

PIAC NEWSLETTER

anuary – June 2023

PUBLIC INTEREST AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 3

PIAC Members visit the FPSO Kwame Nkrumah



Mandate

PRMA;

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) is an independent statutory body mandated under Section 51 of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act (PRMA) 2011 (Act 815) to promote transparency and accountability in the management of petroleum revenues in Ghana.

compliance with Act 815 as amended, and engage the public on the management and use of petroleum revenue, to safeguard public interest.

The Accountability Committee has 3.

three main objects as outlined in the

whether spending prospects and management and revenues conform development priorities as provided under section 21 (3);

Vision

Efficient, transparent, and accountable management and use of petroleum revenues and investments sustainable economic and social development.

- То monitor and evaluate compliance with the Act by government and relevant institutions in the management and use of petroleum revenues and investments;
- To provide space and platform

To provide independent assessment on the management and use of petroleum revenues to assist parliament and the executive in the oversight and the performance of related functions.

Mission

To monitor, evaluate, independently assess government and institutional

for the public to debate on

Membership of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) is drawn from 13 nominating institutions, who serve for either a two-year (renewable) or three- year (non-renewable) tenure.



Ghana National Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Association of Ghana Industries



Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative



Trades Union Congress



Civil Society Organisations & Community-Based Organisations



Ghana Journalists Association



Ghana Bar Association



Institute of Chartered Accountants Ghana



Ghana Academy of Arts & Sciences



Think Tanks



National House of Chiefs



Association of Queen Mothers



Christian Groups



Muslim Groups

Continued from page 1

familiarization tour of the Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) Kwame Nkrumah, which is used for petroleum operations on the Jubilee Field.

The PIAC Members, Dr Emmanuel Y. Tenkorang, representing Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community-based Organisations (CBOs) and Alhaj Ahmad Suleman Anderson, representing Muslim Groups, visited the FPSO on 9th August, 2022, to independently assess the production processes, offloading and other related activities being carried out on the Jubilee Field.

The team was accompanied by Mr. Allan Lassey, a Senior Manager of Tullow Ghana Limited.

Jubilee Field Operations

The Jubilee Field is the country's first and leading oil producing field which came on-stream in December 2010. The team was taken through the oil production processes, the separation of gas and water from crude oil and how offloading is done onto the cargo ships.

They also had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the metering processes on the FPSO monitored by officials of the Customs Division of the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA). The visit provided an opportunity to verify that there is a proper metering system in place and that the use of a dip stick to measure the production of crude oil is a misconception. Key among the operations on the FPSO, are activities in the Central Control Room (CCR), where various operational processes are monitored and data from the respective areas are collected.

Oil Production on Jubilee Field

The team observed that with stable weather and stable waters,



production flow from the Jubilee Field was good.

Production averaged about 89,000 Barrels of oil Per Day (BoPD) as at the time of the visit. About, 20 wells were functioning very well and had the potential to continue functioning for the next 10 years and beyond.

Gas Production on Jubilee Field

The team was informed that the Jubilee Field has enough gas to meet the national needs provided the nation has the necessary infrastructure to receive and process it. Since the existing infrastructure is not adequate to process all the gas being produced, excess gas is either re-injected into the reservoir or flared. The quantity of daily gas production is about 202 MMSCF out of which export to the Ghana National Gas Company (GNGC) is 120 MMSCF. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards, allowable quantity to flare is 30 MMSCF and 10 MMSCF is used for internal power generation, the balance is then reinjected into the wells.

The team was informed of the

intention of Government to import Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) even though we could produce enough gas for our needs. The explanation given for Ghana's intention to import LNG was because GNGC did not have the capacity to take the volume of gas being produced, therefore the need to import processed LNG for power generation.

Also, the continued reinjection of the gas is negatively impacting the long-term integrity of the wells, as well as volumes of crude being produced.

Recommendation

There is the need to expand the nation's gas infrastructure to utilise all the gas produced from the oilfields to save the country from importing LNG. This should be made a priority considering that the Field will be able to produce more crude oil if the associated gas is evacuated from the production fields. This will help reduce flaring which has the potential of hurting the environment, and also increase the country's earnings from gas production.

The Ghana Heritage Fund

To spend it on infrastructure projects now or save it for future generations – the pros and cons

Petroleum Revenue 2011 Management Act, (Act 815) as amended, provides the framework for the collection, allocation and management of petroleum revenue responsible, transparent, accountable and sustainable manner for the benefit of the citizens of Ghana. The Act provides that all petroleum revenues are to be deposited into the Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF) and allocated to three main beneficiaries: The National Oil Company (GNPC) (up to 55% of Carried and Participating Interest (CAPI), Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA) (up to 70% of the balance of petroleum revenues after deducting the allocation to GNPC), and the Ghana Petroleum Funds (GPFs) (not less than 30% of the balance of petroleum revenues).

