

# BRITISH SOLDIERS ALREADY IN GHANA



*By Our Special Correspondent*

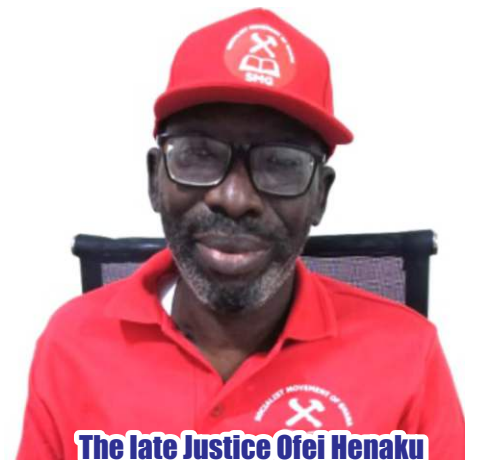
**T**op level sources in the Ghana Armed Forces have confirmed that Ghana is already hosting British Soldiers who have been assigned to train

local forces. The sources claim that the British Soldiers are not permanently resident in Ghana but are called upon from time to time to train their Ghanaian counterparts in undisclosed areas. This partially confirms the disclosure by James Heapey, the British

Minister for the Armed Forces and Veterans that “British troops are already in Ghana training the Ghana Armed Forces”. Heapey however insists that “the UK Government has no plans of sending more troops to Ghana”.

*Cont. on page 3*

## SMG Mourns The Death Of Comrade Justice Ofei Henaku



*The late Justice Ofei Henaku*

**T**he Leadership and entire membership of the Socialist Movement of Ghana (SMG) wish to express our deep

*Cont. on page 2*

## 2023 Budget: Ato Forson Warns Of *page 3* Excruciating Hardships Ahead For Ghanaians



## Ada Traditional Council Rules In Favour Of Ackwerh Family

*...As Kingmakers Of Hwakpo*

*page 5*

# The INSIGHT

## — EDITORIAL

### THE DEBT CRISIS

**D**ata released by the Bank of Ghana recently indicated that Ghana's debt was now over \$40 billion, which is more than double what was bequeathed to this administration.

What is worrying about the country's rising debt level is that no stop-gap measures appears to be put in place to halt the phenomenon. Instead, borrowing appears to be the order of the day which has far-reaching repercussions for the nation in terms of its debt sustainability. Already, the unbridled government borrowing is giving many financial analysts headache since that appears to be the only leeway or succor in government raising needed capital for infrastructural projects.

Paradoxically, political watchers are worried that the present managers of the economy who in recent past complained about borrowing are themselves doing worse.

Reality of governance, has undoubtedly dawned, and it is important that a new paradigm shift is charted since the rate of borrowing is not sustainable in the long run. The attempt by some official spokespersons to score political points using economic indicators which clearly do not make sense and also address the looming debt crisis because of their obvious contradictions and deficiencies is the most worrying.

The time to domesticate the economy to grow and eat what the country needs and quicken the industrial pace to lessen imports is now more than important to the nation's survival.

# SMG Mourns The Death Of Comrade Justice Ofei Henaku



**The late Justice Ofei Henaku**

*from front page*

and heart-felt condolences to the family of Justice Ofei Henaku, Head of the Movement's International Relations Department and official historian.

His exceptional contributions to our work and the struggles of the working class and its allies will be greatly missed.

We shall fully participate in the effort to give him a well-deserved departure as an extraordinary committed cadre.

## THE INSIGHT

**ACTING EDITOR** - **BENJAMIN AKUFFO**  
(0244669960)  
benjaminakuffo65@yahoo.com

**Secretary** - **Gifty Agyemang**

**Design and Graphics** - **Godwin K. Attah**

**Production Manager** - **Kweku Menz**

### **PUBLISHERS**

**Militant Publications Limited**  
P. O. Box NT 272

Accra-Newtown, Accra

Tel: 0244379344/0242836930

Email: theinsightonline20@gmail.com

LONDON CONTACT

5A Wesminster Bridge Road, London SE 1- 7XW

Tel: 0171-6201430

E-mail: prattc22@aol.com

# BRITISH SOLDIERS ALREADY IN GHANA

from front page

Last week, the U.K. based newspaper "The Telegraph", reported that the British government intends to deploy some special forces to Ghana following the withdrawal of 300 peacekeepers from Mali in the wake of frosty relations with Mali over the involvement of Russian security personnel in the fight against terrorist groups in the Sahel.

"The Telegraph's" report indicated that the number of British troops to be deployed in Ghana could be beefed up to 1,400.

In response to this Heapey told "JOY FM", an Accra based radio station that "I think they've just slightly misunderstood whatever they were briefed. The reality is that there are already UK troops in

Ghana training your Armed Forces. There is currently no plan to send anybody else".

A statement from Ghana's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration flatly denied that the Government has reached agreement with the UK for the deployment of British special forces in the country.

The statement said "The Government of Ghana wishes to state that the information regarding British Special Forces is false. Neither Ghana nor any other member of the Accra Initiative has discussed with any partner, any such request or contemplated the involvement of foreign forces in any of their activities".

Sources in Ghana's Ministry of Defense confirm that Ghana

has arrangements with the United States of America, Britain and Canada for the training of its soldiers.

The US has a special military relationship with Ghana captured in an agreement approved by the Parliament of Ghana in May 2018.

