

**IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF
THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

REPORT OF THE

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ON THE

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY

**2018 PROGRAMME BASED BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR
THE MINISTRY OF REGIONAL REORGANIZATION
AND DEVELOPMENT**

14TH DECEMBER, 2017

Acc Ho 713
Class No BE/MRRD/18 C6

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the year ending 31st December, 2018 by the Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta on 15th November, 2017, the 2018 Programme Based Budget Estimates for the Ministry of Regional Reorganization and Development were referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Order 140 (4) of the Standing Orders of Parliament.

The Committee met with the Hon. Deputy Minister for Regional Reorganization and Development, Mr. Martin Adjei-Mensah Korsah, the Head of the technical team, Mr. Samuel Passah and a team of officials from the Ministry of Regional Reorganization and Development.

2.0 BACKGROUND

As part of Government efforts to help deepen political and administrative decentralization as well as strengthening the coordination and administrative functioning of the regions, the Ministry of Regional Reorganization and Development was established.

The goal of the Ministry is to improve access to Government Services through review and reorganization of existing administrative regions

The Core functions of the Ministry are to, among others:

- Formulate policies for the reorganization and development of administrative regions;
- Develop strategic plans and programme based budgets for the reorganization and development of the administrative regions;
- Develop communication/advocacy strategies to sensitize stakeholders on the modalities involved in reorganization of administrative regions;
- Collaborate with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies for the reorganization and development of new regions; and
- Design and prepare programmes and projects for the development of the newly created administrative regions.

3.0 PERFORMANCE FOR 2017

During the year under review, the Ministry organized regional-based sensitization workshops for Members of the Western, Northern, Brong-Ahafo and Volta Regional Houses of Chiefs.

The Ministry also undertook monitoring exercises in the Western, Brong-Ahafo, Volta and Northern Regional Houses of Chiefs to ascertain their level of preparedness prior to the Commission's Consultative workshops.

During the year under review, the Council of State unanimously recommended to the President that there was the need for the creation of new regions. The Council of State further recommended to the President to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the need for the creation of new regions out of Western, Volta, Brong-Ahafo and Northern Regions in line with the 1992 Constitution.

Following the recommendations of the Council of State, a Constitutional Instrument, CI 105 was gazetted to enable the President appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the need to create new regions. A nine (9) member Commission of Inquiry has been inaugurated. The Commission has already started holding hearings to hear from petitioners.

3.1 Summary of Budget Allocation and performance for 2017

The Minister informed the Committee that for 2017, the Ministry was under the Office of Government Machinery (OGM) and as part of the OGM's Budget, it was allocated an amount of One Million Ghana Cedis (¢1,000,000). Table 1 below is the Expenditure Returns for the period ending November, 2017.

Table 1 – Expenditure returns for 2017

	Approved Budget	Amount Received	Variance
Compensation	-	-	-
Goods and Services	1,000,000	309,755.75	690,244.25
CAPEX			
Total	1,000,000	309,755.75	690,244.25

4.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2018

In line with the National Medium Term Development Policy Framework and the President's Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies, the Ministry would pursue the following:

- Formulate policies for regional reorganization and development
- Prepare and review sector plans, budgets, monitor and evaluate programmes and projects to ensure regional reorganization
- Reorganize the existing ten administrative regions by creating new regions from five (5) existing regions

4.1 2018 Budget Allocation

For the implementation of the above programmes, a total amount of **Three Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Ghana Cedis (GH¢3, 888,970)** was allocated from GoG to the Ministry.

The summary of the allocation for 2018 is shown in Table 1 as follows:

Table 1 – Allocation for 2018

Item	Budget Allocation
Compensation of Employees	350,000
Goods and Services	2,538,970
CAPEX	1,000,000
Total	3,888,970

5.0 OBSERVATIONS

5.1 Media Strategy

The Deputy Minister informed the Committee that the ministry was on the process of developing a media strategy that would help to disseminate its activities to the general public. He stated that the Ministry also works through the Ministry of Information. These are to ensure that the public is adequately informed of the activities of the Ministry.

5.2 Breakdown of the CAPEX

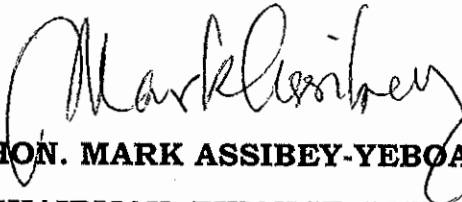
The Deputy Minister informed the Committee that this year the Ministry would seek to reorganize the existing ten regions by creating new regions from five (5) existing regions. In order to do this, the Ministry would design and produce maps. It will also hold consultative meetings and facilitate the conduct of Referendum.

In order to carry out these activities, the Ministry intends to procure a number of logistics including five motorbikes, five cross country vehicles, eight pick-ups and eight saloon cars for operations in the earmarked regions and the Ministry Headquarters. Furniture and office equipment would also be procured to support the activities of the Ministry. Total amount allocated for CAPEX is GH¢1,000,000.

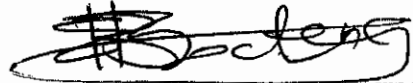
6.0 CONCLUSION

After a careful examination of the 2018 Programmed Based Budget Estimates for the Ministry of Regional Reorganization and Development, the Committee recommends to the House to approve the sum of **Three Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Ghana Cedis (GH¢3, 888,970)** to enable the Ministry implement its programme of activities for 2018 financial year.

Respectfully submitted.



HON. MARK ASSIBEY-YEBOAH (DR)
CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE



EVELYN BREFO-BOATENG
CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

14th December, 2017