Allocations to the GPFs are distributed to the Ghana Stabilisation Fund (GSF) which receives (not more



than 70% of the GPF allocation) and the Ghana Heritage Fund (GHF) (not less than 30% of the GPF allocation). The GSF is set up to provide resources in periods of unanticipated petroleum revenue shortfalls, as a result of reduction in projected production quantities or prices. The GHF was set up specifically to provide an endowment to support development programmes of future generations when the petroleum reserves have been depleted.

Sections 10(3) and 16(b) of the Act state that the GPFs shall receive petroleum revenues for the purpose of savings and investments. Section 20(1) states that within one year after petroleum reserves are depleted, the moneys held in both the Ghana Stabilisation Fund and the Ghana Heritage Fund shall be consolidated into a single Fund to be known as the Ghana Petroleum Wealth Fund.

There have been several calls

over the years for withdrawals to be made from the GHF and used to support current developmental particularly infrastructure. Though a good idea, we should also be mindful of the purpose for the establishment of the Fund. The GHF is set up purposely for savings and investments towards the future, and so we should keep faith with the spirit of the PRMA. The Act has made provision for 70% of the ABFA portion to be spent on Capital Expenditure (Infrastructure) in support of the national budget. Also, Section 10(4) of the PRMA specifies that Parliament may approve a withdrawal of a portion of the accrued interest on the GHF (every 15 years of crude oil production) into any other fund established by or under the PRMA.

The developmental infrastructure needs future generations at the time petroleum reserves are depleted may be different from what we have now. Thus spending the entire petroleum revenues now without leaving anything for the future generations will be a great disservice to our successors. Let us think critically about these calls for spending the GHF now. What will we leave for our future generations from this finite resource? The GHF should be allowed to grow and stay invested. The accrued interest can be withdrawn when due according to the Act but not the principal.

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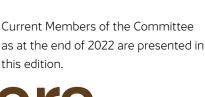
Head of Production

– Ms Jessica Acheampong

Please send all feedback to secretariat@piacghana.org

Know PIAC Members

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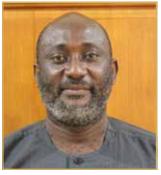




Professor Kwame Adom-Frimpong (Chairman) Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana



Mr. Nasir Alfa Mohammed (Vice Chairman) Ghana Bar Association - GBA



Dr Emmanuel Yamoah Tenkorang Civil Society Organisations/Communitybased Organisations



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Independent Policy Research Think Thanks National House of Chiefs



Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII



Nana Yaa Ansua Queen Mothers Association



Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpono Trades Union Congress (TUC)



Prof Kwame Adom-Frimpong re-elected PIAC Chairman

embers of the Public Interest and A c c o u n t a b i l i t y Committee (PIAC) reelected Professor Kwame Adom-Frimpong, as Chairman to serve a one-year term at its meeting held on Thursday 6th October, 2022.

Prof Adom-Frimpong, the representative of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana, (ICAG) has already served as Chairman for the Committee for two successive years.

Accepting his re-election, Prof. Adom-Frimpong expressed gratitude to the Committee for the confidence reposed in him, and pledged his commitment to the service of PIAC and the citizenry.

Prof. Adom-Frimpong is currently the Managing Director of Mainstream Reinsurance Company. He previously worked with PricewaterhouseCoopers as Audit Supervisor, SSNIT as Head of Audit, and at ABC Brewery Company as Senior Cost and Management Accountant. He is a graduate of the University of Wales, Bangor, UK (MBA), University of London (LLB) and De Montfort, Leicester, U.K (LLM). He obtained a Doctorate degree in Business Administration (DBA-Finance option) from the Faculty of Professional Studies, Arcadia University, USA, in 2001 and again had PhD in Economics and Finance from the same University in 2004.

He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana, and a past President of the ICAG (2018-2020). He is a Fellow of both the Chartered Institute of Bankers (FCIB) and Chartered Insurance Institute of Ghana (FCIIG). He is also a Barristerat-Law, and a member of the Ghana

Bar Association.

At the same meeting, Mr. Nasir Alfa Mohammed, representative of the Ghana Bar Association was also re-elected as Vice Chairman for another one-year term.

