintain its timber rights within the Bemu Block I, II & III Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 34.63 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 5° 49' and 5° 49', South of 5° 41' and 5° 41', West of longitude 1° 10' and 1° 03', then longitude 1° 10' and 1° 03' in the Achiase District Assembly of the Eastern Region) for the period beginning on 25th May, 1992 and ending on 24th May, 2032.

Timber and Consulting Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢4,960.71 in respect of the contract area in Bemu Blocks I, II & III Forest Reserve.

5.4 TUC between the Government and Timber and Consulting Limited in the Birim Extension Forest Reserve within the Birim South District of the Eastern Region

The contract requires Timber and Consulting Limited to maintain its timber rights within the Birim Extension Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with a total area of approximately 22.51 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 5° 54' and 5° 54', South of 5° 51' and 5° 41', West of longitude 1° 10' and 1° 5', then longitude 1° 10' and 1° 5' in the Birim South District Assembly of the Eastern Region) for the period beginning on 25th May, 1992 and ending on 24th May, 2032.

Timber and Consulting Limited has paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢3,216.00 to the Forestry Commission.

5.5 TUC between Anglogold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited in the Apamprama Forest Reserve within the Amansie Central/South Districts of the Ashanti Region

This contract covers Apamprama Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with a total area of approximately 16.98 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 21' and 6° 21', South of 6° 17' and 6° 17', West of longitude 1° 54' and 1° 50', then longitude 1° 53'

and 1° 50' in the Amansie Central/South District Assembly of the Ashanti region) for the period beginning on 25th May, 1992 and ending on 24th May, 2032.

Anglogold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited has paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢2,547.00 to the Forestry Commission.

5.6 TUC between the Government and Logs & Lumber Limited in the Sui River Forest Reserve within the Bodi, Sefwi Wiawso, and Sefwi Akontombra Districts of the Western North Region

In accordance with the contract, Logs and Lumber Limited shall maintain its timber rights within the Sui River Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 32.40 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 7' and 5° 54', South of 6° 0' and 6° 0', West of longitude 2° 49' and 2° 43', then longitude 2° 49' and 2° 43' in the Bodi, Sefwi Wiawso and Sefwi Akontombra District Assembly of the Western North Region) for the period beginning on 11th November, 1998 and ending on 10th November, 2038.

The one-off timber rights fee of GH¢11,486.33 was paid by Logs and Lumber Limited to the Forestry Commission for the contract area.

5.7 TUC between the Government Logs & Lumber Limited in the Aboniyere Forest Reserve within the Asunafo South District of the Ahafo Region

Per the contract, Logs and Lumber Limited is required to maintain its timber rights within the Aboniyere Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with an approximate area of 41.20 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 40' and 6° 40', South of 6° 32' and 6° 32', West of longitude 2° 38' and 2° 27', then longitude 2° 38' and 2° 27' in the Asunafo South District Assembly of the Ahafo Region) for the period beginning on 11th November, 1998 and ending on 10th November, 2038.

Logs and Lumber paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢6,180.00 in respect of the contract area in the Aboniyere Forest Reserve.

5.8 TUC between the Government and MF-Timart Company Limited in the Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve within the Bia East District of the Western North Region

This contract covers the Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with a total area of approximately 10.112 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 55' and 6° 55', South of 6° 52' and 6° 52', West of longitude 3° 2' and 3° 0', then longitude 3° 2' and 2° 59' in the Bia East District Assembly of the Western North Region) for the period beginning on 20th August, 2019 and ending on 19th August, 2039.

MF-Timart paid the Forestry Commission the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢473,233.85 for the contract area.

5.9 TUC between the Government and Ayipah Wood Company Limited in the Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve within the Bosome Freho District of the Ashanti Region

Per the contract, Ayipah Wood Company Limited shall maintain its timber rights within the Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land with an approximate area of 11.46 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 17' and 6° 17', South of 6° 15' and 6° 15', West of longitude 1° 17' and 1° 17', then longitude 1° 23' and 1° 23' in the Bosome Freho District Assembly of the Ashanti Region) for the period beginning on 17th June, 2020 and ending on 16th June, 2035.

