

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND  
REGIONAL INTEGRATION**



**2012 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

**MARCH, 2013**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA 2010-2013), the current National Development Policy Framework, is targeted at accelerating employment creation and income generation for poverty reduction and shared growth. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration is reporting for the year 2012, based on the Sector Medium Term Development Plan which is aligned to the GSGDA under the following thematic areas;

- i) Thematic Area I - Ensuring a Sustaining Macro Economic Stability
- ii) Thematic Area V - Infrastructure and Human Settlements Development
- iii) Thematic Area VI - Human Development: Productivity and Employment
- iv) Thematic Area VII - Transparent and Accountable Governance

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration is the principal organ of state responsible administratively and executively for the initiation, formulation, coordination and management of Ghana's Foreign Policy. It comprises the Headquarters, fifty (50) Diplomatic Missions, six (6) Consulate-Generals, and fifty-eight (58) Honorary Consuls. Three subvented organizations, viz, the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD), the National African Peer Review Mechanism Governing Council (NAPRM-GC) and the African Students Union (AASU), also operate under the Ministry.

## **MISSION**

The Mission of the Ministry is to advise Government on the formulation of Ghana's foreign policy and ensure its execution in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

The Ministry is thus responsible for the collection and assembling of data, their analysis, the selection of options and submission of recommendations on all matters pertaining to Ghana's external relations with other states, for the consideration of Cabinet. Where other Ministries are charged with responsibilities involving foreign relations, they discharge such duties in consultation with the Ministry.

## VISION

The Vision of the Ministry is:

“To build a well-resourced institution capable of establishing, developing and sustaining international goodwill, solidarity and support for national development.”

## MANDATE

The mandate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration is derived from Chapter Six of the 1992 Constitution dealing with the Directive Principles of State Policy which provides in Article 40 that “In dealings with other nations, the Government shall –

- (a) Promote and protect the interest of Ghana;
- (b) Seek the establishment of a just and equitable international, economic and social order;
- (c) Promote respect for international law, treaty obligations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means;
- (d) Adhere to the principles enshrined in, or as the case may be, the aims and ideals of the following:
  - (i) The Charter of the United Nations
  - (ii) The now Constitutive Act of the African Union
  - (iii) The Commonwealth
  - (iv) The treaty of the Economic Community of West African States;and

- (v) Any other international organizations of which Ghana is a member.

Article 73 of the Constitution also enjoins the Government “to conduct Ghana’s international affairs in consonance with the accepted principles of public international law and diplomacy in a manner consistent with her national interest.”

## FUNCTIONS

The core functions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration take cognizance of Ghana’s developmental priorities and seek to advance these in the international arena, drawing on the fund of goodwill and solidarity that Ghana enjoys within the international community. These functions find expression in the Strategic Plan and performance-oriented goals set for accomplishment by the various Bureaux of the Ministry and Ghana’s Diplomatic Missions abroad. These include:

- i. Continued advise to Government on the formulation of foreign policy by:
  - Monitoring and analyzing developments on the international scene and advising on their implications for our national development;
  - Sensitizing and reporting on international public opinion to developments in Ghana; and
  - Ensuring active participation in deliberations of international organizations and promoting the election of suitable Ghanaians to the leadership of such organizations to which Ghana belongs.
- ii. Coordination of the implementation of Ghana’s foreign policy objectives by:
  - Developing and strengthening collaboration with all stakeholders involved in the implementation of Ghana’s foreign policy objectives; and
  - Monitoring the implementation of decisions taken at international conferences and organizations, to ensure consistency with Ghana’s national interest and the basic principles of the organizations themselves.

- iii. Advancement of Ghana's economic interest by working with other MDAs to achieve targets set by the Government for the expansion of trade, tourism and inward investments by:
  - Cooperating with national economic operators directly involved in the promotion of foreign earnings and inward investments;
  - Optimizing the contributions of our Diplomatic Missions in support of Ghanaian business and economic interests;
  - Participating and monitoring, in cooperation with other MDAs, in the development of international regulatory framework for trade, investment and financial flows which may impinge on Ghana's economic interest;
  - Advising other MDAs on developments abroad which may have implications for Ghana's economic and political interest and for bilateral economic or other agreements concluded with other countries; and
  - Promoting Ghana as an international conference, investment and tourism destination.
  