Mr. Nasir Alfa Mohammed is a Lawyer, Consultant and a Policy Analyst in the areas of energy and extractive resource governance (Oil, Gas & Mining). He is currently a Senior Associate Consultant at Ali-Nakyea & Associates, a private law firm in Accra, where he heads the Extractive Unit, providing legal opinions and consulting services to oil, gas and mining companies. Prior to Ali-Nakyea, Nasir worked as Associate Legal Practitioner at Atuguba & Associates, a private law firm with the LADA Group of Companies in Accra. On the policy front, Nasir previously worked in senior management positions with the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP) and later as Ghana Policy Advocacy Officer with the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI).

Mr Alfa Mohammed holds a Master

of Laws (LLM) in Petroleum Law and Policy from the University of Dundee's Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP), Scotland, UK; a Qualifying Certificate in Law (QCL) from the Ghana School of Law; a Post-First Degree Bachelor of Laws from the University of Ghana School of Law; and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with Sociology from the University of Ghana.

New Members join PIAC

Two newly elected Members to the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) have been sworn into office in Accra. This follows the expiration of the tenure of their predecessors on the Committee.

Nana Yaa Ansua, who is the Paramount Queen Mother of the Drobo Traditional Area has replaced Kansawurche Hajia Dr Azara Bukari as the representative of the Queenmothers Association of Ghana. Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpong has also replaced Mrs Mary Karimu as the nominee from the Trades Union Congress (TUC).

Another Member, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf whose tenure expired in September 2022 was also reappointed by her nominating institution, the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (GAAS), and was subsequently sworn in as a Member.

These members were sworn into office by the Chairman of the Committee, Professor Kwame Adom-Frimpong, upon the authorization of the Minister for Finance for a 2-year term, in accordance with the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815).

Speaking at the swearing in, Professor Kwame Adom-Frimpong reiterated the role of PIAC in the petroleum revenue management space in Ghana, and urged them to contribute their individual quotas to ensure that PIAC lived up to its mandate.

Taking turns to make some remarks after the swearing in, the new members pledged their commitment to ensuring that they played their part to support the work of the Committee.





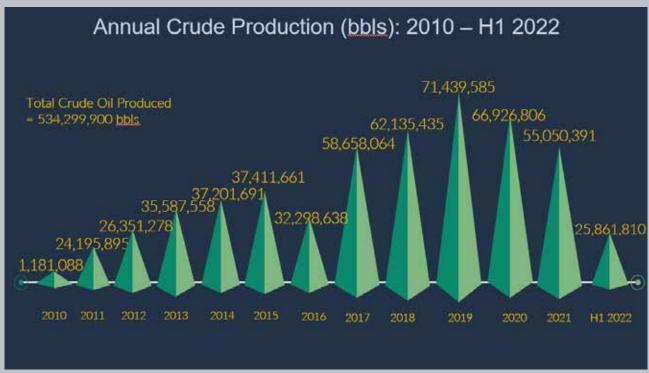


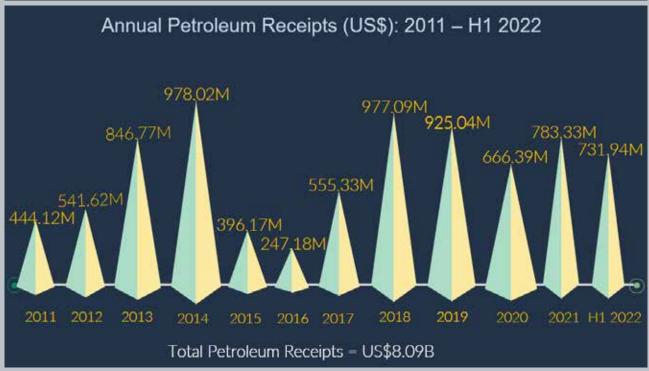


Industry Statistics

Commercial oil production in Ghana started in December 2010 in the Jubilee Field. Two other Fields – Tweneboa Enyenra and Ntomme (TEN) and the Sankofa Gye Nyame came on stream later to serve as the three main oil producing Fields in Ghana.

In this edition, we provide statistics on oil production and revenue accrued from 2010 till the first half of 2022.





PIAC interacts with four Districts on petroleum revenue management

he Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), in the second half of 2022, organized public fora in four districts across the country.

The fora in Axim and Tarkwa in the Western Region; Kintampo and Jema in the Bono Region, brought together over 400 participants from different sectors of the public in the various districts.

The forum, which is in line with PIAC's second mandate provided the space and platform for the public to debate on the use of revenues.