Ayipah Wood Company paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢53,912.00 in respect of the contract area in Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve.

5.10 TUC between the Government and Gimpex Limited in respect of the Suhuma Forest Reserve within the Sefwi Akontombra District of the Western North Region.

Gimpex Limited shall maintain its right within the Suhuma Forest Reserve (an approximate area of 12.78 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 5° 46' and 5° 46', South of 5° 42' and 5° 43', West of longitude 1° 26' and 1° 21' then longitude 1° 26' and 1° 21' for plot A and an approximate area of 7.63 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 6° 07' and 6° 07', South of 6° 06' and 6° 05', West of longitude 2° 33' and 2° 32', then longitude 2° 34' and 1° 31' in the Sefwi Akontombra District Assembly of the Western North Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 12th May, 2016 and ending on the 11th May, 2036.

Gimpex Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢46,122.20 in respect of the contract area in Suhuma Forest Reserve.

5.11 TUC between the Government and S.Y.T.T. Limited in respect of the Bia-Tano Forest Reserve within the Asutifi North District of the Ahafo Region

S.Y.T.T. Limited shall maintain its right within the Bia-Tano Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 23.83 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 6' and 7° 6', South of 7° 2' and 7° 2', West of longitude 2° 37' and 2° 32', then longitude 2° 37' and 2° 32' in the Asutifi North District Assembly of the Ahafo Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 20th August, 2019 and ending on the 19th August, 2039.

S.Y.T.T. paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢93,727 to the Forestry Commission for the Bia-Tano Forest Reserve.

5.12 TUC between the Government and Rakhishem Company Limited in respect of the Bimpong Forest Reserve within the Assin Fosu District of the Central Region

Rakhishem Company Limited shall maintain its right within the Bimpong Forest Reserve (an approximate area of 12.78 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 5° 46'

and 5° 46', South of 5° 42' and 5° 43', West of longitude 1° 26' and 1° 21' then longitude 1° 26' and 1° 21' in the Assin Fosu District Assembly of the Central Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 3rd September, 2019 and ending on the 2nd September, 2034.

Rakhishem Company Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢57,175.00 in respect of the contract area in Bimpong Forest Reserve.

5.13 TUC between the Government and Rakhishem Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

The contract requires Rakhishem Company Limited to maintain its timber rights within the Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 11.46 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 6° 17' and 6° 17', South of 6° 15' and 6° 15', West of longitude 1° 17' and 1° 17', then longitude 1° 23' and 1° 23' in the Bosome Freho District Assembly of the Ashanti Region) for the period beginning on 17th June, 2020 and ending on 16th June, 2035.

Rakhishem Company Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢74,388.10.

5.14 TUC between the Government and R. K. Peprah Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

R.K Peprah Company Limited shall maintain its timber rights within the Mpameso Forest Reserve area (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 13.80 square kilometres lying North of Latitude 7° 4' and 7° 4', South of 6° 59' and 6° 59', West of longitude 2° 59' and 2° 56', then longitude 2° 58' and 2° 55' in the Dormaa Municipal Assembly of the Bono Region) for the period beginning on 27th June, 2019 and ending on 26th June, 2039.

R. K. Peprah paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢68,715.00 to the Forestry Commission.

5.15 TUC between the Government and Joaddai Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

Joaddai Company Limited shall maintain its right within the Mpameso Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 13.37 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 9' and 7° 9', South of 7° 5' and 7° 5', West of longitude 2° 59' and 2° 55' then longitude 2° 55' in the Dormaa Municipal of the Bono Region of the Republic of Ghana for the period beginning on the 27th June, 2019 and ending on the 26th June, 2039.

For this contract area, Joaddai Company Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢62,388.00.

5.16 TUC between the Government and Kan Royal Timbers in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

Kan Royal Timbers shall maintain its right within the Mpameso Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 26.47 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 8' and 7° 8', South of 7° 4' and 7° 4', West of longitude 2° 52' and 2° 48' then longitude 2° 52' and 2° 48' in the Dormaa Municipal Assembly of the Bono Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 24th May, 2019 and ending on the 23rd May, 2049.

