



PIAC NEWSLETTER

January – June 2025

PUBLIC INTEREST AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 7



PIAC, Partners discuss crude oil production decline

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Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi is new PIAC Chair

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PIAC Team understudies Indonesian petroleum industry

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New Year Message from PIAC Chair

On behalf of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), I would like to welcome all our stakeholders, partners, past and current Members, Secretariat Staff and the public to the year 2025. With a deep sense of humility and pleasure on being elected as Chair of PIAC, I extend heart-warming felicitations from the reconstituted Committee and its new leadership to the government, industry players, civil society, analysts and observers.

As we welcome and embrace the New Year, we reflect also on the past year and note the positive outcomes brought about by the collaborations and partnerships with stakeholders and partners. These collaborations and partnerships did not only reflect in the publication of the statutory reports of the Committee, undertaking public engagements and other programmes but particularly the

holding of the maiden and historic Technical Consultative Workshop on declining crude oil production in Ghana, which provided a forum for the generation of ideas to revive and revitalize the upstream oil and gas sector in Ghana.

As we look with optimism at the New Year and the opportunities it offers, PIAC will continue to work together with its stakeholders, partners and the citizens of Ghana to extend the frontiers of transparency and accountability in the management and use of petroleum revenues in Ghana. There has been strong evidence in the past

few years that, despite the energy transition drive, there is still a good case for business and economic growth with investments in hydrocarbons in developing countries. It therefore behooves Ghana to undertake a rigorous investment drive in the sector

to take advantage of the prospects for optimum economic growth.

Undoubtedly, since the coming into force of Act 815 as amended and the establishment of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee in 2011, gains have been made in the management of Ghana's petroleum revenues. PIAC will continue to collaborate with all stakeholders and partners in the fulfilment of its mandate as provided for by the Act to ensure that the upstream oil and gas sector in Ghana contributes its quota to the growth of the Ghanaian economy for the benefit of its citizens.

PIAC would like to finally congratulate the good people of Ghana on the peaceful presidential and parliamentary elections held in December, 2024 and commends the outgoing and new government for the successful transition of power from one democratically elected government to the other and look forward to a fruitful collaboration and engagement with the new government in the fulfilment of its mandate as outlined in the Petroleum Revenue Management Act 2011(Act 815) as amended.

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) wishes the government, stakeholders, partners, members, staff and the people of Ghana a happy and prosperous new year.



PIAC, Partners discuss crude oil production decline

By **Jessica Acheampong**
Senior Communications Officer, PIAC

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), in collaboration with the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), the Ministry of Energy, the Petroleum Commission (PC), Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), and the Ghana National Gas Limited Company (GNGLC), organized a two-day consultative workshop in Accra to discuss solutions to halt the decline in crude oil production in Ghana.

The Technical Consultative Workshop, held from October 16 to 17, 2024, brought together key industry stakeholders and academia to explore solutions to halt the consistent decline in the country's oil production.

Speaking at the event, the Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf emphasised



Constantine K.M.Kudzedzi, Esq., PIAC Member delivering the keynote address.

the importance of collaboration between government, policymakers and industry players to address the challenges facing the oil sector.

"Through teamwork and innovation, we can develop sustainable solutions to halt the decline in oil production," she said while urging all parties to work together for the benefit of both the oil industry and the people of Ghana. The chairman for the two-day workshop, Dr. Thomas Kofi Manu, also expressed concern over the decline in crude oil production, noting

that, while the decline in the oil fields is of a natural occurrence, technical, operational, and investment-related challenges may also be contributing to the decline.

Key presentations

Industry players took turns to highlight technical issues such as the downward trajectory of crude oil production in Ghana, factors contributing to the decline of crude oil production in Ghana, and how to attract investments in Ghana's upstream oil sector.

Communique

At the end of the workshop, PIAC and its Partners issued a communique outlining a series of recommendations to address the decline in oil production. The full communique is published on Pages 25 & 26 of this newsletter.

Dr. Manu in his closing remarks, called on PIAC to work closely with policymakers and Parliament to ensure that the recommendations are adopted and implemented.

He also urged partner agencies to act on recommendations that do not require legislative changes and emphasized the need for periodic forums to monitor the progress of the upstream petroleum sector.



Panel of experts contributing to discussions at the workshop.



Some participants in the forum.

Cover photo shows some participants in a group photograph after the opening of the 2-day Technical Consultative Workshop.

Declining crude oil production in Ghana: Lessons from other countries

AFRICA is often hailed as a resource-rich continent, possessing vast reserves of minerals, fossil fuels, and renewable energy resources. It is home to approximately a third of the world's mineral reserves, including significant deposits of gold, diamond, and cobalt. Additionally, the continent is endowed with substantial oil and natural gas reserves, particularly in countries like Nigeria, Angola, and Libya.