- iv. Coordinating Ghana's contribution to Regional Integration within which national political, economic and social objectives can be promoted and the national interest protected. This would be accomplished by:
  - Cooperating with other MDAs in elaborating a coherent approach to the evaluation and pursuit of our national interest within the international community.
  
- v. Developing and coordinating Ghana's negotiating position at Regional, Continental and International conferences so that the outcome serves Ghana's interests to the greatest extent possible by:
  - Encouraging, in cooperation with other MDAs, maximum awareness of international issues within Ghana's administrative system;
  - Cooperating and acting in concert with other states on key negotiating issues;
  - Promoting support for and understanding of Ghana's policies and position;

- Promoting an African Agenda as elaborated by the A.U. and Sub-Regional Economic Groups within International Organizations; and
  - Developing a database of qualified Ghanaian nationals for appointment to positions in Regional, Continental and International Organizations.
- vi. Developing and maintaining diplomatic relations as well as promoting cordial bilateral political, economic, scientific, technological and cultural relations with friendly countries. These were to be accomplished by:
- Encouraging and facilitating the exchange of official visits at all levels;
  - Holding consultations with counterpart Foreign Ministries and Administrative Heads of Foreign Ministries;
  - Developing institutional frameworks, including Joint Commissions for Cooperation and Bilateral Consultations Mechanisms for the conduct of productive and mutually beneficial cooperation with friendly countries; and
  - Monitoring and reporting on developments in other countries and their implications for bilateral cooperation and friendly engagements.
- vii. Providing integrated legal services within the Ministry and in close collaboration with the Attorney General's Office by ensuring appropriate legal inputs are taken into consideration at all stages of policy formulation and implementation.
- viii. Maximizing Ghana's representation and participation in international legal fora and related bodies by:
- Ensuring Ghana's effective participation in international legal deliberations in collaboration with other national stakeholders; and
  - Ensuring the timely ratification of all instruments concluded between Ghana and other countries and international organizations.
  - Working with the relevant Parliamentary Committee for the early ratification of Treaties signed by Ghana.
- ix. Contributing to greater public awareness of Ghana's international rights and obligations by:

- Compiling and publishing all International Agreements to which Ghana is a party; and
  - Making available, copies of all signed Agreements to the Public Depositories as defined by law and to ensure that backups of all Treaties signed by Ghana are available at Public Depositories.
- x. Improving the quality of consular services provided by the Ministry and its Diplomatic and Consular Missions by:
- Establishing specific standards to which customers are entitled and producing performance indicators of standards actually achieved.
- xi. Maintaining close contact with Ghanaian communities around the world including immigrant groups by:
- Briefing the general public on the services provided by the Ministry and its Missions abroad;
  - Publicizing details of the consular protection extended to Ghanaian citizens;
  - Identifying and supporting voluntary organizations providing welfare assistance and advice to Ghanaian citizens abroad;
  - Enhancing collaboration with international organizations involved in migration issues; and
  - Collaborating with the Ministry of Interior in the effective implementation of the Dual Nationality Law, especially in the light of recent Supreme Court rulings on the Dual Citizenship Law of Ghana.
- xii. Provide and support the staff required to enable the Ministry achieve its objectives by:
- Providing an efficient and responsive human resource management service by improving methods for recruiting, promoting and assigning staff and enhancing support services for staff;

- Developing a structured training programme to provide staff with the knowledge and skills required to perform to their full potential in an increasingly challenging work environment;
  - Improving performance management throughout the Ministry by developing appraisal systems and devolving day-to-day human resource management functions to line Directorate; and
  - Encouraging staff development by promoting greater progression based on merit, and identifying ways of ensuring the best use of the experience and expertise acquired by staff.
- xiii. Administer efficiently the financial resources of the Ministry in strict compliance with laid down rules and regulations to facilitate the achievement of set objectives;
- Further develop control systems to improve cost effective resource management and to ensure compliance with the country's Financial Administration Regulations, Procurement and Internal Audit Laws.
- These would be accomplished by:
- Enhancing the budgetary process within the Ministry through the active involvement of line Directors; and
  - Reviewing and improving the accounting arrangements, maintenance and procurement including practices, resource allocation, revenue collection, public procurement and debt recovery.