Kan Royal Timbers paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢131,535.20 in respect of the contract area in Mpameso Forest Reserve.

5.17 TUC between the Government and Goodrich Packaging Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

Goodrich Packaging Limited shall maintain its right within the Mpameso Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 20.649 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 6' and 7° 6', South of 7° 2' and 7° 2', West of longitude 2° 57' and 2° 52', then longitude 2° 57' and 2° 52' in the Dormaa Municipal of the Bono Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 15th July, 2019 and ending on the 14th July, 2059.

For this contract area, Goodrich Packaging Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢201,542.10 to the Forestry Commission

5.18 TUC between the Government and Adras Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

This contract covers the Bia- Tano Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 40.63 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 9', 7° 9' and 7° 9', South of 7° 6', 7° 4' and 7° 4', West of longitude 2° 58', 2° 53' and 2° 51', then longitude 2° 57', 2° 53' and 2° 51' in the Dormaa Municipal of the Bono Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 3rd June, 2019 and ending on the 2nd June, 2059.

Adras Company Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢219,225.00 in respect of the contract area in Mpameso Forest Reserve.

5.19 TUC between the Government and Nasmo Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

Nasmo Company Limited shall maintain its right within the Mpameso Forest Reserve (all that piece of land containing an approximate area of 13.35 square kilometers lying North of Latitude 7° 8' and 7° 7', South of 7° 3' and 7° 4', West of longitude 2° 50' and 2° 47', then longitude 2° 49' and 2° 47' in the Dormaa Municipal of the Central Region of the Central Region of Ghana for the period beginning on the 28th June, 2019 and ending on the 27th June, 2039.

Nasmo Company Limited paid the one-off timber rights fee of GH¢68,813.00 in respect of the contract area in Mpameso Forest Reserve.

6.0 OBSERVATIONS

The Committee made the following observations during the deliberations:

6.1 Benefits of Ratifying the Contracts

The Committee noted that ratification of the TUCs would position Ghana to advance significantly in the legal trade of timber and make Ghana the first African nation and the second country in the world after Indonesia to meet the European Union's requirement to trade in legal timber. It would also augment Ghana's effort to reduce deforestation and forest degradation caused by illegal harvesting of timber. It would further enhance revenue mobilisation through payment of timber rights fees and other charges.

6.2 Duration of TUCs

The Committee observed that the commencement dates of most of the contracts predate the Timber Resource Management Act, 1997 (Act 547). While acknowledging the effort of the Forestry Commission to record the full terms of the lease, the Committee took the view that the duration of the TUCs cannot go beyond 1997. Instead, it ought to cover the unexpired term of existing timber rights starting from the date the TUCs became effective.

6.3 Timber Rights Fees

The Committee noted that in consideration of the timber rights granted under the TUCs, the timber rights holders paid a one-off Timber Rights fee to the Forestry Commission in respect of the Contract area. Officials of the Commission informed the Committee that the timber rights fee is set at GH¢150.00 per square kilometre. Besides the timber right fees, the timber rights holders are also to pay a stumpage fee in respect of each timber they harvest in their contract area. This fee represents royalties which provide a basic return to the landowner and contributes to the cost of forest management and timber regulation.

6.4 Social Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)

The Committee noted that the TUCs contain SRAs between the timber right holders and inhabitants of their respective contract areas. Under the SRAs, the timber right holders have committed to provide social amenities such as potable water, roads and schools. The Committee urges the Forestry Commission to closely monitor the implementation of the SRAs to ensure that the inhabitants realise the undertakings by the timber right holders.

