

MINISTRY OF CHIEFTAINCY AND CULTURE



2012 ANNUL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GPRS II

Ghana

(Draft)

FEBRUARY 2013

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture was established in May, 2006. Its establishment is in accordance with section 11 (1) of the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law 327), and on the recommendation of the report of the African Peer Review Mechanism, to be responsible for the Chieftaincy and Culture Sectors. Consequent to the establishment of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture, the chieftaincy division of the Office of the President and the National Commission on Culture which was hitherto under the auspices of the Office of the President have become sectors of the Ministry in accordance with the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law 327). All their policies and other executive leadership functions have been transferred automatically to the Ministry.

NATIONAL GOAL

To address the economic imbalances destabilizing the economy and placing it on a path of sustained accelerated growth and poverty reduction towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and middle income status of the nation.

SECTOR GOAL

To harness, develop and maximize the utilization of Chieftaincy and Cultural assets and values to serve as the basis for wealth creation and socio-economic empowerment.

VISION

The vision of this Ministry is to preserve, sustain and integrate the regal, traditional and cultural values and practices to accelerate wealth creation and harmony for total National Development.

MISSION STATEMENT

This mission of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture is to develop an effective interface between Government and civil society on matters relating to Chieftaincy and

Culture for the promotion of peace, good governance and international partnership for the overall development of Ghana.

FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Culture are

- (i) Initiate, formulate and ensure the efficient and effective implementation of policies, plans programmes and projects to preserve, conserve, develop, promote and present Ghanaian heritage institutions, arts, architectures and cultural site values.
- (ii) Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the performance of the institutions and affiliate associations within the sector.
- (iii) Devise appropriate strategies for improving performance delivery of each sector.
- (iv) Organize periodic sectorial review conferences for all the stakeholders of the ministry to examine the direction and focus of the Ministry in relation to prevailing Government policies.

1.4 CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

- i. National House of Chiefs
- ii. The Ten Regional Houses of Chiefs

1.5 AGENCIES

- i. The National Commission on Culture
- ii. The Ten Regional Centers of Culture and 138 District Centers of Culture
- iii. National Dance Company
- iv. National Theatre Company
- v. National Symphony Orchestra
- vi. National Theatre
- vii. Bureau of Ghana Languages
- viii. Ghana Museums and Monuments Board

- ix. Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park
- x. Ghana Folklore Board
- xi. W. E. B Du Bois Centre
- xii. Pan African Writers Association (PAWA)

APPROVED 2012 BUDGET

The Ministry, its Departments and Agencies were allocated a total amount of GH¢**10,234,608.00** out of which a total amount of GH¢727,046.29 was released and expended. It is important, however, to mention that budgetary allocations and releases to the Ministry continue in a spiral downward trend. In 2011 the total approved budget in respect of goods and services, and asset was GH¢19,259,878.00 only GH¢389,756.14 was released. But in 2012, the approved budgetary allocation in respect of the abovementioned went down to GH¢10,582,745.00 and just a paltry sum of GH¢727,046.29 was released (i.e. allocations from January to May, 2012). It is imperative to indicate that the amount mentioned were less by the component of compensation. The breakdown at item and Agency level is as below:

TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE
PROMOTION OF NATIONAL CULTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT

STATUS REPORT FOR 2012

Adjudication of Chieftaincy Cases

The resolution of chieftaincy cases at the Houses of Chiefs is performed by the Judicial Committees of the Houses, whose main function is the speedy adjudication and disposal of cases brought before the Houses. Unfortunately, the Committees of the various Houses experienced daunting challenges in executing this mandate. In the year under review, for instance **out of a total of 334 cases filed, only 27 of them were amicably resolved representing 8.08% leaving 307 cases, that is 91.92% unresolved/pending.** In worth mentioning that though the year recorded an increase in chieftaincy disputes from 309 in 2011 to 334 in 2012, cases resolved reduced from 9.4% to 8.08%. The matrix below indicates the number of cases filed, disposed and cases unresolved for the year under review together with its pictorial presentation also shown below.

Among the several reasons that accounted for this bleak picture were the following:

1. Lack of Counsels at some Regional Houses (e.g. the Upper East and Northern Regions had no Counsel) to sit on cases. Most experienced lawyers refuse posting to act as Counsels in the Houses of Chiefs because of poor allowances for Judicial Committee sittings and lack of promotion opportunities for the Counsels.
2. Non-release of budgetary allocations was a major setback
3. Inadequate budgetary allocations allotted to the Houses of Chiefs.
4. Refusal of some feuding parties to submit themselves to adjudications at the Houses of Chiefs plausibly due to delays in the adjudication process.

5. Lack of adequate knowledge on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediation by some Chiefs.

6. Although the Volta Region has a Counsel at post, the House has not been able to dispose off any of its chieftaincy cases because the cases which were started by the Judicial Committee cannot continue for the reason that one party or the other is before the High Court in Ho invoking the supervisory jurisdiction of the High Court. The situation is not uncommon in other regions.

CHIEFTAINCY DISPUTES PENDING AT THE REGIONAL HOUSES OF CHIEFS

NO	REGIONAL HOUSES OF CHIEFS	NO OF CASES	NO OF CASES DISPOSED	NO CASES PENDING/ UNRESOLVED
1.	National House of Chiefs	110	2	108
2.	Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs	35	9	26
3.	Eastern Regional House of Chiefs	13	0	13
4.	Central Regional House of Chiefs	29	7	22
5.	Brong Ahafo Regional House of Chiefs	59	2	57
6.	Upper West Regional House of Chiefs	13	1	13
7.	Greater Accra Regional House of Chiefs	18	1	17
8.	Western Regional House of Chiefs	12	1	11
9.	Northern Regional House of Chiefs	10	3	6 (One case was referred to the NHC).
10.	Upper East Regional House of Chiefs	6	0	6
11.	Volta Regional House of Chiefs	29	1	28
	TOTAL	334	27 (8.08%)	307 (91.92%)

Pictorial Presentation of Status of Dispute Resolution

