

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

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE  
AND INTERIOR**

ON THE

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
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**2024 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY.**

**DECEMBER, 2023.**

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE AND INTERIOR ON THE BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY FOR THE 2024 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2024 financial year was presented by the Hon Minister responsible for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta, to Parliament on Wednesday, 15th November, 2023 in accordance with article 179 of the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana and Order 140(1) of the Standing Orders of Parliament.

1.2 Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Republic of Ghana, the Estimates of the Ministry of National Security were referred to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Defence and Interior pursuant to Orders 140(4) and 158 of the Standing Orders of Parliament for consideration and report to the House.

**2.0 DELIBERATIONS**

2.1 The Committee on Defence and Interior met with the Honourable Minister responsible for National Security, Mr Albert Kan Dapaah, the Chief Director, Mrs Sena Siaw-Boateng and officials from the Ministry on Monday, 11th December 2023, and considered the Ministry's Budget Estimates. Officials from the Ministry of Finance were also present to offer the necessary clarification during the deliberations.

2.2 The Committee expresses its gratitude to the Hon. Minister and his team for their cooperation.

### **3.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The Committee referred to the under-listed documents during its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- iii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2023 Financial Year
- iv. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2024 Financial Year
- v. The 2024 Budget Estimates of the Ministry of National Security and
- vi. The Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 926).

### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

The Ministry exists to formulate, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of security and intelligence policies through the deployment of skilled human resources and modern technology, for stakeholders to enhance security, freedom of the citizenry, and national development.

The Ministry executes its mandate through the following agencies:

- a) National Intelligence Bureau (NIB) ;
- b) National Signals Bureau;
- c) The Research Department.

### **5.0 PERFORMANCE OF THE MINISTRY FOR 2023**

In the year under review, the Ministry of National Security, carried out among others, the under-listed programmes and activities to facilitate public safety and intelligence gathering;

#### **5.1 Security Advisory Services:**

- Formulated key strategies and policies aimed at ensuring effective and efficient management of national security threats

- Analysed and disseminated Intelligence reports to the Administration and Parliament.
- Maintained internal peace and security through pre-emptive intelligence.
- Improved human resources and built capacity of the Intelligence agencies.

## **5.2 Security and Safety Management:**

- Provided secure and reliable communication nationwide via an established communications network among Government Security Agencies.
- Managed emergency call centre operations nationwide and provided technical support to police for prompt response to critical situations.
- Managed pockets of internal conflicts with roots in chieftaincy.
- Submitted reports and findings from the Intelligence Agencies to the various arms of Government which helped shape government policies and improved the security and peace of the country.
- Established the National Security Strategy Implementation Committee (NSSIC).
- Completed the construction of the National Signals Bureau's Ashanti Regional Base Station.
- Established new stations and deployed officers on short and long-term assignments in various countries.

- Enhanced the Field Operations Unit of the National Signals Bureau (NSB).
- Undertook threat awareness on violent extremism and radicalization through sensitization and capacity-building. Trained about 150 NCCE District Directors from Upper East, Upper West, Northern, North East, Bono, Bono East and Oti Regions.
- Undertook Special operations (Operation Calm Life, Cow Leg, Vanguard, Conquest fist, BuiDam, Banda, Alavanyo - Nkonya, Bawku, Weija and Afram Plains)
- Participated in MEDISAFE (an international programme that strengthens the capacity of security personnel to counter the sale and distribution of substandard and fake medication, proceeds of which could be laundered and used to finance terrorism).

## **6.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY FOR YEAR 2023**

An initial budget of GH¢ **One Billion, and Ninty-Three Million, One Hundred and Twenty-one Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirteen Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,093,121,513.00)** comprising GH¢774,482,243.00 as Compensation, GH¢181,191,173.00 as Good and Services and GH¢137,448,095.00 as Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) was allocated to the Ministry for its activities for the year under review.

This amount was however revised to **One Billion, Three Hundred and Forty-Four Million, Four Hundred and Seventy Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighteen Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,344,470,618.00)** made up of GH¢ 1,025,831,348 as Compensation, GH¢ 181,191,173.00 as Goods and Services and GH¢137,446,095.00 as CAPEX respectively.

Table 1 below shows budgetary allocation, expenditure distribution and the respective variance as of 30th November 2023.

**Table 1: GOVERNMENT OF GHANA APPROVED BUDGET & EXPENDITURE  
(2023)**

<b>Economic Classification</b>	<b>2023 Approved Budget GH□ (a)</b>	<b>2023 Revised Budget GH□ (b)</b>	<b>Amount released GH□ (c)</b>	<b>Amount utilised GH□ (d)</b>	<b>Variance GH□ (b-c)</b>
<b>Compensation of Employees</b>	774,482,243.00	<b>1,025,831,348.00</b>	965,045,715.31	965,045,715.31	60,785,632.69
<b>Goods and Services</b>	181,191,175.00	181,191,175.00	168,849,761.05	168,849,761.05	12,341,413.95
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	137,448,095.00	137,448,095.00	18,107,022.65	9,010,903.00	119,341,072.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,093,121,513.00</b>	<b>1,344,470,618.00</b>	<b>1,152,002,499.01</b>	<b>1,142,906,379.36</b>	<b>192,468,118.99</b>

*Source: Presentation by the Ministry of National Security*

As at November 2023, GH□1,152,002,499.01 had been released and same utilised. The Committee was informed that the initial allocation of GH□774,482,243.00 was inadequate to cater for compensation for the year. The revised allocation was therefore to top up the allocation for compensation, cater for salary increment, and recruitment of new staff.

