

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT

A Weekly Parliamentary Report of  
Parliamentary Network Africa



Promoting Open Parliaments Across Africa

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   Parliamentary Network Africa  
 PNAfricawatch

# INTRODUCTION

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April 24, 2024 •



**T**he voluntary resignation of the Majority Caucus Leader and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Osei Kyei Mensah Bonsu was a major highlight of the third week of parliamentary business. This report is a summary of events that happened between Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024, making, four (4) Sitting days.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Bills

Below is the list of bills that featured in Parliament at various stages of the law-making process:

TITLE	DATES	ACTION TAKEN
1. Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values Bill, 2021 now Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill, 2021	1. 21/02/2024 23/02/2024	1. Second consideration on the Bill continues.
2. Ghana Anti-Doping Bill, 2024	2. 20/02/2024	2. Bill was presented and read the first time and referred to the Committee on Youth and Sports to consider and present a report on.
3. That the Environmental Protection Bill, 2023 b	3. 20/02/2024	3. Bill was read the second time

## PAPERS

The following papers were presented and referred to committees for consideration and report;

- Budget Performance Report in respect of the Public Services Commission for the period January to December 2023 - Finance Committee.
- Annual Audit Committee Report of the Bosome Freho District Assembly for the year 2022 - Committee on Local Government and Rural Development.
- Electricity Supply and Distribution (Standards of Performances) Regulations, 2024 - Committee on Subsidiary Legislation.
- Report of Leadership on the composition of the membership of the Committee of Selection.
- Report of the Committee of Selection on the Composition of the membership of the Appointments Committee.


### MP statements

- The MP for North Tongu, Mr. Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa made a statement in which he made an urgent appeal to the relevant institutions to replace the Ghana Cards, Health insurance Voter ID cards, Birth Certificates and Passports of victims of the water spillage from the Akosombo and Kpong Dams.
 
- The MP for Klottey Korle, Dr. Zanetor Agyeman- Rawlings drew the attention of the House to the heavy siltation of the Odaw River; and called on the Ministry of Works and
 

Housing to as a matter of urgency desilt the Odaw river before the commencement of the rainy season to avert any disaster.

- The MP for Tamale South, Sayibu Suhuyini Alhassan made a statement in which he drew attention to the need to Empower Rural Communities to help their Pre- School Children Thrive.
 
- The MP for Awutu Senya West, Gizella Tetteh- Agbotui made a statement in which she drew attention to the poor state of the Forts and Castles in the country; and urged the relevant Authorities to address the issue in order to boost tourism in the country.
 

- The MP for Salaga South, Zuwera Mohammed Ibrahimah made a statement on Street Hawking in Ghana: An Analysis of Risks, legal Implication and its Economic Impact; and urged Government to find a way to integrate the street hawkers into the formal economy for the benefit of the state.
 

- The MP for Suame, Osei Kyei Mensah Bonsu made a statement in which he informed the House of his voluntary resignation as the Majority Leader and Leader of Government Business.
 

- The Hon Member for Ellembele and Deputy Minority Leader, Emmanuel Armah Kofi Buah made a statement commemorating the 58th Anniversary of the overthrow of Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first President of Ghana, on 24th February, 1966.



### *Parliament and Upcoming Elections*

- There were no papers presented on elections for the period under review

### *Private Members Bills (PMB) Desk*

- For the two Sitting days that the Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values Bill, 2021 now Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill, 2021 was considered, 33 amendments were proposed out of which 19 were withdrawn and 2 were deferred. However, 10 amendments were agreed to.
- PNAfrica will continue to observe and provide updates on the case for PMBs.