Despite this abundance, the continent has not been able to fully and sustainably harness these abundant natural resources primarily due to lack of investment in energy projects, leaving almost 43 percent (600 million) of its population without access to clean energy.

Crude Oil Decline in Ghana

Out of the various natural resources the continent is blessed with, one which is crucial to energy security is petroleum. Across Africa, the

major oil and gas producers are Nigeria, Algeria, Angola and Egypt. Other notable producers include the Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Ghana, among others. In the case of Ghana, commercial crude oil production began in December 2010, with a steady build up year-on-year towards its peak of 71.44 million barrels in 2019. Since then, crude oil production has been on a downward trajectory due to natural depletion of its oil fields, technical challenges, and investment-related issues. This led to a national dialogue by the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) and its partners in 2024 to discuss the decline and highlight the need for collaboration between government, policymakers, and industry players to address it.

The multi-year decline in crude oil production in Ghana is a pressing issue that reflects broader global trends in the energy sector.

Global Perspective on Crude Oil Production

The United Nations recognised that increased access to clean energy can improve human health, education, the environment, and drive economic development, by making Energy a top priority under its Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Seven (7) to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all”.

Globally, crude oil as an energy source accounts for approximately 30 percent of the current energy mix, and this is influenced by

geopolitical factors, technological advancements, and market dynamics. Although significant, due to the impact of crude oil production on climate change and environmental degradation, the development of petroleum projects has become ever complicated. This has led the world to embark on transitioning to clean renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, to take up a larger portion of the global energy mix.

Lessons from Oil Producing Countries

One might ask “what does this transition pose for oil-producing countries as well as economies that are heavily reliant on crude oil as its primary energy source?”. Well, depending on strategies and policies implemented by the adapting country, the energy transition can either present challenges or opportunity for unlocking potential and promoting sustainable development. Below are instances of adaptation by some key oil-producing countries.

• Saudi Arabia and the UAE

Saudi Arabia is one of the largest producers of crude oil, only second to the United States of America (USA). As an adaptation to the Energy Transition, Saudi has put in place a national energy transition framework, dubbed Vision 2030. This strategic framework aims to diversify the country's economy

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Who we are

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

- **Vision**

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

- **Mission**

To monitor, evaluate, independently assess government and institutional compliance with Act 815 as amended, and engage the public on the management and use of petroleum revenue, to safeguard public interest.

- **Mandate**

The Accountability Committee has three main objects as outlined in the PRMA;

1. To monitor and evaluate compliance with the Act by government and relevant institutions in the management and use of petroleum revenues and investments;
2. To provide space and platform for the public to debate on whether spending prospects and management and use

of revenues conform to development priorities as provided under section 21 (3);

3. 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.

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

Know PIAC Members

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.

Current Members of the Committee as at the end of 2024 are presented in this edition.



Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi, Esq. (Chair)
Christian Groups



Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII (Vice Chair)
National House of Chiefs



Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpong
Trades Union Congress (TUC)



Mr Edward Yaw Afriye
Ass. of Ghana Industries and Ghana Chamber of Commerce and Industries



Dr Ibrahim Lartey
Muslim Groups



Yorm Ama Abledu, Esq.
Ghana Bar Association - GBA
Chair, Legal subcommittee



Mr Richard Ellimah
Civil Society Organisations/
Community-based Organisations
Chair, Technical subcommittee



Nana Kwaku Dei (Mr Ransford Tetteh)
Ghana Journalists Association - GJA
Chair, Public Affairs and
Communications subcommittee



Ms Sena Dake
Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana
Chair, Finance, Audit, Administration
and Procurement subcommittee



Nana Yaa Ansua
Queen Mothers Association



Mr Christopher Opoku
Ghana Extractive Industries
Transparency Initiative - GHEITI



Professor Peter Quartey
Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences



Mr Samuel Bekoe
Independent Policy Research
Think Thanks

The Secretariat

Section 53 of the PRMA makes provision for the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) to have a secretariat made up of staff with different competencies to facilitate the performance of the functions of the Committee. In this edition, we present current staff of the PIAC Secretariat.



Isaac Dwamena, Esq.
Coordinator



Mark O.A. Agyemang
Technical Manager



Francis Andah
Finance Manager



Millicent Mensah
Administrative Manager



Philomina Otabil
Senior Administrative Officer



Jessica Acheampong
Senior Communications Officer



Emmanuel K.D. Gyapong
Technical Officer



Benjamin Nkrumah
Accounts Officer



Enoch Opong Baiden
Administrative Assistant/ Driver

Membership of PIAC reconstituted

The membership of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC); the statutory body with oversight responsibility for the management and use of the country's petroleum revenues, has been reconstituted following the expiration of the tenure of some Members.