Under this agreement, US soldiers can enter Ghana without passports and visas and are allowed to use the country's radio frequencies for free.

US soldiers are also not subject to any inspection including customs inspection on arrival and departure from Ghana.

The agreement also provides that the US soldiers cannot be subjected to any judicial processes for the destruction of Ghanaian property and for the loss of lives of Ghanaian



citizens.

Currently, a number of countries in West Africa including Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea, Benin, and Togo have come under attack by Islamic Insurgents affiliated to the Islamic State.

Two weeks ago, West African Countries met in the Ghanaian capital under "The

Accra Initiative" to develop a common strategy for combating the insurgents.

The meeting was attended by James Heapey and Defense specialists from Western countries including the United States of America.

**Credit** --  
theinsightonline.com  
27<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

## 2023 Budget: Ato Forson Warns Of Excruciating Hardships Ahead For Ghanaians



**Cassiel Ato Forson**

Cassiel Ato Forson, Ranking Member on the Finance Committee of Parliament and Spokesperson of the Minority, has asked Ghanaians to brace themselves up for more excruciating hardships warning that proposals in the 2023 budget will further

exacerbate their plight.

According to him, the introduction of the 2.5% increase in the Value Added Tax will push the cost of goods and services further up.

Addressing journalists after the presentation of

the 2023 budget, Ato Forson said: "Additional taxes only means that the people of Ghana are going to go through excruciating hardships going forward.

Unfortunately, the expenditure cuts the Minister announced did not show us how they intend to cut government expenditure."

"The things he outlined there are nothing but empty. What we can see is that the government is shifting the adjustment programme to the ordinary Ghanaian where the taxpayer will be made to pay more," he said.

Government has announced an increment in Value Added Tax (VAT) by 2.5 percent for consumers of goods and services.

The move, according to government is expected to improve their domestic revenue measures while seeking to reach an IMF deal to restore macroeconomic stability.

"Mr. Speaker, we will undertake the following actions, initiatives, and interventions under the seven-point agenda. To aggressively mobilize domestic revenue, we will among others: Increase

the VAT rate by 2.5 percent to directly support our roads and digitalization agenda; Fast-track the implementation of the Unified Property Rate Platform programme in 2023; and Review the E-Levy Act and more specifically, reduce the headline rate from 1.5% to one percent (1%) of the transaction value as well as the removal of the daily threshold," he said.

The Minister of Finance, Ken Ofori-Atta, made this known in parliament when he delivered the 2023 budget before lawmakers on Thursday, November 24, 2022.



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS REPORT

## Compiled By Peoples Dispatch

### Iran Starts Enriching Uranium At 60% Purity In Response To IAEA Resolution

By Abdul Rahman

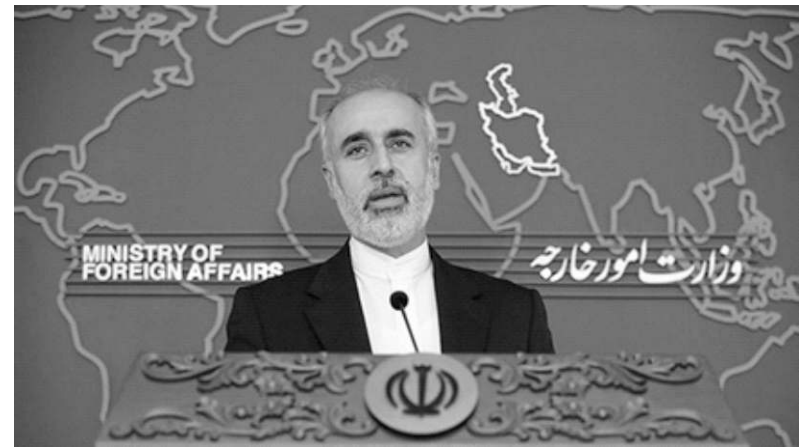
Iran in a letter to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has announced that it has started enriching uranium at 60% purity at its Fordow facility. It claimed that the decision was taken in response to last Thursday's "anti-Iran" resolution adopted by the IAEA Board of Governors (BoG), Iranian *Press Tv* [reported](#) on Tuesday, November 22. According to the report, Iran has also installed two advanced cascades at its Natanz facility and advanced centrifuge at Fordow, along with reinstalling centrifuges to halls at both the facilities, vacated after the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), or the Iran nuclear deal, was signed in 2015. Iran has already been enriching uranium at 60% at [its Natanz facility](#) since April 2021, in response to an attack on the facility. Iran claimed that the

attack was carried out by Israel. The IAEA BoG passed the resolution on Thursday, November 17, the [second of its kind in the](#) last six months, accusing Iran of "insufficient cooperation" in its ongoing investigation into the matter of traces of man-made nuclear particles found at some of Iran's nuclear sites in 2018. It also alleged that Iran was restricting the IAEA's monitoring capabilities in its nuclear facilities. [Iran has claimed](#) that it has already explained its part in the matter and the case of man-made nuclear particles is more than 15 years old and was closed before the JCPOA was signed. Iran claims that the issue has been revived now to force Iran into make more concessions in the JCPOA revival talks.