PIAC's presentation was on the highlights of PIAC's 2021 Annual

report, which highlighted crude oil and gas production, revenues accrued and its utilisation for the year 2021. The key findings and recommendations of the Report were also presented.

The presentation was followed by an open forum session where participants had the opportunity to ask questions and also give their suggestions on best ways to manage the country's petroleum revenues. These have been summarized below:

- What are the guidelines for the utilization of petroleum revenues?
- Government must involve local engineers for effective project

- supervision.
- What does PIAC do about non-existent projects after the Committee's inspection?
- ▶ PIAC should provide a breakdown of the utilization of its allocation from the ABFA.
- The Akango CHPS Compound project which is said to have received petroleum revenues has been abandoned for a longtime. PIAC should encourage the relevant authorities to work on it.
- The District Assemblies must play a supervisory role on projects that are being funded with petroleum revenues.
- How can the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) be positioned to meet its core mandate?
- ► What is the status of the Ghana Heritage Fund (GHF)?
- Are there alternative sources of funding for the Free SHS Policy?
- Development of local capacity in the oil and gas sector should be enhanced.



















Hydrocarbons Puzzle

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Viscous Ethane Hydrogen Boilingpoint

Combustion

Double bond H

Melting point

Crude oil

Hydrocarbon

Pentene

Fractional distillation

Alkane

Alkene

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Highlights from PIAC's Free SHS monitoring in 2022

By Jessica Acheampong,

Communications Officer, PIAC

he Government's flagship programme, the Free Senior High School (FSHS) has, since 2017, been receiving substantial funding from the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA) through the Physical Infrastructure and Service Delivery in Education Priority Area. From 2017 till the end of 2021, a total of GH¢2,242,208,238.93 has been allocated to the programme from petroleum revenues.

As a result, the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), in 2018 expanded its activities to include the monitoring of the beneficiary schools under the Free SHS Programme.

In 2022, the Committee visited some beneficiary schools in the Western North Region, Bono East Region, Western Region and the North East Region. PIAC's focus for each of the visits was to evaluate the implementation of the Free SHS policy in the respective schools with regards to infrastructure, enrollment, and food supplies.

In April 2022, PIAC visited the Western North Region as part of its Regional Engagement and Project Inspections and visited the St. Joseph Senior High School (SHS) in Sefwi Wiawso. PIAC also paid a monitoring visit to the Nalerigu Senior High School in the North East Region.

Also, in July 2022, the Committee carried out its monitoring visits to the Kintampo Senior High and the Jema



Senior High Schools in the Bono East Region; the Axim Catholic Girls SHS and Fiaseman Senior High School in Axim and Tarkwa respectively in the Western Region as part of its public engagements and project inspections.

Findings

The Committee observed that there was inadequate infrastructure in all the schools visited. It further observed that the implementation of the Free SHS has led to an increase in enrollment in the schools resulting in infrastructure inadequacies. This is besides government's effort and interventions towards the provision of infrastructure such as classroom blocks, dormitories and dining halls.

In terms of food supplies, all the schools reported delays in the delivery of food items like vegetables, palm oil, rice, beans, among others. For instance, at the Axim Catholic Girls SHS, management informed the PIAC Team that students have to buy food to complement what is provided by the school.

As part of the FSHS programme, other supplies like uniforms, Physical Education (PE) kits, and core textbooks

were also in short supply. Funding from government for consumables and administrative expenses, were in arrears for long periods resulting in borrowing from suppliers. It was mentioned that parents were not willing to support their wards by buying elective textbooks that were not in stock because they understand that the Free SHS Policy is fully funded by the State and does not require any investments from parents.

Some school authorities indicated that the implementation of the Free SHS policy has been successful to a large extent, save for the challenges mentioned.

Recommendations

Following the monitoring and evaluation of the FSHS programme so far, PIAC has made some recommendations to improve the performance in service delivery to the beneficiaries.

- The Committee recommends that the provision of infrastructure in the Senior High Schools should be made a priority to enable the schools deal with the challenges that have arisen from the increased enrollment.
- There should be adequate funds to ensure that supplies are delivered to the schools on time to enable the authorities provide the needed services to the students in terms of feeding and clothing.
- Funding for consumables must be timely to enable them procure their needs expeditiously.



Highlights of 2022 PIAC Semi-Annual Report

In line with its mandate, PIAC publishes two statutory reports each year – a Semi Annual and Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues. The 2022 Semi-Annual report is the 11th Semi-Annual, and 22nd in all, published by the Committee.

