

## INTRODUCTION

This report covers the period from Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022, thus, sixteen (16) Sittings for four weeks of the First Meeting of the Second Session of the Eighth Parliament before recess.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

Below are some highlights of what happened in Parliament within the past sixteen (16) Sittings before recess.

### Bills and Papers

##	Title	Date presented	Stage of Bill/Paper	Committee Responsible
1.	Tax Exemptions Bill, 2022	22/7/2022	Passed	Finance
2.	Armed Forces (Amendment) Bill, 2022	25/8/2022	First Reading	Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs
3.	Criminal Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2022	25/8/2022	First Reading	Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs
4.	Grains Development Authority Bill, 2022	25/8/2022	First Reading	Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs
5.	National Vaccine Institute Bill, 2022	25/8/2022	First Reading	Health
6.	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2022	28/07/2022	Passed	Finance
7.	Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2022	28/07/2022	Passed	Finance
8.	Ghana Hydrological Authority Bill, 2022	28/07/2022	Passed	Works and Housing
9.	Penalty and Interest Waiver Bill, 2022	28/07/2022	Passed	Finance

### Papers

- Term loan facility agreement between Government of Ghana and Standard Chartered Bank, London (original lender) for an amount of €97,721,615.91 (supported by CESCE Insurance Premium) to finance the construction of the Yapei, Buipe and Daboya bridges.
- Contract agreement between Government of Ghana and QGMI Construcciones E Infraestructuras Globales SLU for an amount of \$96,345,506.37 (equivalent to €88mn) for design and construction of 3 bridges in northern region: Buipe (Black Volta); Yapei (White Volta); Daboya (White Volta).
- Buyer's credit agreement between Government of Ghana and Deutsch Bank SAE for an amount of €135,396,518.38 (supported by CESCE insurance premium) to finance design and construction of phase 1 of Suame Interchange and ancillary works project at Kumasi.

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- Commercial facility agreement between Government of Ghana (represented by Ministry of Finance) and Deutsche Bank SAE (as arranger, structuring bank, lead arranger and agent) for an amount of €21mn to finance design and construction of phase 1 of the Suame Interchange and ancillary works project at Kumasi.
- Contract agreement between Government of Ghana [represented by Minister of Roads and Highways through DUR] and Rango-Dizmar JV for an amount of €140mn for design and construction of phase 1 of Suame Interchange and ancillary works project at Kumasi.
- Request for waiver of import duty, import GETFund levy, import NHIL, and various other import levies amounting to Cedi equivalent of \$15,673,646.00 on materials/equipment for Tamale-Walewale road, phase.
- Annual statement by the audit committee of the Tema West Municipal Assembly for the year 2021.
- The House adopted a report of the Finance Committee on the annual public debt management report for the 2020 financial year.
- Annual Report of the bank of Ghana on the conduct of monetary policy, macroeconomics review and banking sector developments for the period January to December 2021. The First Deputy Speaker referred the Report to the Finance Committee for consideration and report.

### MPs Statements

- Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Samuel A. Jinapor (MP, Damongo) made a statement on July 12- government policy in line with Standing Order 70. The statement is on the development of “green metals” in Ghana. He says government is working hard to develop mineral resources.
- Samuel Okudjatu Ablakwa (MP, North Tongu) made a statement on July 11 to eulogize the prime minister of Japan Shinzo Abe who was shot by a gunman during a campaign stop last weekend.
- Hon. Cletus Avoka made a statement on July 11 to pay tribute to the late John Ndebugri, a former MP and lawyer. Mr. Avoka called him a “Kusasi hero” who was instrumental in community development.
- Bedzrah (MP, Ho West) made a commemorate statement on Africa Anti-Corruption Day, which was held on Monday, July 11. The year's commemoration was held under the theme: "strategies & mechanisms of transferring COVID-19 funds".

### KEY OBSERVATIONS

1. Parliament approved by resolution a loan facility agreement between Government of Ghana (represented by Ministry of Finance) and OPEC Fund for International Development for an amount of \$20mn to finance the integrated rural development project phase 2.
2. The Minister of Finance Ken Offori Atta on 25 July presented the Mid - Year Budget Review to parliament.
3. The House has approved by resolution a loan facility agreement between Ghana of Ghana and African Export-Import Bank for an amount \$750mn [made up of €200mn for tranche A; \$101m for tranche B; \$350mn for B] to finance capital and growth-related expenditures in the 2022 budget.
4. Committee of the Whole meeting with officials of National Identification Authority led by Minister of the Interior Ambrose Dery (MP, Nandom).
5. Minister of Food and Agriculture, Dr. Owusu Afriyie-Akoto also briefed Parliament on attack of local poultry industry by influenza.

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6. House Speaker Bagbin has directed 5 parliamentary committees to setup an adhoc committee to inquire into the feasibility, sustainability and activities of National Food Buffer Stock Company and School Feeding Program.
7. Parliament has approved by resolution a report on the Finance Committee on the loan agreement between Government of Ghana and Government of Korea for an amount in Korean Won not exceeding the equivalent of \$147,100,000 to finance the implementation of the improvement of Volta Lake Transport System Project.
8. Before the House went on recess, the Speaker of Parliament stated that detailed rulling on the three (3) truant Members of Parliament, following the Privileges Committee report will be read in next meeting when parliament reconvenes.

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The President Nana Akufo Addo has nominated four Judges to serve as Justices of the Supreme Court; names have been referred to The Committee on Appointments shall consider it for approval.
- Parliament is expected to reconvene from recess in the 3rd week of October, barring unforeseen circumstances.
- **PNAfrica will continue monitoring and bring up-to-date information of what is happening in Parliament. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#).**

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