6.5 Unqualified Timber Companies

The Committee noted that none of the timber companies in the Mpameso Forest Reserve are the original owners of the leases and permits in the reserve contrary to L.I. 2254 and cannot therefore be considered for the Timber Utilisation Contracts (TUCs). The provisions of the law stipulate that only existing timber rights be converted into TUCs. These companies do not have any such extant timber rights and are not qualified to be awarded TUCs. For this reason, the Committee is unable to recommend to the House for ratification of the affected TUCs. They are:

- i. TUC between the Government and Rakhishem Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- ii. TUC between the Government and R. K. Peprah Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- iii. TUC between the Government and Joaddai Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- iv. TUC between the Government and Kan Royal Timbers in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- v. TUC between the Government and Goodrich Packaging Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- vi. TUC between the Government and Adras Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- vii. TUC between the Government and Nasmo Company Limited in respect of the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region

The Committee also took note of MF-Timart Company Limited which had received a TUC in respect of the Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve. This Company did not have any timber rights in the Reserve prior to the passage of L.I. 2254. Hence, Mf-Timart is not eligible to win this Contract.

7.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

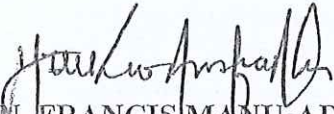
The Committee has critically scrutinised the nineteen (19) Timber Utilisation Contracts (TUCs) within the ambits of relevant legislations on the subject. The Committee takes the considered view that the ratification of the TUCs would ensure Ghana benefits tremendously from the conversion of these leases and permits to TUCs. It would enable the country to engage in sustainable harvesting and legal trade of timber, reduce deforestation and forest degradation as well generate revenue to support the country's developmental agenda.

The Committee has determined that eleven (11) of the TUCs meet the requirements of the law and recommends these for approval.

The Committee has however determined that eight (8) TUCs do not meet the requirements.

On the basis of the above the Committee recommends to the House to adopt this Report and ratify all the TUCs with the exception of those pertaining to the Mpameso Forest Reserve and Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve.

Respectfully submitted.


HON. FRANCIS MANU-ADABOR
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND FORESTRY

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
OSU - ACCRA


MR. ANTHONY AGYEKUM
CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

TABLE OF SCHEDULE

TUCs recommended for approval

- i. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Samartex Timber & Plywood Limited in the Boin River Forest Reserve within the Aowin District of the Western North Region;
- ii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Samartex Timber & Plywood Limited in the Angoben Forest Reserve within the Wassa Amenfi Central District of the Western Region;
- iii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Timber and Consulting Limited in the Bemu Blocks I, II & III Forest Reserve within the Achiase District of the Eastern Region;
- iv. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Timber and Consulting Limited in the Birim Extension Forest Reserve within the Birim South District of the Eastern Region;
- v. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and AngloGold Ashanti (Ghana) Limited in the Apamprama Forest Reserve within the Amansie Central/South Districts of the Ashanti Region;
- vi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Logs & Lumber Limited in the Sui River Forest Reserve within the Bodi, Sefwi Wiawso, and Sefwi Akontombra Districts of the Western North Region;
- vii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Logs & Lumber Limited in the Aboniyere Forest Reserve within the Asunafo South District of the Ahafo Region;
- viii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Ayipah Wood Company Limited in the Fum Headwaters Forest Reserve within the Bosome Freho District of the Ashanti Region;
- ix. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Gimpex

Limited in the Suhuma Forest Reserve within the Sefwi Akontombra District of the Western North Region;

- x. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and S.Y.T.T. Limited in the Bia-Tano Forest Reserve within the Asutifi North District of the Ahafo Region; and
- xi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Rakhishem Company Limited in the Bimpong Forest Reserve within the Assin Fosu District of the Central Region.

TUCs not recommended for approval

- i. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Nasmo Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- ii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Adras Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- iii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Goodrich Packaging Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- iv. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Joaddai Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- v. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and Kan Royal Timbers in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- vi. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the Rakhishem Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region;
- vii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the R.K.

Peprah Company Limited in the Mpameso Forest Reserve within the Dormaa Municipality of the Bono Region; and

- viii. Timber Utilisation Contract between the Government of the Republic of Ghana (represented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) and the MF-Timart Company Limited in the Bia Tributaries North Forest Reserve within the Bia East District of the Western North Region;