The Committee further noted that out of an allocation of GH□137,448,095.00 made for Capital Expenditure, only GH□18,107,022.65 had been released and GH□9,010,903.00 utilised. The Ministry explained that the bulk of the allocation of GH□110,600,000.00 was from donor funds. The Ministry further explained that under the National Security Integrated project, the National Signals Bureau in partnership with Huawei were to install security cameras as part of phase two of the project. Although Parliament approved a Loan Agreement between the Government of Ghana and Huawei for this project, unfortunately the loan was not procured due to the ongoing debt restructuring.

## **7.0 2024 PROGRAMMES AND OUTLOOK**

To execute the Ministry's mandate of ensuring the stability of the country, the Ministry will undertake the following programmes in the year 2024:

### **7.1 National Security Advisory Services**

- Provide security intelligence as a service to the Government and thereby assist policymakers in formulating strategic and operational decisions that ensure national peace and stability through a coordinated security sector response.
- Provide timely intelligence for the protection, promotion and enhancement of national security, national sovereignty, the constitution and the rights of citizens.
- Facilitate communication and information-sharing among the Intelligence Agencies.
- Train security and intelligence operatives to meet emerging security and intelligence requirements.
- Promote community security awareness
- Enhance border management technology

### **7.2 National Security and Safety Management**

- Strengthen sectoral implementation of the National Security Strategy (NSS)
- Provide timely intelligence for the protection, promotion, and enhancement of National Security, National Sovereignty, the Constitution and the rights of the citizens.
- Provide communication among the Intelligence Agencies.
- Maintain communication installations in the Regions and Districts regularly.
- Undertake required overt and covert operations to ensure the well-being of the country.

- Undertake special security operations consistent with Ghana's National Security Strategy.
- Coordinate intelligence to ensure national security before, during and after the 2024 General Elections.
- Counter violent extremism concerning terrorism.
- Maintain internal peace and security through pre-emptive intelligence-gathering and dissemination.

## **8.0 SUMMARY ALLOCATION FOR YEAR 2024**

The Ministry of National Security requires a total amount of **GH¢2,472.916.218,71.00** to effectively carry out its programmes and activities in 2024. This expected amount comprises GH¢1,645,099,461,71 for employee compensation, GH¢434,847,680.00 for Goods and Services and GH¢392,969,077.00 for CAPEX respectively.

However, a total amount of **One Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty-six Million, Two Hundred and Thirty-Nine Thousand, and Eighty-Eight Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,636,239,088.00)** has been allocated to the Ministry to run its programmes and activities for 2024. Out of the allocated amount, **One Billion, Two Hundred and Eighty Million, Two Hundred and Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-One Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,280,208,961.00)** has been earmarked for Compensation of Employees, **Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Million, and Thirty Thousand, One Hundred and Twenty-Seven Ghana Cedis (GH¢264,030,127.00)** for Goods and Services, and **Ninety-Two Million Ghana Cedis (GH¢92,000,000.00)** for Capital Expenditure.

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Table 2 shows the Ministry's 2024 budgetary requirement, the Ceilings for 2024 and the variance.

**Table 2: 2024 BUDGET EXPECTATIONS/REQUIREMENTS AS AGAINST CEILINGS**

<b>Item</b>	<b>2024 Expectation GHC (a)</b>	<b>2024 Ceilings GHC (b)</b>	<b>Variance GHC (a)- (b) = (c)</b>	<b>% of shortfall</b>
<b>Compensation of Employees</b>	1,645,099,461.71	1,280,208,961.00	364,890,500.71	22.18%
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>	434,847,680.00	264,030,127.00	170,817,553.00	39.28%
<b>Capital Expenditure (CAPEX)</b>	392,969,077.00	92,000,000.00	300,969,077.00	76.59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,472,916,218.71</b>	<b>1,636,239,088.00</b>	<b>836,677,130.71</b>	<b>33.83%</b>

*Source: Presentation by the Ministry of National Security*

The Committee observed that the allocation for Compensation, Goods and Services and CAPEX fell short of the Ministry's requirement by 22.18%, 39.28% and 76.59% respectively.

## **9.0 OBSERVATIONS**

### **9.1 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION**

It came to the attention of the Committee that the Ministry of National Security encountered some challenges in the implementation of its programmes and activities for 2023. These challenges include inadequate

allocation and delays in budgetary disbursement, inadequate staff strength, logistical and technical constraints, inadequate capacity in critical areas and inadequate and obsolete equipment.