Professor Peter Quartey, the Director of Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), has replaced Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf as the representative of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (GAAS). Two continuing members Nana Yaa Ansua, the Paramount Queen Mother of the Drobo Traditional Area, who is the representative of the Queen Mothers Association of Ghana, and Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpong, the representative of Trades Union Congress (TUC), were reappointed by their nominating institutions.

The three Members were sworn into office by the then Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr Stephen Amoah at a ceremony at the Ministry of Finance on Wednesday, 30th October, 2024. All three Members took both the Oath of Office and the Oath of Secrecy.

Speaking after the swearing-in of the new Members, Dr Amoah urged the new Members to use their varied expertise to help the country fully optimise the use of the country's petroleum resources. He said the nomination of the Members was a call to public service and that required a

high level of commitment towards the principles of transparency and accountability. He used the occasion to pay tribute to the exiting Members for their contribution towards fulfilling the mandate of PIAC.

In a response on behalf of the New Members, Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpong expressed gratitude to their nominating institutions for

confidence reposed in the them and appointing them to serve on PIAC. She assured that the Members will work towards fulfilling the mandate of the Committee.

On Wednesday, 11th December, 2024, Mr Samuel Bekoe, nominated by Think Tanks was sworn in by the Chair of PIAC, Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi, Esq.



The newly sworn-in members with the then Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr Stephen Amoah (2nd left) after the ceremony.



Mr Samuel Bekoe (right) taking the oath of office and oath of secrecy at his swearing in.



Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presenting her notes to Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi, Esq, the new PIAC Chair.



Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi, Esq, congratulating Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII, Vice Chair of PIAC after his swearing-in.

Kudzedzi, Esq is new PIAC Chair

Members of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) have elected Constantine K.M. Kudzedzi, Esq as its new Chair for a one-year term in a meeting held on Friday, 1st November, 2024. He is the representative of the Christian Groups on PIAC.

He was sworn into office on Tuesday, November 5 by the outgoing Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, who was the first female Chair of PIAC.

The new PIAC Chair is a Barrister at Law/Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ghana with over twenty-two years of experience.

He has practiced law extensively and been involved in several civil litigation in Land Law, Chieftaincy, Oil and Gas, Succession, Company Law, Commercial and Debt Recovery, Insurance and a bit of Criminal Justice some of which cases are reported in the Ghana Law Reports and online

Dennis Law Reports.

Apart from his law practice, he is a Lecturer in Law at the Faculty of Law and the Institute for Oil and Gas Studies, University of Cape Coast.

He has lectured for the past ten years in Petroleum Law, Oil and Gas Law, Law of Taxation, Natural Resources Law, Law of Equity and Trusts and Law of Succession and has some few publications in that regard. He has served as Coordinator for the Department of Legal Extension and Community Engagements and until quite recently, Head of the Department of Legal Studies Faculty of Law, University of Cape Coast.

In a remark, after his swearing in, the PIAC Chair expressed gratitude to Members for their support and reiterated the need to collaborate and work together to fulfil the mandate of PIAC.

New PIAC Vice Chair

At the same meeting, Odeefuo

Amoakwa Boadu VIII who represents the National House Chief was re-elected as Vice Chair to serve a one-year term. Odeefuo Amoakwa Buadu VIII is the Omanhene of the Brehman Traditional Area in the Central Region. He is also the President of the Central Regional House of Chiefs.

Subcommittee chairs

The various subcommittees of PIAC were also reconstituted and new Chairs elected to serve a one-year term. Mr Richard Ellimah, the Member representing Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) was elected to Chair the Technical subcommittee.

Nana Kwaku Dei (Mr Ransford Tetteh), Member representing the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) was re-elected Chair of the Public Affairs and Communications subcommittee.

Yorm Ama Abledu, Esq, Member representing the Ghana Bar Association chairs the Legal subcommittee, and Ms Sena Dake, Member representing the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana (ICAG), was also elected to chair the Finance, Administration, Audit and Procurement subcommittee.



Members of PIAC and the GFD after the meeting.

PIAC engages the Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) held its maiden engagement with the Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations (GFD) as part of efforts to ensure that the viewpoints and needs of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) are considered during decision-making processes related to the management of petroleum revenues.

Held on 16th July, 2024 in Accra, the meeting emphasised the need for the voices of persons with disabilities (PWDs) to be included in discussions surrounding resource governance and accountability.

Speaking at the event, the Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf said the event provided a platform to update the group on the management and use

of petroleum revenues for 2023, and to collaborate with them to support advocacy efforts related to petroleum revenue management in Ghana.

She added that it also underscores PIAC's commitment to fostering inclusivity and incorporating diverse perspectives in its decision-making processes regarding the management

of petroleum revenues.