**Iran's nuclear program is "the most transparent"**

Iran claimed that the IAEA resolution was "anti-Iran" and shows the West's intentions to

hinder its technical cooperation with the IAEA. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani [said on Monday](#) that despite Iran having the world's "most transparent peaceful nuclear program," the IAEA had gone ahead with the "politically motivated" resolution due to pressure from the US and its three European allies – France, Germany, and the UK. The resolution had been introduced by the US and its European allies. Though the majority of the IAEA BoG's 35 members voted in favor of the resolution, China and Russia voted against it. Iran, a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), has committed that its nuclear program is peaceful. It started enriching uranium beyond the 3.67% purity allowed under the JCPOA in 2019, a year after the US withdrew from the deal unilaterally in 2018 and imposed strict economic and political



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Nasser Kanani. (Photo: Press TV). Iran has maintained that the IAEA resolution questioning its cooperation with the agency is politically motivated and was adopted under the pressure from the US, France, Germany, and the UK

sanctions on Iran.

Iran had also removed IAEA cameras installed at some of its nuclear sites to monitor nuclear activities in response to the earlier resolution of the IAEA [BoG in June](#). It also imposed restrictions on physical inspection of its nuclear sites in response to the continued US sanctions. While 60% enrichment is high, it is still far from weapon-grade uranium which requires more than 90% purity. Iran claims it has

the right to take "corrective measures" under the provisions of the JCPOA and will revert back to full compliance once the US withdraws its sanctions completely. Talks to revive the JCPOA, ongoing since early 2021, have been stalled after Iran demanded ending the IAEA investigation. The US has recently claimed that revival of the JCPOA [is not a priority](#) at the moment.

### Peruvian Constitutional Court Annuls Treason Complaint Against President Pedro Castillo



Peruvian Constitutional Court annulled the complaint filed by the opposition-controlled Congress against President Pedro Castillo for the alleged crime of treason against the country, on November 22, 2022. (Photo: Peruvian Presidency/Twitter). The treason complaint had sought disqualification of President Castillo from public service for five years as well as his immediate removal from office

The Constitutional Court of Peru last Tuesday declared the writ of habeas corpus filed by President Pedro Castillo's defense valid, and annulled the constitutional complaint filed against him by the opposition-controlled Congress for the alleged crime of treason against the homeland. The court also annulled

the report prepared and approved by the Subcommittee on Constitutional Accusations of Congress, stating that it "violates the right to due motivation in parliament," and ordered the Congress to end the proceedings.

The now dismissed report recommended prosecuting President Castillo for the crime of attempted treason for allegedly having offered to hand over Peruvian territories to Bolivia so that it could have access to the sea. It also sought the disqualification of the president from public service for a period of five years as well as his immediate removal from office.

Four of the six judges who voted to nullify the report argued that the report not only affected rights, but

also harmed the presidential institution. They added that "the expression of opinions does not determine that they have criminal relevance."

The [complaint was raised](#) by conservative deputies in March, which many viewed as an easier way to oust President Castillo after [failing twice to garner sufficient votes](#) to impeach him on grounds of alleged moral incapacity.

President Castillo's lawyer Benji Espinoza deemed the Court's ruling as historic and correct, adding that "it was legal hogwash."

The decision came a day after a high-level delegation of the Organization of American States (OAS) arrived in Peru at President Castillo's request.

Last month, on October 19, Castillo requested the OAS to [activate the Democratic Charter](#) and initiate a consultation process in the country with all the political forces and state powers to find a way out of the political conflict and put an end to the repeated impeachment attempts against him. Castillo declared that the right-wing opposition-controlled parliament, the prosecutor's office, and other public institutions had been planning a coup against him. He requested the OAS to help his government and defend democracy and avoid rupture of the constitutional order in the country. Since Castillo's inauguration in July 2021, the right-wing forces in Peru have been promoting destabilization

attempts against his government and trying to force him and his appointees out of power.

In his past 16 months in office, Castillo has had [six investigations](#) opened against him accusing him of alleged crimes of corruption, criminal organization, influence peddling, accomplice to collusion, personal concealment against the administration of justice, as well as plagiarism in his master's thesis. He has also [faced and survived two impeachment motions](#). Presently, the opposition parties in parliament are promoting a third impeachment motion against him. He has also been forced to [reshuffle his cabinet three times](#) and has changed over six dozen ministers over disputes and disagreements with the Congress.

# Ada Traditional Council Rules In Favour Of Ackwerh Family ...As Kingmakers Of Hwakpo



Nene Agbasi Dzikunu Ackwerh III, the installed kingmaker of Ackwerh family of Hwakpo

A three-member committee of the judicial council of the Ada Traditional Area has ruled that the direct descendants of Naana Adikuor Pupilampu of the Ackwerh family of Hwakpo are the rightful and accredited kingmakers of Hwakpo.

The ruling, thus, sets the records

straight that a declaration that Nene Agbasi Dzikunu Ackwerh III, having been elected and installed by the kingmakers of the Ackwerh family of Hwakpo and the said Nene Agbasi Dzikunu, having been introduced to the Ada Traditional Council, is the only legitimate chief of

Hwakpo.