Highlights of the report are captured below:



Oil Production - 25,861,810 bbls



Gas Production - 124,948.79 mmscf

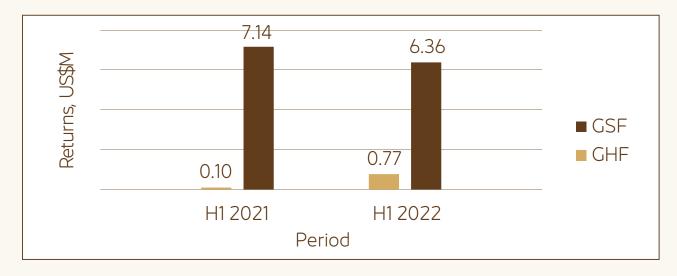


Total Revenue - US\$731.94 million

Distribution from Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF) in H1 2022

	US\$(m)	%
ABFA	183.02	24.50
GNPC	173.84	23.28
GHF	117.01	15.67
GSF	273.02	36.55
TOTAL	746.89	100

Returns on the Ghana Petroleum Funds (GPFs)



Balances of the Ghana Petroleum Funds as at H1 2022



FINDINGS

- ► Following the acquisition of 7 percent interest in the Jubilee and TEN Fields by GNPC in 2021, JOHL made its first lifting (944,164bbls) on the Jubilee Field in H1 2022, amounting to US\$100,748,907.95. This amount was not paid into the Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF).
- ► Contrary to Section 6(e) of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815), Capital Gains Tax was not assessed and collected by the Ghana Revenue Authority in the sale of the 7% interest by Anadarko in the Jubilee and TEN Fields in 2021.
 - In its written response to PIAC on the matter, the Ghana Revenue Authority referred the Committee to the Ministry of Finance indicating that the Ministry was exclusively in charge of the transaction. The Ministry of Finance in turn referred the Committee to the Ghana Revenue Authority for answers.
- ▶ The retention of the current cap of US\$100 million on the GSF for the year 2022 is not in accordance with the formula stipulated in the Petroleum Revenue Management Regulations, 2019 (L.I. 2381). A proper application of the formula would have returned a figure of US\$460,633,074.02.
- ► An amount of US\$25.62 million was transferred to GIIF in H1

- 2022. According to the Fund, the entire disbursement was used to support the Agenda 111 Project of the Government. In 2021, GIIF received an amount of \$49.39 (GHC290,377,059.18) towards the Agenda 111 Project. PIAC is yet to receive specific details of all disbursements.
- Total outstanding payments and guarantees by GNPC on behalf of other State-owned enterprises amounted to US\$636.46 million (excluding payments expected from gas sales) as at the end of H1 2022. GNPC continues to budget for recoveries from receivables (US\$183.47 million in 2022 and US\$126.68 million in 2021), but no recoveries were made as at the end of H1 2022.
- There was unutilised ABFA of GH¢201,996,032.27 as at the end of 2021, representing 9.80% of 2021 utilisation. This figure was not brought forward in H1 2022. According to the MoF, details of this amount will be forwarded to PIAC by the end of the year.
- During the period under review, the Committee inspected 17 ABFAfunded projects in four (4) regions. Sixteen out of these projects had received an average ABFA funding of 56 percent relative to the original contract sum. Out of the projects inspected, eight (8) were completed at the time of the visit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- PIAC recommends that the proceeds of liftings by JOHL should be paid into the Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF), as the Committee is convinced that the proceeds form part of Ghana's petroleum revenues.
- The Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) needs to intensify its efforts at collecting surface rental arrears in addition to any new assessment before the end of the year. To enable GRA assess and collect revenues from IOCs before they exit Ghana, the Minister for Energy is encouraged to inform GRA and other relevant institutions before the termination of PAs.
- Parliament should give more attention to GNPC's budget and ensure that the Corporation's budget is based on realistic estimates of expected revenue.
- ► The Ghana Revenue Authority and the Ministry of Finance should collaborate to ensure that Capital Gains Tax and other taxes arising from transactions in the sector are assessed and paid into the PHF.
- PIAC recommends that Government should direct subsequent disbursements to GIIF intended for Agenda 111, to the Ministry of Health to support the Agenda 111 Project. Additionally, GIIF should focus the utilisation of its share of ABFA on its core mandate of investing funds commercial infrastructural projects, in accordance with the GIIF Act, 2014 (Act 877) and policy guidelines of the Fund, and not social infrastructure like hospitals.