The President of the Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations (GFD), Mr Joseph Atsu Humadzi, in his remarks, said the voice of citizens in the management of petroleum revenues was key to ensure that revenues are used in a manner that benefit future generations.

He added that it was important that the country in the future point out monumental projects funded solely with petroleum revenues.



The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, presenting copies of the 2023 PIAC Annual Report to Mr Joseph Atsu Humadzi, President of the GFD.

PIAC Members and Staff build capacity

Members and staff of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) took part in a 3-day residential training programme to help build the capacity requisite to fulfill the mandate of the Committee.

Participants were taken through provisions of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011, Act 815 and how it determines the role of PIAC,

PIAC’s Communication Strategy and the PIAC Brands Manual. Participants were also lectured on how to communicate effectively.

Speaking at the opening, the then Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, emphasised the significance of the session. She said the initiative reflected PIAC’s commitment to ensuring the efficient management

of Ghana’s petroleum revenues by investing in capacity building. The acquired skills, she explained, are expected to bolster the expertise of the committee’s members and staff, further empowering them to fulfil their responsibilities effectively.

Additionally, the Past PIAC Vice Chairperson, Professor Thomas K. Stephens, stressed the need for a strengthened relationship between the Committee and the Secretariat to improve the working relationship and encouraged the Committee to follow procedures based on the legal framework provided.



PIAC Members and Staff with some resource persons after the training session.



Dr Nii Darku Asante making a presentation on the mandate of PIAC in light of provisions in the PRMA.



Ms Esi Asante Antwi facilitated a session on getting and keeping your audience engaged and interested.



Yorm Ama Abledu, Esq. PIAC Member presented a paper on strategies to attract more investments to Ghana’s basins.

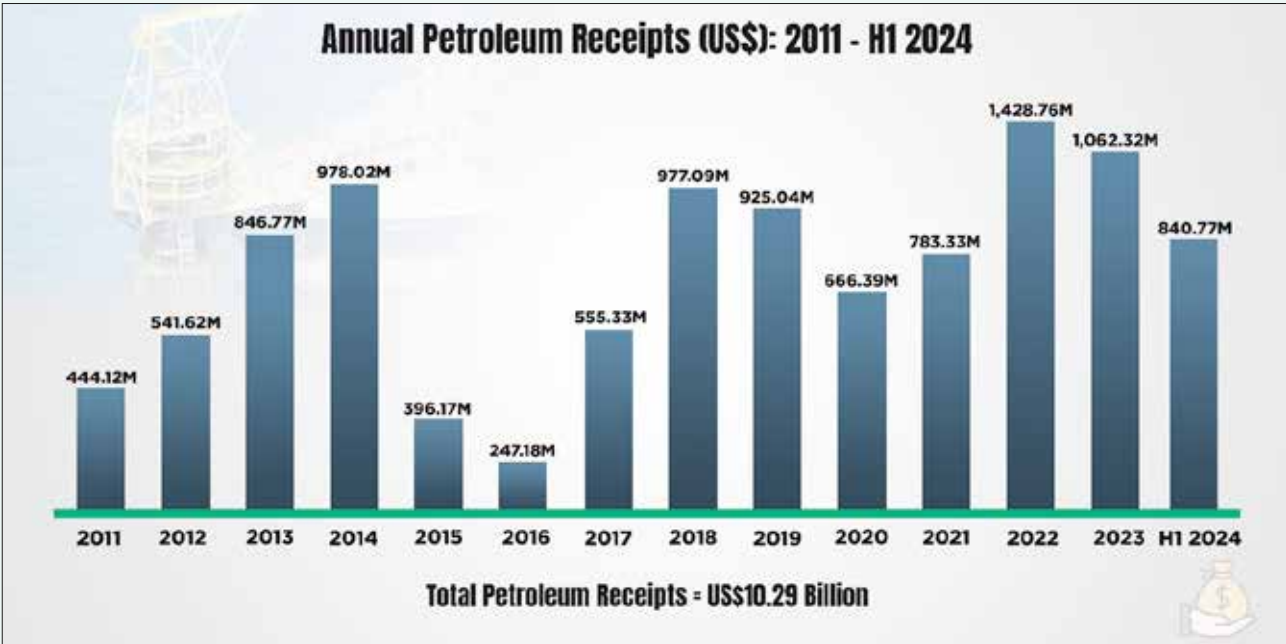
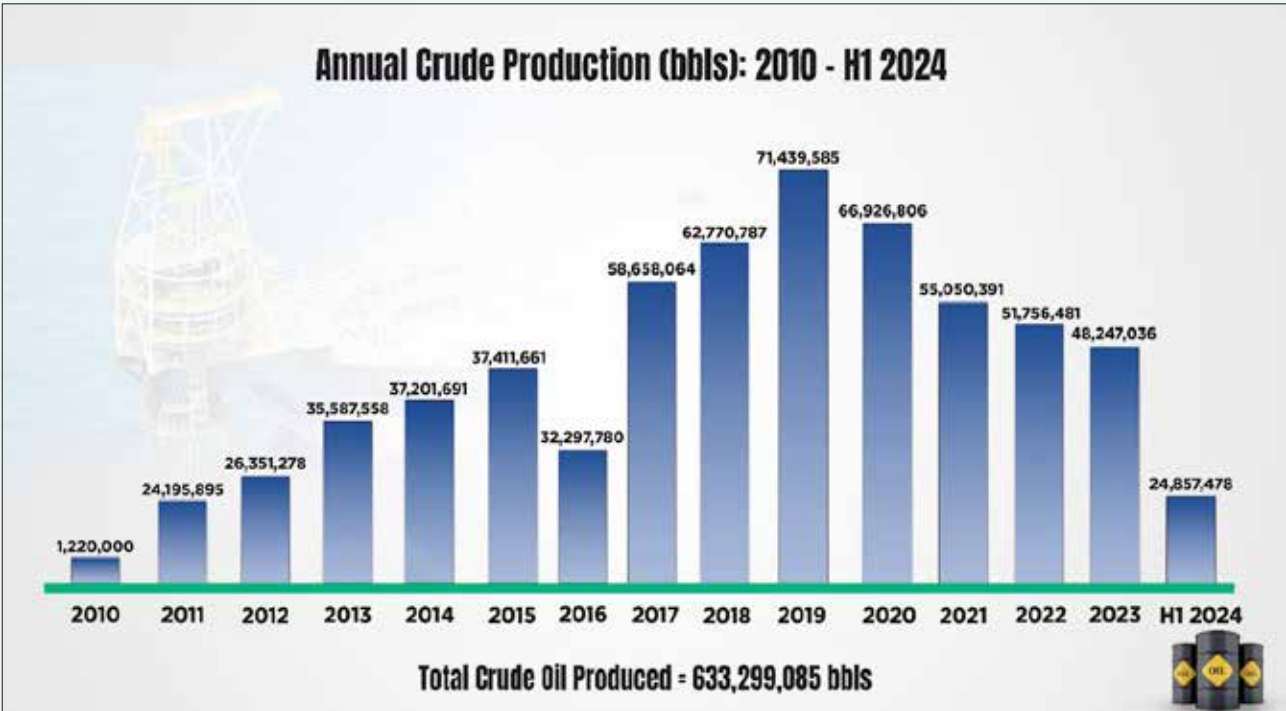