The case was filed at the Traditional Council by Nomo Ernest Samuel Ackwerh (Head of Ackwerh Family, Hwakpo), Nene Agbasi Dzikunu Ackwerh III, Nathan Nomotey Ackwerh (elder of Hwakpo stool), Madam Beatrice Bierta Ackwerh (elder)-(PETITIONERS) against Dr. David Buernor Pupilampu (Head of Pupilampu Family), Isaac Buertey Pupilampu, A.K.A. Hakpo Adi Buertey Pupilampu), Nomo Ernest Narh Pupilampu (Elder, Kotobabi) -(RESPONDENTS). The petitioners in the case were seeking a declaration that direct descendant of Naana Adikuor of the Ackwerh family of Hwakpo are the rightful and accredited king makers of Hwakpo and the only family that has the mandate to select,

elect and install a chief from the family, a declaration that Nene Agbasi Dzikunu Ackwerh III 2nd Plaintiff having been elected and installed by the Kingmakers of the Ackwerh family of Hwakpo and the said Nene Agbasi Dzikunu having been introduced to the Ada Traditional Council is the only Legitimate Chief of Hwakpo.

They also sought the Council to declare that the alleged installation of one Isaac Buertey Pupilampu 2nd Respondent as a parallel chief of Hwakpo a nullity, uncustomary and of no effect and a Perpetual Injunction restraining the 2nd Respondent, his agents, assigns etc. from parading and holding the 2nd Respondent as the Chief of Hwakpo.

"Perpetual Injunction restraining 1st and 3rd Respondent from holding themselves as stool elders and Kingmakers of Hwakpo and selecting, electing and installing the 2nd Respondent or any other person as chief of Hwakpo." The ruling by the three-member committee of the judicial council of the Ada Traditional Area, chaired by Nene Agudey Obichere III, who is also the Mankralo of the Ada Traditional Area, said there is no parallel chief at Hwakpo as claimed by the Pupilampus, the respondents.

By that, the alleged installation of one Isaac Buertey Pupilampu as a parallel chief of Hwakpo is a nullity, uncustomary and of no effect.

According to the Traditional Council, the inconsistencies in the narrations of the Pupilampus, the respondents, and a suit that their first respondent tendered as evidence from the Ashaiman Circuit Court further exposed the inconsistency in their claims. The ruling, thereby, retires a 2021 case before the

Traditional Council filed by the Ackwerhs on who the real kingmakers of Hwakpo are.

## Press Briefing

Meanwhile, Ernest Samuel Ackwerh, the Head of the family of the plaintiffs, at a brief media engagement at the Traditional Council after the ruling, said: "By this victory, we are drawing the attention of the Pupilampus of Hwakpo, who don't know the roots of their name, to the fact that they have no relationship with us. They know for a fact that they have no houses in Hwakpo; have no children or relatives in Hwakpo and have never lived in Hwakpo. We entreat them to join hands with the Ackwerhs to live peacefully to build the Hwakpo community as we have been doing before the imposters came in."

"To the self-styled chief, Isaac Buertey Pupilampu, we wish to remind him that the die is cast and the appropriate authority has for the second time decided who the legitimate chief of Hwakpo is.

"We will not tolerate any parallel chief in Hwakpo. We appeal to the press—both electronic and print—to cooperate with us to bring about peace, tranquility and progress to the Hwakpo community.

We thank the Chairman and members of the Judicial Committee for their painstaking effort to unravel the truth, the Registrar of the Ada Traditional Council and his staff, the Paramount Chief of Ada and his Secretariat and all who in diverse ways contributed to bringing this case to finality."

The two other members of the three-member Judicial Committee of the Ada Traditional Council were Nene Glorgo Dadebom Anim V and Nene Kpevu Blempong IV.

## How Effective And Efficient Is Ghana's Legal/Justice Delivery?

### Kwaw Anaman Vrs. KNUST.

On my very first appearance on 19.07.2012 ten years ago in court 3, Kumasi High Court (now Court 6, Appeal Court Building), Justice GHK Debrah gave a default ruling/declaration in my favour citing infringements on my Human Rights, my Right to be Heard as enshrined in Ghana's Constitution and the FAILURE of KNUST to apply its own written procedures, rules and regulations (as contained in the KNUST STATUTES) as reasons. Judge GHK Debrah subsequently gave KNUST the opportunity to tell their side of the story (Right to be Heard, which KNUST denied Kwaw Anaman).

In the more than 85 subsequent Court sessions in more than 10 years to date, 3 judges, a total of twelve lawyers (for Kwaw Anaman alone) more than six KNUST lawyers, Justice GHK Debrah, two 2 years, Justice Efo Kaglo, six 6 years, did not open case for hearing, only adjournments, Justice Patricia Quansah, three years, making efforts against all odds to move the case forward, have

been involved in this case.

This is such a massive input of resources, waste of manpower (Kwaw Anaman, lawyers, judges etc. Just going in circles, "eddy" currents for a case which Justice GHK resolved in less than five minutes in his default ruling on 19.07.2022).

With the benefit of hindsight, this is very deliberate and orchestrated to deny Kwaw Anaman Justice.

Since July 2016, Lawyer Yaw Acheampong Boafo, President of the Ghana Bar Association GBA and his team of lawyers at SK Boafo Gye Nyame Chambers, has been my lawyer.

When his pay was stopped in August 2006 without any letter, Kwaw Anaman had not been charged with any offence, had not appeared before a mandatory Disciplinary Committee as stipulated by KNUST Statutes, had not been given any dismissal letter, plus KNUST had refused to respond/reply to fifteen letters on the issue forcing Kwaw Anaman to go to court to seek a declaration/ruling: - With respect to the pay stoppage of Kwaw Anaman, Lecturer, Mechanical Engineering Department, KNUST,

Kumasi, Ghana in August 2006, KNUST did not act in accordance with the relevant provisions of the KNUST Statutes -.