### Processes Involved and Difficulties Encountered

In view of the importance the Ministry attaches to the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Sector Medium Term Development Plan, it has been collaborating with its stakeholders to monitor the implementation of its activities since 2010. However, the main difficulty it is encountering is inadequate funding and delayed responses from other MDAs.

The Annual Progress Report is aimed at tracking down progress of policy implementation and effectiveness as well as identifying problems associated with implementation for redress.

### Evaluation

Since the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA 2010-2013) will end in December 2013, the Ministry will undertake an evaluation of its activities at the end of this year.

## **STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY ACTIVITIES UNDER SECTOR MEDIUM TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

In line with its policy objectives under the under-listed thematic areas of the GSGDA, the Ministry pursued the following strategies and activities:

### **THEMATIC AREA (I): ENSURING AND SUSTAINING MACROECONOMIC STABILITY**

#### **a) To Engage Fully in Multilateral Trade Negotiations**

During the year under review, the Ministry actively articulated Ghana's views on the promotion of mutual understanding on global issues and within the various international organisations on which it is represented, sought solutions to the challenges that confronted the global community, including threats to international peace and security. These international fora included meetings of UNCTAD, ACP, ECA and the WTO.

The former Hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration led Ghana's delegation to participate in the 95<sup>th</sup> and 96<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the ACP Council of Ministers and ACP-EU Council of Ministers Meetings in Vanuatu and Equatorial Guinea in June and December 2012, respectively.

The delegation urged the meeting to incorporate poverty alleviation and environmentally friendly issues in the Economic Partnership Agreement, (EPA), between the EU and West Africa.

#### **b) Facilitate the participation of Ghanaian Companies in Trade Fairs abroad**

The Ministry facilitated and participated in trade fairs abroad by showcasing Ghanaian products such as textiles, finished garments, alcoholic beverages, pharmaceutical and cocoa products, handicrafts, ceramics, natural herbal products, aluminum utensils, fruit juices etc, to win new markets and promote the export of Ghanaian goods.

## UPDATE ON INDICATORS AND TARGETS

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>2009 BASELINE</b>	<b>2011 TARGET</b>	<b>2011 INDICATOR LEVEL</b>	<b>2012 INDICATOR LEVEL</b>
Number of international trade fairs participated in.	22	25	22	25
Number of multilateral trade meetings participated in	N/A	5	12	24

In 2012, the Ministry participated in 25 international Trade Fairs. This was a slight improvement over the previous year's figure.

However, Missions' participation in various Conferences have not been very effective due to inadequate support from the relevant MDAs.

### THEMATIC AREA V: INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DEVELOPMENT

#### Procure equipment to set up ICT infrastructure

- i. The Ministry procured printing equipment to enable it issue more durable plastic ID cards to the Diplomatic Corps for identification and security purposes.
- ii. New websites were also designed in a number of Missions abroad, to make the Missions more client friendly for tourists, investors and Ghanaians in the Diaspora. Some existing websites were also improved to make them more user-friendly and attractive.

## UPDATE ON INDICATORS AND TARGETS

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>2009 BASELINE</b>	<b>2011 TARGET</b>	<b>2011 INDICATOR LEVEL</b>	<b>2012 INDICATOR LEVEL</b>
Level of ICT infrastructure deployed	NA	ONGOING	ONGING	ON GOING
Number of biometric Passport Application Centers (PACs)	NO PACS ESTABLISHED	6	6	6
Ghana Missions Abroad Processing Biometric Passports	NO PACS ESTABLISHED	5	Nil	Nil
Ghana Missions abroad with online passport/visa application system	NO PACS ESTABLISHED	10	NA	N/A
Number of passports processed	116,620	200,000	179,252	186,742

Following the setting up of six (6) regional Passport Applications Centres (PACs), the Ministry has enhanced the delivery of service to the public, (within Ghana), by reducing the time for the processing of passports.