It is important to emphasise that out of a budgetary requirement of **Two billion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Two Million, Nine-Hundred and Sixteen Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighteen Cedis, Seventy-One Pesewas (GH¢2,472,916,218.71), One Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty-six Million, Two Hundred and Thirty-Nine Thousand, and Eighty-Eight Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,636,239,088.00)** was allocated resulting in a shortfall of 33.83% of the expected budget.

The inadequate allocation for 2024 may present challenges in the implementation of the National Security Strategy as a tool for achieving strategic objectives, and addressing changes in the global, regional and national threat landscape among others.

With the upcoming 2024 General Elections, it is important that the Ministry is adequately resourced to coordinate intelligence to ensure national security and stability before, during and after the 2024 General Elections undertake special security operations consistent with the National Security Strategy..

The Committee, taking cognisance of the important role that the Ministry plays in maintaining security and stability in the country, recommends that the Ministry of Finance take appropriate steps to ensure that the Ministry is adequately resourced.

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## **9.2 OFFICE ACCOMMODATION**

The Committee observed that the National Signals Bureau and the Research Department under the Ministry are constrained by office space, making it difficult to recruit to augment their staff strength.

The Committee noted that the National Intelligence Bureau intends to complete the National Intelligence Academy to augment office accommodation. Additionally, the new regions created would require decent facilities and personnel to beef up its operation.

This situation may affect the ability of the Agencies to function at their optimal capacity. In view of the important role that these Agencies play in ensuring stability in the country, the Committee urges the Finance Ministry to provide the necessary resources to enable the Agencies acquire offices, and recruit the requisite personnel to deliver on their mandate.

## **9.3 INTERNALLY GENERATED FUNDS**

The Committee indicated the need for the Ministry of National Security to explore innovative ways of generating additional funds to complement the allocation by the Ministry of Finance and thus reduce the overdependence on donor funding for projects under CAPEX. It is a matter of concern that the non-release of donor funds disrupts the Ministres planned programmes and activities.

In this regard, the Committee urges the Ministry of National Security to seek approval and introduce a line activity for Internally Generated Funds.

## **9.4 PLACEMENT OF NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY CENTRE (NCSC) UNDER MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

The Committee noted that misinformation and the spread of false information on social media and online platforms has become rife in recent times. The Ministry of National Security has the responsibility to secure Ghana's cyberspace against attacks and other e-crime activities. The rapidly evolving nature of cyberattacks and the increasing sophistication of threat actors pose significant challenges that call for urgent action to strengthen research and

development activities to stay abreast of emerging technologies, trends and threats in the field of communications, enhance the cyber security of critical government infrastructure and communications and conduct counter intelligence to detect, prevent, and mitigate espionage activities, cyber warfare, and terrorism.

Taking cognisance of the sensitivity of cyber issues, the Committee recommends that the National Cyber Security Center (NCSC), which was set up to mitigate cybersecurity threats, be brought under the purview of the Ministry of National Security to enable it tackle cyber security threats effectively and also streamline the fight against cyber fraud. To this end, the National Security Ministry would have more leverage over the cyber security of the nation.

#### **9.5 THREAT OF TERRORISM AND EXTREMISM**

The Committee observed with concern the looming threat of terrorism, and extremism in the sub-region. The threat has evolved with terrorists actively seeking to control the administration and governance of countries attacked in the sub-region.

The Committee acknowledged the need to prioritise budgetary allocation and timely releases to the Ministry of National Security to coordinate intelligence gathering and dissemination of information to counter violent extremism, particularly when Ghana is bordered by some countries that have experienced terrorist attacks.

#### **9.6 COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL SECURITY COUNCILS**

The Committee observed that security councils at the Regional, Municipal and District levels seem to be side-lined during some Operations of the Ministry within their jurisdictions, yet they are called upon to mitigate fallout of such operations. This has led to reports of friction between these local security councils and operatives of the Ministry.

The Committee urges the Ministry to work with relevant stakeholders to ensure seamless operations.

### **9.7 HUMAN RESOURCE CHALLENGES**

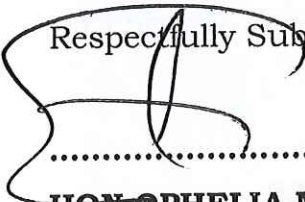
The Committee observed that even though there is a freeze on employment in the public sector due to the IMF negotiation, Agencies under the Ministry have been given clearance based on their special needs to augment their human resource capacity in year 2024.


### **10.0 CONCLUSION**

Ghana is the oasis of peace within the West African sub-region. To maintain the peace and stability in the country, particularly before, during and after 2024 General Elections, the Ministry of National Security must be adequately resourced to execute its mandate.

The Committee, having carefully examined the 2024 Annual Budget Estimates of the Ministry of National Security, hereby recommends to the House to adopt its report and approve the sum of **One Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Two Hundred and Thirty-Nine Thousand, and Eighty-Eight Ghana cedis (GH¢1,636,239,088.00)** for the Ministry of National Security for the year ending 31st December 2024.

Respectfully Submitted.

  
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**HON. OPHELIA MENSAH HAYFORD**  
**VICE CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE**  
**ON DEFENCE AND INTERIOR**

  
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**MRS GIFTY JIAGGE-GOBAH**  
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**DECEMBER 2023.**