Odeefuo Amoakwa Buadu VIII, PIAC Vice Chair, contributing to discussions at the capacity building session.

Industry Statistics

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

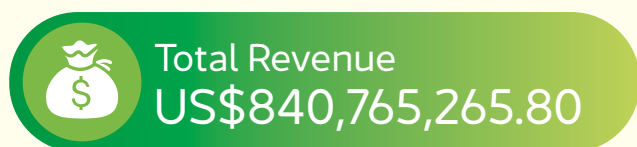
In this edition, we provide statistics on oil production and revenue accrued from 2010 till the end of the first half of 2024.



Highlights of the 2024 Semi-Annual Report

In line with its mandates, PIAC Publishes two statutory reports each year- a Semi Annual and Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues. Highlight of the report are captured below:

PRODUCTION STATISTICS



PETROLEUM REVENUE STREAMS AND TOTAL PETROLEUM REVENUE IN H1 2024

US\$840,765,265.80

Carried and Participating Interest (CAPI)	US\$385,172,660.25
Corporate Income Tax (CIT)	US\$358,834,612.60
Royalties	US\$89,102,349.89
Surface Rental	US\$439,011.08
PHF Income	US\$7,149,729.42
Other income	US\$66,902.55

DISTRIBUTION FROM PETROLEUM HOLDING FUND (PHF)

	US\$(m)	%
ABFA	205,572,186.98	35.73
GNPC	114,306,847.01	45.65
GHF	39,071,568.91	5.58
GSF	91,166,994.12	13.02
TOTAL	450,117,597.02	100

UTILISATION OF ABFA BY PRIORITY AREAS

Priority Area	Amount (GH¢)	Percentage(%)
Agriculture including Fisheries	169,373,797.18	5.59
Physical Infrastructure and Service Delivery in Education and Health	732,523,824.97	24.17
Roads, Rail and Other Critical Infrastructure	2,122,522,086.77	70.04
Industrialisation	-	-
Sub-total	3,024,419,708.92	99.8
Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC)	6,114,282.12	0.20
Total	3,030,533,991.04	100

Continued from page 4

away from oil dependency. Key initiatives include investments in solar and wind energy projects, aiming to generate a significant portion of its energy from renewables.