If this simple, straight-forward, obvious issue/case, declaration/ruling has taken more than sixteen years and still counting (after GHK Debrah made same more than years ago) in a University environment where human rights, fairness, justice, academic freedom and freedom of expression are assumed and supposed to be guaranteed, then the ordinary man under ordinary circumstances has no chance at getting justice in Ghana's courts.

How can the Chief Justice of Ghana, Judges of Ghana and the Ghana Bar Association defend this gross deliberate injustice?

Justice delayed is Justice denied.

How is the international community going to perceive KNUST in these days of Internet?

How would the world and investors perceive our Justice Delivery, performance of our lawyers in the wake of Anas No 12 and Adu Boahen investor bribery expose?

What a shame!

# Qatar's Ghanaian Workers Cheer The Black Stars: 'We Have Suffered Here, So We Should Be Able To Enjoy Ourselves'

As a roar erupts around the stadium, Philip leaps into the air. "Goal!" he screams. And then a moment later, "Goal?" He looks confused. He cannot figure out if his beloved [Ghana](#) have scored against Portugal, and no one nearby seems to be sure either.

That is because Philip is not in the stadium, but one of hundreds of Ghanaian supporters outside. They have rushed to the ground from construction sites, guard duties and cleaning shifts across [Qatar](#), to support their team. But with no screen showing the game, they are left to gauge its progress from the sounds in the stadium and the few who can stream it on their phones. With the exception of the hosts, Ghana may make up the largest population in Qatar with a team in the tournament, and on Thursday night they turned out in force, whether or not they had tickets. "You need a card to buy a ticket, but I don't have one, so how could I get a ticket?" says Philip, describing the

dilemma faced by many low-wage workers. "I'm still happy. It's not often I get the opportunity to be in a place like this," he adds. A few hours earlier, as he travelled from the rundown workshop in the north of the country where he lives and works, his mood was different. Brimming with anger, he described the daily humiliation he endures in Qatar. "It's very terrible, very terrible here. They treat us like slaves," he says. Philip is a 'helper', a catch-all job, which means he can be put to work doing anything. "I only get 1,000 rials (£225) a month. Even if they make us do overtime, it's still 1,000 rials." Asked about Qatar's [recent labour reforms](#), he retorts, "No, no, no, no! That is all lies!" They take advantage of our financial situation. You know, if you are born in Africa, you are already 1-0 down

*Philip*

He claims he is trapped in a work culture where supervisors exploit their poverty, knowing they have few other options. "They take advantage of our financial situation. You know, if you are born in Africa, you are already 1-0 down," he says. But as Philip boards the metro to the stadium, his anger evaporates and football takes over. Within seconds, he has fired up the Ghanaian fans, shouting, "Ghana! Ghana! Ghana!" The Portuguese supporters respond, "Ronaldo! Ronaldo! Ronaldo!" Soon the whole packed carriage is chanting at each other. It is loud and lighthearted. When Philip arrives before the match, he stands looking up at the stadium as the last fans with tickets stream pass him. "We have suffered here, so we should be able to enjoy ourselves," he says quietly. Also standing outside is Mustapha\*. He too has no ticket



Ghana fans cheer their team on from the base of a giant replica World Cup outside Stadium 974. Photograph: Pete Pattison

but just wants to be close to his footballing idols. "Football makes me joyful," he says. He came to Qatar because his family, "have nothing". He hopes to get a chance to join a team in the country, get spotted and then make his name in Europe. When he arrived in Qatar in July, he called his employer from the airport. "Who asked you to come?" the employer replied, "I told your agent you should not come." Mustapha was stranded. He had already paid a recruitment agent in Ghana the equivalent of more than £700 to get to Qatar and now he

had nothing. "I was shocked. I didn't know what to do because I was new in the country. I had no money and nowhere to stay," says Mustapha. He asked the agent for help, but was told to, "go home or find somewhere to hide." Mustapha chose to hide. Since then, he has been living in the shadows, picking up casual construction work whenever he can. Without an ID card – which his employer should have provided – he fears he could be picked up by the police at any time. The heavily patrolled metro, which he took to reach the stadium, puts him on edge.

## THE MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE - GHANA OFFICE

### Request For Bids: Construction Of Mosques, Boreholes, Artisan Wells And Many More Projects.....In Different Sizes In All Regions Of Ghana

THE MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE - GHANA OFFICE (MWL) requests bids for construction of Mosques, Boreholes, Artisan Wells and many more projects in different sizes in all regions of Ghana on the basis of lump sum contract. The price shall be quoted per square meter in accordance with the model provided by MWL, providing that the model may be amended according to the size and dimension of the provided land. The measurement of the area shall be concluded on the basis of the external dimensions of the mosques walls only where the pavements shall be constructed and the external

spaces shall be created. The implementation shall include the following: Technical Specifications of the implementation of the mosque: Includes Preparation, of the lands, Foundations, Concrete Frame Structure, Ceiling, Floors, Doors etc. However, we are willing and ready to approve the implementation of any additional items if suggested. Includes Preparation of the lands, Foundations, Concrete Frame Structure, Ceiling, Floors, Doors etc. However, we are willing and ready to approve the implementation of any additional items if suggested. Construction of toilets and

ablution space (Mawadi'e) with a total area of 2.24m with the same technical specifications of the mosque with a total amount of US\$ ----- that includes the following:

- Four toilets with Asian Wcs.
- Ablution space (Mawadi'e) with 12 taps and extensions of the drainage network. It should be supplied with CPVC with pressure test 80 PFI, drain PVC by test pressure 40 PFI and stopcock and taps and connect them to the nearest source of drainage and feeding.
- Supplying and installing roof water tank on a metal structure or on the walls of the toilets for a total amount of US\$ ..... The pricing shall include the installation of water lifting pump with half horsepower.