Vice Chairman participates in national conference on Sovereign Wealth Fund in Mozambique

he Vice Chairman of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), Mr Nasir Alfa Mohammed, has participated in a highlevel national conference in Maputo for the establishment of a transparent and sustainable Sovereign Wealth Fund for Mozambique.

Mr Alfa Mohammed's participation was upon an invitation from the Civic Movement on the Sovereign Wealth Fund (a consortium of major Mozambican Civil Society Organisations), the conference organizers. It was also a follow-up to a working visit paid to PIAC earlier in the year by a Mozambican delegation consisting of Members of Parliament and Civil Society activists to learn at first hand PIAC's experiences in the fulfilment of its mandate.

The one-day conference attracted over 50 participants and was aimed at creating space for a dialogue between Civil Society, Government, Parliamentarians, Academia, and Experts in matters relating to the management of revenues from the extractive industry.

The PIAC Vice Chairman led a panel that discussed the role of different stakeholders, principles of transparency and accountability from the Ghanaian perspective, based on the experiences of PIAC.

He used the opportunity to emphasize the independent oversight mandate of PIAC as an institution created by the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815). Citing Ghana's example regarding the management of Sovereign Wealth Funds, Mr Alfa Mohammed explained that Act 815 established the Ghana Petroleum Funds (GPFs) which comprise the Ghana Stabilization Fund (GSF) and the Ghana Heritage Fund (GHF).

He highlighted the nature and character of the investment portfolios of each of the Funds, the role of the Investment Advisory Committee (IAC), and also discussed the ongoing debate in Ghana on the appropriateness of the established investment portfolios for the GPFs.

Focusing on PIAC as an institution, the Vice Chairman said, the establishment of the Accountability Committee has made tremendous positive impact on petroleum revenue management in Ghana, despite the challenges encountered in the early years of the Committee.

He reiterated the need for the Mozambican authorities to ensure

that their petroleum revenue management framework yielded positive benefits for their country.

"There is no one-fits-all model for petroleum revenue management. As such, Mozambique would have to consider her aspirations, national interest, sub-national considerations, unique developmental needs and resource potential, among others, in designing an appropriate revenue management framework for the country," he noted.

Other topics discussed at the conference were the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund as a mechanism for managing revenues from the extractive industry in Mozambique, the roadmap for the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund, and the appropriate fund model for Mozambique. The rest are the management and sustainability of the Sovereign Wealth Fund, and the importance of savings.



PIAC's 2022 Second Half-**Year Activity Report**

Programmes and activities undertaken by the Committee in the second half of 2022 are detailed as follows.

Forum on PIAC Recommendations

The Forum on PIAC Recommendations was held on Thursday, 7th July, 2022 at the Coconut Grove Regency Hotel in Accra. The purpose of the engagement was to facilitate the implementation of the Committee's recommendations by relevant institutions of State and government to ensure the effective management and use of the revenues. The institutions that had a responsibility with regards to the outstanding recommendations were the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), Ghana National Gas Company (GNGC), Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), Petroleum Commission (PC), the Bank of Ghana and the Ministry of Finance (MoF). Each institution was presented with the issues and given the opportunity to provide updates on the recommendations.





Engagement with Morning Show Hosts and Producers

The activity took place at the Hillview Guest Centre in Teiman, from Friday 8th - Sunday 10th July, 2022. The engagement sought to leverage the capacities of both journalists and presenters who are primarily Morning Show Hosts or Producers on different media platforms, in assisting PIAC in its advocacy.

Sessions on the Overview of the PRMA and its Regulations, PIAC 2021 Annual Report, and Highlights of Assessment of 10 Years of Petroleum Revenues Management were presented.

Each session was followed by an open forum, which handled questions asked by members and Secretariat staff and answers were provided by the facilitators.





Pre-launch Media Briefing on PIAC 2022 Semi-Annual Report

PIAC, as mandated by Section 56 of the PRMA is required to publish a Semi-Annual and an Annual Report each year on 15th September and 15th March respectively in the subsequent year. In fulfilment of this mandate, the Committee published its 2022 Semi-Annual Report on the Management and Use of Petroleum Revenues in Ghana on Tuesday, 27th September, 2022.

As part of efforts to equip the media with details of the report prior to the launch, a pre-launch media briefing, took place on Tuesday, 27th September, 2022 at the PIAC Secretariat. The aim was to provide them with first-hand information on the report and also present key issues to help streamline reportage and minimize inaccuracies in reporting.

The briefing on the content of the report was done by the Chairman of the Committee, Professor Kwame Adom-Frimpong.