Similarly, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is at the forefront of the energy transition, investing heavily in renewable energy projects. This is exemplified in its commitment to sustainable energy, with significant investments in the Masdar Initiative, which is a programme focusing on renewable energy and sustainable urban development to position the UAE as a leader in green technologies. One of such projects is the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, which is one of the largest solar facilities in the world.

The Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC) held in the UAE annually highlights the transformative potential of the global energy system as well as the integration of Artificial Intelligence in increasing energy efficiency and focusing on economic growth and sustainability.

• **Norway**

Norway is Europe’s largest producer of oil and gas, trailing only Russia on the continent. The country is currently focusing on making its oil production more sustainable Through Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technologies to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions.

• **Indonesia**

As an attempt to have a just

transition, Indonesia, through PT Pertamina, encourages a smooth energy transition by maintaining a balance of decreasing the share of fossil energy and increasing the renewable energy component of its energy mix. The country aims to achieve Net-Zero Emissions (NZE) by 2060 or sooner. To facilitate this, the Government has and is developing roadmaps - Energy Transition, Carbon Market, and Carbon Tax.

Based on these strategies, Ghana can address the decline in crude oil production, and navigate the energy transition through:

1. **Attracting Investments:** Ghana should focus on attracting investments in the upstream petroleum industry to increase its petroleum reserves. This can be achieved by creating a favorable investment climate, offering incentives, and ensuring transparent regulatory frameworks.
2. **Enhancing Technical Capabilities:** Improving technical capabilities in the upstream petroleum industry is crucial. This involves investing in technology and training to address technical challenges such as low data quality and leveraging on various enhanced oil recovery options to optimise oil extraction processes.
3. **Adopting Innovative Governance Models:** Learning from Indonesia, Ghana can implement governance models like that of Indonesia and Norway to manage petroleum resources more effectively.
4. **Focusing on Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency:** Emphasising decarbonisation and energy efficiency can help Ghana transition towards a more

sustainable energy mix, aligning with global energy transition goals.

5. **Investments in Renewable Energy:** Inspired by the UAE’s approach, Ghana should invest in renewable energy projects to diversify its energy portfolio and enhance energy security. This diversification will reduce reliance on crude oil.
6. **International Collaboration:** Engaging in international collaborations can provide Ghana with access to expertise, technology, and funding necessary for the energy transition.
7. **Strategic Partnerships:** Forming strategic partnerships with countries and companies that have successfully navigated similar challenges can provide valuable insights and support.

Conclusion

The decline in crude oil production in Ghana is a multifaceted issue that requires a strategic approach, considering both local and global contexts. By learning from countries like the UAE, Norway and Indonesia, Ghana can navigate the challenges of the energy transition, ensuring sustainable economic growth and energy security for its future.



PIAC

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and click on **Statistics** to access
a wide range of information on
petroleum production and revenue
management today.



PIAC...Safeguarding Ghana's Petroleum Revenues

Technical Consultative Workshop on declining crude oil production in Ghana

We bring you some photo highlights from the two-day Technical Consultative Workshop organised by PIAC and its partners held on October 16 and 17, 2024.





Flexible fiscal policies needed to sustain oil and gas sector growth – Akufo-Addo

The then President, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo has reiterated the need for dispassionate discussions on how to improve the country's fiscal terms to attract investments into the oil and gas industry.

He says it was time to face the hard market facts and consider how to be generous with the fiscal terms on a case by case business to ensure that there is sustained activity in the industry. Responding to concerns on the need to improve and enhance the country's investment climate to attract the needed investments during a visit by Members of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) on October 18, the president said being generous with fiscal terms is often misconstrued as "selling the country" and there was therefore a need for a national discussion on this matter so that people can understand the dynamics around granting such terms.

He said PIAC, which was established as a citizens-led body to ensure that the country's hydrocarbons are developed and utilised in a beneficial manner, is a very good instrument to begin such a discussion.

Courtesy Call

The PIAC Team was led by its Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf. In attendance were some Members and Secretariat staff. Also present at the meeting was the Chief of Staff, Ms Frema Opare,



Emerita Prof. Elizabeth Ardayfio Schandorf (left), Chairperson of PIAC, presenting copies of the PIAC Annual Report and Newsletter to President Akufo-Addo.

the Minister for Energy, Honourable Herbert Krapa, the CEO of GNPC, Mr Joseph Dadzie and other officials of the Ministry and GNPC.