- Installing drainage for bathrooms with a total amount of US\$..... 2.3. Implementing and finishing a slopping screed in the roof (when pouring the concrete slab) and installing rainwater drainage to ensure that it does not overflow or leak inside the mosque for an amount of US\$..... 2.4. Installing ceiling of the roof with bitumen, backfilling and covering it with cement blocks or mosaic tiles. Proper slopping screed shall be taken in consideration. The roof shall be finished and rainwater drainage shall be installed to ensure that it does not overflow or leak inside the mosque for an amount of US\$..... We, hereby, confirm that we reviewed all the related

documents and we recognize that they are familiar and clear to us. We also confirm that we verified all the figures, words and sentences of our proposal. We affirm that we reviewed the rules and regulations of IROSIA and we agree to adhere to them. We confirm that the Undersecretariat For Executive Affairs does not bear any responsibility for any deliberate or inadvertent error in the proposal; rather we bear the full responsibility.

Any construction company should contact Dr. Mohammed BASHIR ADAM –0244687477  
BASSENA CHAFIOU –0540289969  
Email: Ghana@themwlv.org

# Full Text Of 2023 Budget And Financial Statement Presented By Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta



Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta

of GH¢103,992 million (17.6 percent of GDP) by 5.2 percent. Compensation of Employees amounted to GH¢27,146 million (4.6 percent of GDP), 2.9 percent below the budgetary provision of GH¢27,947 million (4.7 percent of GDP). The Wage bill constituted 91.3 percent of the total Compensation and amounted to GH¢24,734 million.

43. Interest Payments for the period amounted to GH¢32,101 million (5.4 percent of GDP), against the target of GH¢30,890 million (5.2 percent of GDP) reflecting the higher cost of borrowing and the adverse impact of the currency depreciation on external interest. Domestic Interest Payments constituted 78 percent of total Interest Payments for the period.

#### Financing Operations

44. Mr. Speaker, the fiscal operations for the period resulted in an overall budget deficit of GH¢44,022 million (7.4% of GDP), against a target of GH¢36,684 million (6.2% of GDP). The corresponding primary balance for the period was a deficit of GH¢11,921 million (2.0% of GDP), against a deficit target of GH¢5,794 (1.0% of GDP).

45. The fiscal deficit for the period was financed mainly from domestic sources amounting to GH¢37,491 million (6.3% of GDP), accounting for 85.2 percent of the total financing. Foreign financing for the period amounted to GH¢6,531 million (1.1% of GDP) and accounted for the remaining 14.8 percent of the financing.

#### Public Debt Developments for January - September 2022

46. Mr. Speaker, provisional debt data as at end September 2022 shows a significant increase in Ghana's public debt largely due to exogenous factors. 47. The end-September 2022 provisional figures indicate that total gross public debt stood at GH¢467,371.31 million (US\$48,871.34 million), representing approximately 75.9 percent of GDP. 48. The domestic debt component is GH¢195,657.60 million, which is 31.79 percent of GDP, whilst external debt is GH¢271,713.71 million, representing 44.15 percent of GDP. The increase in the domestic debt is largely on account of rising interest costs. Domestic debt as a share of total public debt reduced from 51.6 percent in 2021 to 41.9 percent as at end September 2022.

49. Mr. Speaker, the external debt as a percentage of the total debt stock is 58.1 percent as at end September 2022. The sharp growth in the external debt stock is largely driven by the depreciation of the local currency. The depreciation of the Ghana cedi added GH¢93,855.15 million to the external debt stock.

50. Overall, debt accumulation increased from 20.7 percent in 2021 to 32.7 percent as at end September 2022, reflecting the impact of the depreciation of the Ghana cedi on the external debt side. **Outlook for External Sector in 2023**

#### and the Medium Term

51. Mr. Speaker, the external sector performance in the outlook will depend largely on the quick resolution of the Russia-Ukraine war and the outcome of recession fears in advanced economies. The thrust of the external sector will focus on rebuilding external buffers enough to cover at least three and half months of imports of goods and services to cushion the economy against adverse external shocks. This will be underpinned by, among others, bilateral support, and strong remittance inflows.

#### Measures by BOG to address the Exchange Rate depreciation

52. Mr. Speaker, the Bank of Ghana will continue to monitor inflation developments and respond appropriately to contain price pressures. Monetary Policy will focus on using the monetary policy rate to, among others, contain inflationary pressures.

53. Since August 2022, the Bank of Ghana has successfully been working with the mining firms, international oil companies, and their bankers to purchase all foreign exchange arising from the voluntary repatriation.

#### UPDATE ON THE GHANA'S ENGAGEMENT WITH THE IMF FOR A FUND-SUPPORTED PROGRAMME

54. Mr. Speaker, since Government announced its engagement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF or the Fund) for a supported Programme on 1st July, 2022, we have made substantial progress. The Fund assured Government of its strong commitment and support in these difficult times.