## KEY OBSERVATIONS

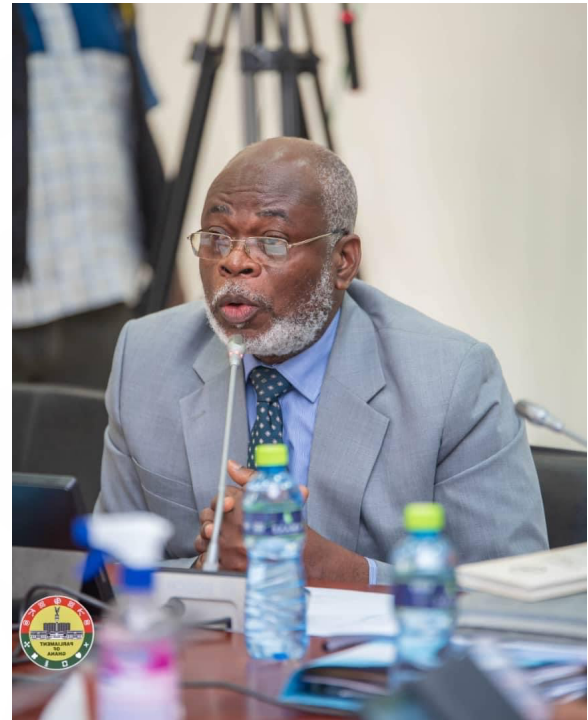
We observed the following during the period under consideration:

- On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2024, the MP for Suame, Osei Kyei Mensah Bonsu graciously bowed out as Majority Leader and Leader of Government Business. The move was done in consultation with the leadership of the New Patriotic Party. His resignation as well as the nomination of the MP for Ayawaso West Wuogon, Lydia Seyram Alhassan who was serving as Deputy Majority Whip as the Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources thus necessitated changes in the Leadership of the Majority Caucus. The current make-up of the Majority Caucus is as follows:
  - i. Alexander Kwamena Afenyo Markins - Majority Leader
  - ii. Hon. Patricia Appiagyei Deputy - Majority Leader
  - iii. Hon. Frank Annor Domprenh - Majority Chief Whip
  - iv. Hon. Habib Iddrisu - First Deputy Majority Chief Whip
  - v. Hon. Alex Tetteh Djornobuah - Second Deputy Majority Chief Whip
- The House on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2024 approved the membership of the Appointments Committee to consider and approve the President's nominations of 23 persons as Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers. The President, Nana Akufo-Addo under Articles 78 (1),79(1) and 256 of the 1992 Constitution nominated ministers and Deputy ministers of State and referred them to the Parliament for consideration and approval.
- A delegation from the National Democratic Institute and the House of Democracy paid a courtesy call on the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin. The purpose of their visit which was coordinated by the Executive Director of Parliamentary Network Africa was to learn about the internal operations and the functions of the Parliament of Ghana.



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- The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) continues to probe the Auditor’s General’s report on the Public Accounts of Ghana-Public Boards, Corporations and other Institutions for the period ended 31st December, 2022. The public hearings saw the appearance of the Acting Director General of the Ghana Meteorological Agency to respond to some infractions cited against the GMA by the Auditor – Generals Report. And when the Ministry of Trade and Industry and its agencies appeared before the PAC, it came to light that Volta Star Textiles Limited is virtually on the brink of collapsing due to high indebtedness to the Electricity Company of Ghana and its creditors.



# CONCLUSION

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**T**his parliamentary report is a summary of critical aspects of the work of Parliament for the First Meeting of the Fourth Session. The third week of parliamentary business saw an increase in MPs' statements on various issues of concern to the Ghanaian citizen like taking preventive measures to avoid flooding during the rainy season. We are watching closely to observe the happenings around the various bills tabled in the House and we will bring to you all details once they are brought to the discussion table.



*This Legislative Alert is published by Parliamentary Network Africa to promote parliamentary openness in Ghana. For further information, send email to [ghana@parliamentafrica.com](mailto:ghana@parliamentafrica.com) or call +233 (0) 30 244 6631/59 955 0875. [www.parliamentafrica.com](http://www.parliamentafrica.com)*