Courtesy Call by the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA)

The National Executive of the GJA led by its President, Mr Albert Kwabena Dwumfour paid a courtesy call on Members of the Public Interest & Accountability Committee (PIAC) in Accra, on Thursday, September 1, 2022.

The meeting was to explore collaborative options to get Ghanaians informed about the management and use of petroleum revenues by actors in government and how to equip journalists with relevant knowledge and information through capacity-building training.

The GJA Executive were received by the Chairman of PIAC, Prof Kwame Adom-Frimpong and other Members of PIAC.





Meeting with Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC)

Leadership of the Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC) led by its Executive Secretary, Dr Ishmael Ackah paid a courtesy call on Members of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) on Tuesday, 4th October, 2022.

The meeting was to discuss how to strengthen the collaboration between the two institutions and to help understand their operations.

The team was received by the Chairman of PIAC, Prof Kwame Adom-Frimpong and other Members of PIAC.



Engagement with journalists (IFEJ, PARLIAMENTARY PRESS CORPS & OTHER MEDIA)

As part of its regular engagements with its constituent bodies, the Committee holds annual meetings with the media, comprising members of the Institute of Financial and Economic Journalists (IFEJ), key media partners that report on PIAC activities and the Parliamentary Press Corps.

The November engagement, the second in the series for the year focused on providing a platform for the media partners to familiarise with PIAC's 2022 Semi-Annual Report. The session also provided the opportunity for participants to engage in a deep data dive on the report to tease out issues worth discussing. To also build the capacity of the journalists, a session was introduced on extractive sector reporting and writing.

The activity took place in Koforidua, in the Eastern Region, and was co-sponsored by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).



Engagement with Queen Mothers in the Savannah Region on Petroleum Revenue Management

By Jessica Acheampong,Communications Officer, PIAC

IAC engaged Queen Mothers in the Savannah Region to provide updates on how government has used petroleum revenues since 2011.

The forum, which is the second of its kind with the Queen Mothers Association of Ghana, and the first with the group in the Savannah Region, was also to educate the queen mothers on the work of PIAC. It was organized in line with PIAC's second mandate of providing space and platform for public debate on the management and use of petroleum revenues, and brought together Queen Mothers from the different traditional councils within the Region.

A video documentary on the ten (10) years of petroleum production and revenue management in Ghana was shown, and a presentation petroleum highlights of revenue management since 2011 which extensively focused on oil production, the revenues accrued, and its utilization, issues arising out of PIAC's project inspections, public engagements, key findings and recommendations in the 2021 PIAC Annual Report was presented by Mr. Eric Defor, a member of the committee. He also provided a background to PIAC's mandate and membership composition.

The Chairman for the forum, Sawlawura Abdulai Idrissu Nugbaso expressed gratitude to the Committee for coming to educate the Queen Mothers on the use of petroleum revenues. He said the session had been an eye-opener and there was therefore the need to demand accountability from government and its agencies. The Chairman also advised the Queen Mothers to be involved in PIAC's activities and follow discussions on the management and use of petroleum revenues, which should benefit all Ghanaians.

Honouring a Representative

At the forum, the representative of the Queen Mothers Association of Ghana on PIAC, Hajia Dr Kansawurche Azara Bukari whose tenure ended in September 2022, was honoured for her diligent service to Ghana.

Recounting her journey with PIAC, the Vice Chairman of PIAC, Mr Nasir Alfa Mohammed indicated that Hajia Dr Kansawurche Azara Bukari was sworn in on 14th December 2018, to serve a 2-year term. After her tenure ended in September 2020, she was

re-nominated to serve for another two (2) year term.

Mr Alfa Mohammed added that during Kansawurche's tenure with PIAC, she served on the Public Affairs and Communications Sub-Committee, and the Finance, Administration and Procurement Sub-Committee where contributed immensely to the work of these sub-committees leading to the introduction of various interventions to boost the Committee's work.

She has been active in almost every aspect of the committee's work, from District Engagements, Project Inspections, and various meetings of the Committee. The Committee is grateful for Kansawurche's contribution to its work and will forever cherish the time she shared with us.

In response, Hajia Dr Kansawurche Azara Bukari expressed gratitude to her mother association for nominating her to serve on PIAC. She said her experience with PIAC was different from what she was accustomed to as a health worker. She therefore took the challenge on and gave off her best during her tenure. She also expressed gratitude to her fellow Queen Mothers for their support.