55. Mr. Speaker, Government and the IMF have agreed on programme objectives, a preliminary fiscal adjustment path, debt strategy and financing required for the programme to be in line with the Government's Post-COVID-19 Programme for Economic Growth (PC-PEG). The PC-PEG is Government's blueprint to restore macroeconomic stability, promote debt sustainability, sustain

economic recovery and support structural reforms.

#### 2023 and Medium-Term Overall Macroeconomic Targets

56. Mr. Speaker, guided by the medium-term policy objectives, the following macroeconomic targets are set for the medium-term (2023-2026):

- i. Overall Real GDP to grow at an average rate of 4.3 percent;
  - ii. Non-Oil Real GDP to grow at an average rate of 4.0 percent;
  - iii. Inflation to be within the target band of 8±2 percent;
  - iv. Primary Balance on Commitment basis to average 0.8 % of GDP in the 2023-2026 period; and
  - v. Gross International Reserves to cover at least 4 months of imports.
57. Mr. Speaker, based on the overall macroeconomic objectives and the medium-term targets, the following macroeconomic targets are set for the 2023 fiscal year:

- i. Overall Real GDP growth of 2.8 percent;
- ii. Non-Oil Real GDP growth of 3.0 percent;
- iii. End-December inflation rate of 18.9 percent
- iv. Primary Balance on Commitment basis of 0.7% of GDP; and
- v. Gross International Reserves to cover not less than 3.3 months of imports.

#### Resource Mobilisation and Allocation For 2023

58. Mr. Speaker, Total Revenue and Grants is projected at GH¢143,956 million (18.0% of GDP) and is underpinned by permanent revenue measures - largely Tax revenue measures - amounting to 1.35 percent of GDP as outlined in the revenue measures.

#### Resource Allocation for 2023

59. Mr. Speaker, Total Expenditure (including clearance of Arrears) is projected at GH¢205,431 million (25.6% of GDP). This estimate shows a contraction of 0.3 percentage points of GDP in primary expenditures (commitment basis) compared to the projected outturn in 2022 and a demonstration of Government's resolve to consolidate its public

finances.

60. Mr. Speaker, the following projections underpin the resource allocation for 2023:

- Compensation of Employees is projected at GH¢44,990 million (5.6% of GDP).
- Mr. Speaker, Use of Goods and Services is also projected at GH¢8,048 million (1.0% of GDP).
- Mr. Speaker, Interest Payment is projected at GH¢52,550 million (6.6% of GDP).
- Mr. Speaker, Grants to Other Government Units is estimated at GH¢30,079 million (3.8% of GDP).
- Mr. Speaker, Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) is projected at GH¢27,694 million (3.5% of GDP).
- Mr. Speaker, Other Expenditure, mainly comprising Energy Sector Levies (ESL) transfers and Energy Sector Payment Shortfalls is estimated at GH¢26,739 million.

#### Budget Balances and Financing Operations for 2023

61. Mr. Speaker, based on the estimates for Total Revenue & Grants and Total Expenditure (including arrears clearance), the overall Budget balance to be financed is a fiscal deficit of GH¢61,475 million, equivalent to 7.7 percent of GDP. The corresponding Primary balance is a deficit of GH¢8,925 million, equivalent to 1.1 percent of GDP.

62. Mr. Speaker, I wish to notify you that, Budget items such as Interest Payments, Amortisation and Financing will be adjusted accordingly once Government's debt management strategy and financing to be provided by international partners in the context of the Fund-supported programme have been finalised.

#### Revenue Measures

63. Mr. Speaker,

# Full Text Of 2023 Budget And Financial Statement Presented By Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta

## From page 9

and six lanes each on the Tetteh Quarshie – Apenkwa stretch of the road. The project will include the remodeling of Tetteh Quarshie Interchange, the reconstruction of the Apenkwa Interchange and the construction of new interchanges at the Fiesta Royale cross roads and Neoplan area.

### Debt Exchange Programme

119. Mr. Speaker, the Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA) based on the macroeconomic outlook has been conducted by the Ministry of Finance. It analyzes the country's capacity to finance its policy objectives and service its debts. It covers public, publicly guaranteed debt of central government and partial non-guaranteed debt of SOEs.

120. The sustainability of our debt has been continuously affected by the negative impact of exchange rate depreciation, particularly on external debt, as well as the crystallization of significant contingent liabilities in recent years. The current debt sustainability analysis conducted reveals that Ghana is now considered to be in high risk of debt distress.

121. Mr. Speaker, despite the heightened debt levels, Government remains committed to ensuring that debt is brought to sustainable levels over the medium to long-term. To this end, we will implement a debt exchange programme to address the challenges identified in the portfolio in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders including the Ghanaian public, investor community and development partners.

122. Furthermore, Government will continue to strengthen its oversight of all SoEs, in particular, financial and energy sectors. The reforms and discipline at the SoEs will reduce potential fiscal risks from incidence of contingent liabilities.

123. Mr. Speaker, in line with our objective to restore debt sustainability, concessional

loans will continue to be the preferred financing option for projects. We, however, recognize that there may be cases where non-concessional borrowing may be required to finance critical transformative projects. Such financing will be determined within limits that are consistent with our debt sustainability programme.