The Ministry was, however, unable to set up PACs in the remaining four (4) regions of the country (i.e. Upper West, Upper East, Central and Eastern Regions) as anticipated, due to financial constraints. Similarly, it is yet to open PAC in the identified Missions abroad as planned.

## THEMATIC AREA VI: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTIVITY AND EMPLOYMENT

### Provide Consular Services to Ghanaian Citizens and others

In line with the recognition given by Government to the economic and other contributions made by Ghanaian nationals resident abroad, to the country's development effort, the Ministry continued to protect and promote their welfare by providing prompt consular assistance, among others, in respect of travel documents, arrests and detentions, burial of deceased Ghanaians, processing of complaints and petitions as well as appeals directed at host authorities. The Missions also continued to offer assistance within the limits of their resources to Ghanaian students on sponsored courses abroad.

### UPDATE ON INDICATORS AND TARGETS

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>2009 BASELINE</b>	<b>2011 TARGET</b>	<b>2011 INDICATOR LEVEL</b>	<b>2012</b>
Number of Ghanaian citizens abroad	NA	NA	NA	101,871 (No. Registered) 2,917,688 (Estimated number of Ghanaians)
No. of scholarships obtained				7

The Ministry, through its Missions abroad, has started the registration of Ghanaians abroad to enable it ascertain the actual number of Ghanaians resident outside the country. However, the response has not been encouraging since some Ghanaians without resident permits are reluctant to register with the Missions.

In the United Kingdom for instance, only seven hundred and forty (740) registered with the Mission as at the end of 2012. However, unofficial

estimates show that there are about seven hundred and fifty thousand (750,000) illegal Ghanaian immigrants in that country.

It is estimated that in 2012 Ghanaians abroad brought between US\$1.9 – 2.2 billion as remittances into Ghana, making them valuable assets to the nation. To ensure their active participation in national development efforts, the Ministry has set up a Diasporan Unit to deal with all the concerns of Ghanaians in the Diaspora and people of African descent, including those who wish to come home for permanent settlement and for investment in the country. Ghana has also put out a legislation that grants the **Right of Abode** to persons of African descent. This is a practical way of engaging with Africans in the Diaspora and encouraging them to reconnect with their roots and granting them permanent settlement, so that they could be integrated into Ghana's development efforts.

#### **THEMATIC AREA VII: TRANSPARENT & ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE**

##### a) **Construct New Headquarters Building**

The Ministry secured a Chinese grant of US\$15million for the construction of its new Headquarters Building following the fire outbreak which destroyed its former premises in October, 2009.

The new and more befitting office building has been completed and handed over on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 to the Ministry. The building will provide congenial working environment for the Ministry, for more efficient delivery of service to the public.

##### b) **Participation in Policy Fairs**

The Ministry participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup>Government Policy Fair in four regions, namely, Greater Accra, Brong Ahafo, Western and Eastern regions. The Ministry used the occasion to sensitize the public about its activities.

c) Arrange and coordinate high level visits.

The Ministry coordinated the following high level visits which promoted cordial relations between countries with which Ghana has diplomatic relations as well as offered the opportunity to articulate Ghana's position in both regional and sub-regional organisations:

- i. the visit of H. E. President John Mahama to China to witness the signing of two (2) subsidiary agreements on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 for the release of US\$1 billion out of the US\$3 billion China Development Bank Loan facility for Infrastructure Development Projects and ICT Surveillance platform.
- ii. the visit of the former Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, Dr. Kwabena Duffour to Saudi Arabia in 2012, which led to the signing of a loan agreement of SR 45 million (US\$12 million) offered by the Saudi Government for the construction of a Trauma and Acute Care Centre at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital.
- iii. the visit of H.E. the President to Abuja on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 during which he conferred with his Nigerian counterpart on issues regarding the maintenance of the West African Gas Pipeline.
- iv. the visit of the former Hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alhaji Muhammad Mumuni to Abuja to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government held from 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.
- v. the visit of the late President John Evans Atta Mills to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to participate in the 18<sup>th</sup> AU Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in January, 2012. The late President delivered the Key Note address on the theme "Boosting Intra-Africa Trade". He was also the special guest at the unveiling of the statue of the late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the Pan-Africanist, erected in his

honour at the forecourt of the newly inaugurated AU Headquarters building in Addis Ababa.

- vi. the visit of the former Hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs to Addis Ababa to participate in the mid-year African Union Summit held in July 2012, where he contributed to a debate on assessing progress in respect of Intra-African Trade.
  - vii. the visit of H.E. the President to New York to participate in the 67<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly Session held from 18<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2012. In his address to the Assembly, the President, among others, made reference to Ghana's peaceful democratic dispensation which has made the country the preferred investment destination.
  - viii. the visit of H.E. Mr. Kwesi Bekoe Amissah-Arthur, the former Governor of the Bank of Ghana, who led a delegation to Addis Ababa to attend the funeral of the late Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Ato Meles Zenawi on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2012.
  - ix. the visit of H.E. the President to London to interact with the Ghanaian Community. He used the occasion to brief members of the Community on Government policies.
- d) To ensure that Ghana signs/ratifies International Treaties/Protocols Conventions
- i. The following Instruments of Ratification for the under listed Agreements were prepared by the Ministry and forwarded to the relevant Missions to transmit to the depository:
    - **Second review of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement between Members of the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) of the one part and the European community and its member states (EU) of the other part. 2012.** (*Instrument was signed by the*

*President on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 and transmitted to the Brussels Mission on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2012)*

- **World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty.** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 and transmitted to Geneva Mission on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2012.)*
- **World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty.***(Instrument was signed by the President on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 and transmitted to Geneva Mission on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2012.)*
- **International Cocoa Agreement (ICA) 2010***( Instrument was signed by the President on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 and transmitted to our Permanent Mission in New York on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2012)*
- **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol 2012** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 and transmitted to New York Mission on 1<sup>st</sup> June,2012)*
- **Optional Protocol on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 and transmitted to New York Mission on 1<sup>st</sup> June,2012)*
- **United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime 2000.** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2012and forwarded to New York Mission on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2012)*
- **Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes 2000** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2012and forwarded to New York Mission on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2012)*
- **Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes 2000** *(Instrument was signed by the President on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2012and forwarded to New York Mission on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2012)*

ii. **The following Bilateral Investments Treaties (BITS) and AU Agreements were submitted to the Cabinet for approval on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012:**

- Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of Ghana and Spain
- Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of Ghana and Mauritius
- Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of Ghana and Botswana
- Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of Ghana and Bulgaria
- Protocol to the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism
- African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa.

iii. **The following Bilateral Investments Treaties (BITS) are before parliament for consideration and approval:**

- Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between the Republic of Ghana and the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between the Republic of Ghana and the Republic of Cuba.
- Agreement between the Republic of Ghana and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania on the Mutual Promotion and guarantee of Investments.
- Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between the Republic of Ghana and the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire.

iv. **Action in progress within the Ministry, for Cabinet Memoranda on the following Conventions:**

- Supplementary Protocol A/SP.1/01/05 amending the preamble and Articles 1,2,9,22,30 of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice and Article 4 paragraph 1 of the English version of the said Protocol
- Protocol A/P.1/01/06 establishing an ECOWAS Criminal Intelligence and Investigation Bureau
- Supplementary Protocol A/SP.1/01/06 amending Articles VI-C, VI-L, IX-8, XI-2 and XII of Protocol A/P2/7/89 on the West African Health Organization (WAHO).
- Supplementary Protocol A/SP.1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty
- Supplementary Protocol A/SP.3/06/06 amends Protocol A/P2/8/94 relating to the Community Parliament.
- ECOWAS Protocol A/P3/1/03 on Education and Training.
- General Convention A/C.1/1/03 on the Recognition and Equivalence of Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and Other Qualifications in ECOWAS Member States.
- Supplementary Protocol A/SP.1/01/0 Amending the Preamble and the Articles 1, 2, 9 and 30 and Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Article 4 Paragraphs 1 of the English Version of the said Protocol.
- Phyto-sanitary Convention for Africa