PIAC's message

Providing the reason for the meeting, the PIAC Chair said the visit was to meet the president to apprise him with the work of PIAC over the years, the committee's achievements, challenges being faced and how government can help address these challenges. One of the key issues was the presentation of a communique issued by PIAC and its 5-partners, GNPC, Ghana Gas, Petroleum Commission, KNUST and the Ministry of Energy on ways to address the declining trend. The communique was the outcome of a 2-day technical consultative workshop which deliberated on addressing the declining trend of crude production in Ghana.

The PIAC Chair also commended the government for the utilisation of petroleum revenues for the Agenda 111 project, which involves the

construction of Hospitals and ancillary facilities in various districts. Emerita Professor Ardayfio-Schandorf mentioned that PIAC had visited some of the Agenda 111 hospitals in the Greater Accra, Volta and Upper East Regions, and was satisfied with the work being done. She however urged government to consider channeling more petroleum revenues into such monumental projects to accelerate their completion, and on time. She added that the co-mingling of funds for projects made it difficult to realise the full potential and benefit for citizens, hence, policy should direct that petroleum revenues become a dedicated source of funding for projects going forward.

The PIAC Chair reiterated the Committee's commitment to enhancing transparency and accountability in the management and use of petroleum revenues.

She expressed gratitude to the government for the support for the work of PIAC over the years, and for the opportunity to meet and present issues for his consideration.



Highlights of Time with PIAC

Time with PIAC is a monthly 30-minute interactive session on key petroleum revenue management issues, and PIAC's activities. The session also served as a feedback loop between PIAC and the public. In each session, a designated representative of the Committee spoke to online participants, moderated by a host, on a chosen topic at 1:00pm. The session is held on the last Wednesday of each month. We present highlights of the sessions held in the second half of the year in this edition of the PIAC newsletter.

- **Channeling Petroleum Revenues for Budget Support-impact and concern**

The session was held on 31st July, 2024. The guest was Mr Isaac Dwamena, the PIAC Coordinator. Discussions centered on what the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA) is, the provisions for its usage as well as how it has been utilised since 2011.

- **The Role of Empowered Citizens in Ensuring Accountability in the Management of Petroleum Revenues**

The session was held on Wednesday, 28th August and it focused on the role of empowered

citizens in ensuring accountability in the management of petroleum revenues. The resource person was Mr Richard Ellimah, PIAC Member representing Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs).

He stressed that it is crucial for every Ghanaian to recognise that natural resources belong to the nation and that it is their responsibility to hold the government accountable for their use. This active citizen engagement, he said, was central to ensuring the transparent management of public resources.

- **Highlights of PIAC's Issue Paper II**

The session was held on Wednesday, 25th September. The topic was highlights of PIAC's Issue Paper II and the session was handled by the Technical Manager, Mr Mark O.A. Agyeman.

The discussion centered on the role of the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) in the upstream petroleum industry – the challenges and prospects, especially in the face of energy transition concerns.

- **Declining Trend in Crude Oil Production**

During the October session,

Ms Yorm Ama Abledu, a PIAC Member representing the Ghana Bar Association (GBA), and the Technical Manager of PIAC, Mr Mark O.A. Agyeman provided some insights on the declining trend of crude oil production, and its impact on government revenues.

Although both experts admitted the decline was a natural occurrence, Mr. Agyemang highlighted the need for issues surrounding gas commercialisation and evacuation to be prioritised. Ms Abledu also stressed the need for reforms in the legal regime to be able to attract investments into the sector.

- **Highlights of the 2024 PIAC Semi-Annual Report**

The November edition, which was the last one for the year focused on the highlights of the 2024 PIAC Semi-Annual Report. The guest was Mr Isaac Dwamena, the Coordinator of PIAC.

Discussion covered petroleum production, revenue accrued, and the management of these revenues to June 2024. He also highlighted the Committee's findings and recommendations based on its analysis.

All videos on the sessions can be accessed via PIAC's Youtube Chanel @PIACGHANA and via Facebook @PIAC-Ghana.

PIAC engages citizens in 10 districts

As part of its second mandate which seeks to provide a space and platform for the public to debate on how petroleum revenues have been managed, the Public Interest and Accountability Committee embarked on an outreach programme covering 10 districts in five (5) regions.

In the Greater Accra Region, the engagements were done in the Ningo-Prampram and Shai Osudoku Districts. Citizens in the Ho Municipality and North Dayi Districts were engaged by the PIAC Team in the Volta Region. In the Upper East Region, the public outreach was done in the Bolgantanga Municipality and the Kassena Nankana West District.

In the Ashanti Region, Committee Members engaged the public on the management and use of petroleum revenues in two districts – Ejisu and Sekyere East. In the Central Region, the team held its public fora in the Asikuma Odoben Brakwa District and Komenda Edina Eguafo Abirim District Municipality.