124. We will inform this House, at the Mid-Year Fiscal Policy Review, of projects that will be financed within our non-concessional borrowing limits. Accordingly, we will not publish any list of projects to be financed from external non-concessional loans in this budget, previously titled 'Appendix 10C'.

### Implementation of the Cabinet directives on expenditure measures

125. Mr. Speaker, as a first step toward expenditure rationalisation, Government has approved the following directives which takes effect from January, 2023:

- All MDAs, MMDAs and SOEs are directed to reduce fuel allocations to Political Appointees and heads of MDAs, MMDAs and SOEs by 50%. This directive applies to all methods of fuel allocation including coupons, electronic cards, chit system, and fuel depots. Accordingly, 50% of the previous years (2022) budget allocation for fuel shall be earmarked for official business pertaining to MDAs, MMDAs and SOEs;

- A ban on the use of V8s/V6s or its equivalent except for cross country travel. All government vehicles would be registered with GV green number plates from January 2023;

- Limited budgetary allocation for the purchase of vehicles. For the avoidance of doubt, purchase of new vehicles shall be restricted to locally assembled vehicles;

- Only essential official foreign travel across government including SOEs shall be allowed. No official foreign travel shall be allowed for board members. Accordingly, all government institutions should submit a travel plan for the year 2023 by mid-December of all expected travels to the Chief of Staff;

- As far as possible, meetings and workshops should be done

within the official environment or government facilities;

- Government sponsored external training and Staff Development activities at the Office of the President, Ministries and SOEs must be put on hold for the 2023 financial year;

- Reduction of expenditure on appointments including salary freezes together with suspension of certain allowances like housing, utilities and clothing, etc.;

- A freeze on new tax waivers for foreign companies and review of tax exemptions for free zone, mining, oil and gas companies;

- A hiring freeze for civil and public servants

- No new government agencies shall be established in 2023;

- There shall be no hampers for 2022;

- There shall be no printing of diaries, notepads, calendars and other promotional merchandise by MDAs, MMDAs and SOEs for 2024;

- All non-critical project must be suspended for 2023 Financial year

### CONCLUSION

126. Mr. Speaker, Government cares deeply about our people, and is very much concerned about their current plight and the future of our country. The 2023 Budget has been prepared with high consideration for the aspirations of Ghanaians and the brighter prospects of our economy to transition into Upper Middle Income within a decade. It reflects our determination and resolve to confront the current daunting economic challenges facing our nation head-on and reset the economy.

127. In the immediate term, we will work towards securing an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, execute the debt exchange programme, improve the management of foreign exchange, and support our local productive capacity for food security. We are confident that the measures outlined in this 2023 Budget will redirect us on the path of macroeconomic stability and growth.

128. Mr. Speaker, the mission ahead is for the determined and not the pessimist. We acknowledge that our people

have been severely impacted by the current economic challenges. As a responsive Government, we have acted swiftly and boldly by developing the PC-PEG and will work with local and international partners to implement it.

129. Mr. Speaker, the 2023 Budget, will focus on Government's resolve to structurally transform the economy. We plan to:

- Aggressively mobilise domestic revenue;

- Boost local productive capacity;

- Promote a diversified and vibrant value-added export sector;

- Streamline expenditures;

- Protect the poor and vulnerable;

- Expand digital and physical infrastructure; and

- Implement structural and public sector reforms.

130. We will continue the implementation of key interventions like the YouStart, Economic Enclaves, 1D1F, and Tech Hubs with the limited resources that we have complemented with the support from Development Bank Ghana.

131. Specifically, on the YouStart, we intend to support 30,000 youth and under the Economic Enclaves, we intend to develop 110,000 acres of land for rice maize, soya bean as well as poultry. Funding will be sought from the GHc500 million DBG fund and

GoG sources. We will also be aligning support from our development partners to boost growth in the real-sector, focusing mainly on agriculture, entrepreneurship and value-addition.

132. Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated it has become even more urgent to mobilise domestic revenue especially in times like this when our access to the international capital market is largely closed. We urgently need to restore debt sustainability, macro-economic stability and grow the economy. As a responsible Government, we will take the hard, unpopular, but necessary

decisions to build back better and emerge stronger.

133. Mr. Speaker, post-COVID, we identified the need to ramp-up our domestic revenue mobilisation efforts to match the performance of our peers and finance our development agenda. Last year, we started with the E-Levy which has not yielded the resources as expected.

134. Mr. Speaker, we know that we have to:

- Keep the lights on at the cost of US\$1billion annually;

- keep the hospitals running and ensure that the over 15.5m Ghanaians on NHIS are properly catered for;

- Keep our schools running and pay the over 300,000 teachers every month;

- Keep our hospitals running and pay the over 119,000 nurses every month;

- Keep the law courts open and ensure timely access to justice; and

- Keep the local assemblies working to deliver essential social services to our people.

135. Mr. Speaker, it has also become clear that we cannot take the territorial integrity and internal cohesion of our country for granted. In the last couple of years, we have invested significantly in retooling the security sector to maintain territorial integrity and improve internal security (we have procured CCTV cameras, motor bicycles, vehicles, Forward Operating Bases, and recruitment of security personnel among other interventions). We can all attest that police visibility has increased tremendously.

136. Mr. Speaker, our ability to continue to deliver all these critical public services will require significant resources and we believe that together we can raise the necessary revenues to implement them.

*to be cont.*