## UPDATE ON INDICATORS AND TARGETS

INDICATOR	2009 BASELINE	2010 TARGET	2011 INDICATOR LEVEL	2012
Training opportunities identified	14	20	40	34
Categories of officers trained	A-NA B-NA C-NA	A-30 B-20 C-20 <b>Total: 70</b>	A-32 B-3 C-3 Driver- 2 <b>Total: 40</b>	A -23 B -9 C -2 Drivers -0 <b>Total: 34</b>

Chanceries/ purchased	NA	2	NIL	NIL
Residences purchased	NA	2	NIL	NIL
Chanceries constructed	NA	4	1	NIL
Residencies constructed	NA	4	NIL	NIL
Chanceries refurbished.	NA	26	6	6
Residences refurbished	NA	9	3	3
Status of construction of HQ	NIL	CONSTRUCTION COMMENCED	ONGOING	Completed and handed over on 18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2013
Vehicles purchased (Headquarters & Abroad)	NA	30	15  - 10 for Headquarters including Conference Centre  - 5 for Regional Passport Application Centres	19  Washington -1 Lome- 1 Berlin - 1 Rabat -1 Cairo -1 Abidjan -1 Ottawa - 1 Brussels - 1 Conakry - 2 Harare - 2 Bamako -2 Tripoli -2 Monrovia -2 Prague - 2
Annual Progress Reports submitted to NDPC	NIL	SUBMITTED	SUBMITTED	SUBMITTED
MAB Meetings held	NIL	4	1	1
Seminars organized	2	1	1	NA

Meet-the-Press series, Policy Fairs, Press Interviews, Radio/ Television discussions organized/ participated in	1 NIL 4	1 4 4	1 4 3	1 4 NA
Newsletters published	NIL	2	1	3
International treaties/protocols/ conventions signed and ratified	11	3	4	9
Global/ Regional/sub regional meetings/conferences participated in and reported on.	32	34	34	57
Candidates from Ghana elected to positions in International Organizations	1	4	NIL	3 CEDAW, Int. Sea Bed Authority, Commission on Limits of the Continental Shelf
Number of Diplomatic Missions and Consulates established abroad	55	56	56	56
Ghana Missions abroad with trade/ investment/ tourism promotion desks	55	56	56	56
Bilateral Cooperation Agreements signed	nil	8	13	N/A
Joint Commissions held.	1	4	2	3
Number of high level visits to Ghana	5	5	4	9

In view of the high cost of rent abroad, some Missions have been indebted to landlords and faced threats of evictions with its attendant legal fees and penalties as well as discontinuation of services by various providers.

Even in cases where Government owns properties abroad, the Ministry hardly receives enough funds to keep them in pristine and habitable condition.

It is strongly recommended that Government acquires properties for Missions abroad to forestall these unsavoury situations and needless embarrassment.

### **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

Source	2011			2012		
	Approved Budget	Actual Receipts	Actual expenditure	Approved budget	Actual Receipts	Actual Expenditure
GOG	79,125,572.00	112,328,206.21	112,328,206.21	83,478,784.00	88,877,300.03	88,877,300.03
IGF	5,510,340.00	22,866,639.83	22,866,639.83	9,959,951.00	2,456,900.41	2,456,900.41
Donor Fund ECOWAS Cedi account	-	1,149,764.00	1,232,156.41	-	986,886.00	1,740,512.50
Biometric passport	-	-	-	-	17,827,993.61	-
TOTAL	84,635,912.00	136,344,610.04	136,427,002.45	93,438,735.00	110,149,080.05	93,074,712.94

<b>VARIANCE 2011</b>		<b>VARIANCE 2012</b>		<b>REMARKS</b>
<b>ACTUAL RECEIPT</b>	<b>ACTUAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>ACTUAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>ACTUAL EXPENDITURE</b>	
5,398,516.03	5,398,516.03	33,202,634.93	33,202,634.93	

### **Comments on Financial Performance**

Each year, the Ministry hardly receives enough to enable it operate optimally and fulfill the obligation of keeping Government owned properties abroad in pristine condition, through robust maintenance schemes.