Project Inspections

In line with its third mandate, the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) carries out inspections on projects that received funding from the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA). This mandate enjoins PIAC to provide independent assessment on the management and use of petroleum revenues to assist Parliament and the Executive in the oversight and the performance of related functions. The inspection is thus to verify the existence and progress of the projects, and assess their viability to the communities in which they are located.

Highlights of projects visited during the second half of the year are captured below:

• Erection and Completion of 3-Storey RCC Administration Block at Damongo (Savannah Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢8,630,297.41	2021	Work on the construction had reached a 93% physical completion stage, as at the time of the visit. Although there were outstanding works to be done, the progress of work was commendable. Furniture to be used in the offices had been acquired ahead in readiness for the completion of the project.





· Construction of 3 no. Senior Staff Bungalows at Damongo (Savannah Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢845,508.64	2020	At the time the PIAC team visited, the project had reached a 57% physical completion stage. All the 3-unit bungalows had been built, roofed and walled. Internal finishing was yet to be done, as well as works on the exterior.





Construction of CHPS Compound at Mognori in the Damongo Constituency (Savannah Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
		The CHPS compound had been completed and handed over for use by
		the community when the team visited. Barely a year after the facility was
GH¢197,700.00	2021	put to use, portions of the building had started deteriorating. In terms of
		human resource, the facility also had just two staff nurses attending to
		patients, a situation they described as woefully inadequate.





• Upgrading of New Longoro - Kintampo - Zambrama Road (Bono East Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢19,984,053.63	2020	The team observed that the Kintampo – New Longoro section of the project had been completed, with the outstanding work being the construction of the side slope for the bridge.





Construction of 1 no. 3-unit Classroom Block with Ancillary Facilities at Kadelso Basic School in the Kintampo North Constituency (Bono East Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢78,651.90	2020	The project was completed as at the time of the Team's visit. It however had developed roof leakage defects which had caused the plywood ceiling to deteriorate. Also, the drainage was blocked causing rain water to have a reverse flow.





• Construction of 1000 MT Warehouse and Ancillary Structures at Jema (Bono East Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢1,195,848.18	2021	The project had been abandoned as at the time of visit. The Committee
		also noted that inferior materials were used for the roof and gates. This had
		led to certain structural defects such as opening in the roof. The structure
		had no door as well and a piece of metal roofing sheet was used as interim
		solution which posed a threat to people on site.





Rehabilitation of Slaughter House in the Kintampo South Constituency (Bono East Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢80,756.10 20		The project was completed at the time the Committee visited. However,
	2020	both structures were in a dilapidated state with the roofing sheets
		showing signs of rust and the coats of paint coming off the structures.





• Evacuation of Refuse Dump at Jema in the Kintampo South Constituency (Bono East Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
		As at the time of the Team's visit, members of the community stated
		that ZoomLion Co. Ltd (the company responsible for evacuating the
GH¢189,924.00	2020	refuse in the district) had not been regularly evacuating the refuse.
		This had led to accumulation of refuse at the site making it a potential
		factor for disease outbreak in the community.





• Construction of the Axim Coastal Protection Project (Western region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢35,587,902.30	2020	As at the time of the Team's visit, the project was 100 per cent
		completed. The boulders had been mounted and the fisher folks were
		busily at work. As part of the project, there was an inland port made
		for the fishermen as well.





• Construction of CHPS Compound at Akango - Nzema East Constituency (Western Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
		As at the time the PIAC team visited, the project had been abandoned, the
		structure had been outgrown by weeds and some portions had started
GH¢194,614.70	2020	deteriorating although it was 97 per cent completed. The community
		was currently using a make-shift shed to provide health care services to
		residents.







Rehabilitation of Tarkwa-Bogoso-Ayamfuri Road, and Relocation of Water Facilities along the Project Road (Western Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
		The project was completed and the road markings were done at the time
		the PIAC Team visited. The Chief Engineer who accompanied the team was
GH¢905,203.43	2021	however not able to confirm the exact location of the water facilities that had
	been relocated along the road project since the Team did not give prior notice	
		to the Bogoso Municipal Assembly of its visit.





Construction of Community Center, Office and Store at Ahwetieso in the Tarkwa Nsuaem Constituency (Western Region)

ABFA DISBURSEMENT	YEAR	STATUS OF WORK
GH¢87,308.10	2020	As at the time the PIAC team visited, the project had been abandoned,
		overgrown with weeds and was deteriorating. Calls made to the contractor
		on the project revealed that they were yet to be paid for the work they had
		already done. Traditional authorities appealed to PIAC to make a case for the
		completion of the project.





Contact PIAC