Due to the Ministry's extremely low budgetary ceilings, most Missions have also been unable to carry out their programmed activities. Neither have they been able to offer the level and quality of Consular protection that have been fashioned out for Ghanaians.

In addition, there are several MDAs including the Research Department, Ministry of Education, Scholarships Secretariat etc. which owe substantial amounts of money, disbursed by Ghana Missions abroad on their behalf, which are yet to refund the monies spent by the Ministry.

## **FORWARD LOOK FOR 2013**

The year 2013, being the last year of implementation of the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA) 2010-2013, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration will continue to be guided by the relevant GSGDA parameters captured in the Ministry's Work Plan for 2013 as follows:

i) **Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation**

The Ministry will continue to strengthen Ghana's bilateral diplomacy and sustain the current trust and goodwill being enjoyed by the country among principal political and economic actors abroad, in order to enhance favourable perceptions about Ghana and enhance its leverage in negotiations at both bilateral and multilateral levels.

ii) **Diversification and Increase of Exports/Markets**

The Ministry will promote the diversification and increase of both exports and markets, by working with other MDAs to promote new goods and services through facilitating the participation of Ghanaian companies in trade fairs abroad and attract foreign companies into Ghana for similar fairs.

iii) **Participation and Reporting on Multilateral Trade Meetings**

The Ministry will also participate in and report on multilateral trade meetings within the WTO, UNCTAD and the ACP arrangements, in order to take full advantage of preferential access to markets abroad and marketing of Ghana as a preferred tourist destination.

iv) **Develop, Coordinate and Articulate Ghana's Negotiating Positions**

The Ministry will develop, coordinate and articulate Ghana's negotiating positions at Regional, Continental and International conferences with the aim of promoting international peace, security and sustainable development.

- v) Sensitization of Public on ECOWAS Protocols/Decisions  
The Ministry will sensitize the public on ECOWAS protocols and decisions to strengthen consultations between the ECOWAS national focal point, stakeholder MDAs and the private sector to address bottlenecks to the free movement of goods and services within the West African Community.
- vi) Mobilization of Ghanaian Communities Abroad  
The Ministry will continue to mobilize Ghanaian communities abroad to participate in national development and promote and protect their welfare; provide consular services and negotiate migration partnership agreements with destination countries that will best protect our emigrants.
- vii) Implementation of National E-Governance Programme  
The National E-Governance Programme will also be implemented as part of the strategies to promote the use of ICT in all sectors of the economy. In that regard, Biometric Passport Processing Centres will be set up in selected Ghana Missions abroad and in the remaining four (4) Regions of the country, resources permitting. In consultation with the National Information Technology Agency (NITA), the Ministry will continue to establish online application systems for the issuance of biometric passports and visas in and outside Ghana.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) To address the issue of inadequate funding it is recommended that Parliament could be sensitized on the need for a more functional budget for the Ministry and its Missions abroad. Approved Budgets must at least cover all fixed costs of the Ministry and the Missions.

- b) It is also recommended that dialogue and collaboration between the Ministry and other MDAs be improved to enable the Missions abroad articulate Ghana's position clearly at international fora.
- c) Officials of the Ministry should receive periodic training on Monitoring and Evaluation tools/strategies to enhance output.

### **APPENDIX 'A' ON MIGRATION**

Please find attached as Appendix 'A', the collated reports from Ghana's Missions abroad on the Key Focus Area: Managing Migration for National Development.