At all the engagements, participants received insights into PIAC's operations, PIAC's statutory reports which details the collection, allocation and utilisation of petroleum revenues. There was also a session for participants to provide feedback to the Committee.



PIAC Members with the leadership of the Ningo - Prampram District Assembly and opinion leaders after the forum.



The public forum ongoing at the North Dayi District Assembly.



A participant making a contribution at the forum in North Dayi.



A participant contributing to discussions at the forum in Asikuma.



Participants in the forum at Asikuma.



Participants at the public forum in Ejisu.



Participants in a group photograph after the forum in Elmina.



Some participants from the forum in the Shai Osudoku District.



A section of participants in the Sekyere East District.



Some participants in the forum in Ningo-Prampam.



A section of participants at the forum in Bolgatanga.

Media Engagements

- Zonal Media Engagements**

In 2024, the Committee introduced zonal engagements with its media partners as part of its planned outreach in the various regions. In the second half of the year, engagements were held with selected journalists in Prampram in the Greater Accra Region, Ho in the Volta Region, and Bolgatanga in the Upper East region. Journalists were also engaged in Cape Coast in the Central Region and Kumasi in the Ashanti Region.

At each of the engagements, the participants were taken through a session on PIAC and its role in petroleum revenue management, highlights of PIACs 2023 Annual and 2024 semi-annual report on the management and use of petroleum revenues. There was also a session on how to collaborate with the regional media to enhance advocacy on PIAC's issues.



• **Editors' Forum**

The second engagement with Editors, Show Hosts and Producers for the year was held from Friday, 8th to Sunday, 10th November, 2024. Discussions centered on PIAC's 2024 semi-annual report and key issues arising from the report relating to the use of the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA) and developments in the upstream petroleum industry. Participants had the opportunity to also give suggestions on how to improve PIAC's relationship with the media going forward.



The Chair of the Public Affairs and Communications sub-Committee, Nana Kwaku Dei giving his opening remarks at the forum.



A section of participants in the forum



Nasir Alfa Mohammed, Esq. making a presentation at the engagement.



Isaac Dwamena, Esq. – Coordinator of PIAC presenting highlights of the 2024 Semi-Annual Report at the engagement.

• **Engagements with IFEJ, PIAC Media and Parliamentary Press Corps**

The Committee held its second meeting with the media, comprising members of the Institute of Financial and Economic Journalists (IFEJ), and other key media partners who report on PIAC's activities from Friday 29th November to Sunday, 1st December 2024. The engagement, which was the second for the year, focused on providing a platform for members of IFEJ, PIAC's key Media, and members of the Parliamentary Press Corps to familiarise themselves with PIAC's 2024 semi-Annual Report, receive updates on developments in the upstream sector, and the utilisation of the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA). There was also a session on what the country's options are in the face of declining crude oil production. The session also provided the opportunity for participants to suggest ways to improve the collaboration between PIAC and its media partners going forward.



Nana Kwaku Dei, Chair of the Public Affairs and Communications sub-Committee speaking at the media engagement.



Mr Mark O.A. Agyemang, Technical Manager of PIAC making a presentation at the engagement.



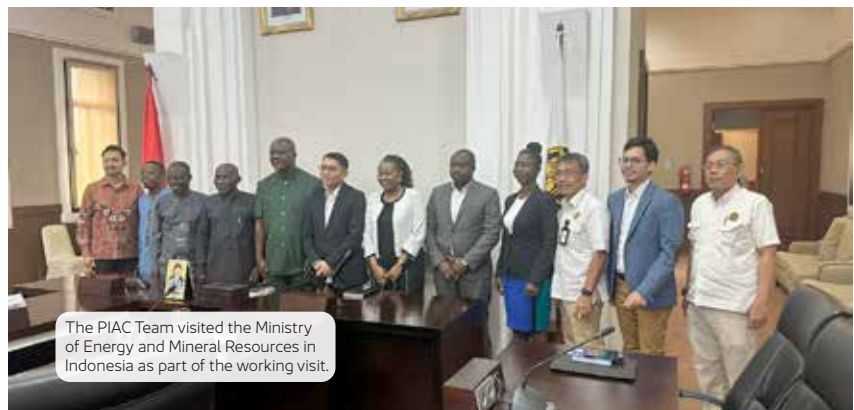
Some media participants in the session.

PIAC Team understudies Indonesian petroleum industry

A seven-member delegation from Ghana's Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) embarked on a study tour to Jakarta, Indonesia, from July 31 to August 9, 2024.

The visit aimed to deepen PIAC's understanding of Indonesia's petroleum industry and identify strategies to strengthen governance and revenue management in Ghana's oil and gas sector.

The team, led by the PIAC Vice Chair, Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII, engaged with key players in Indonesia's petroleum value chain, including Pertamina, the national oil company. During discussions, PIAC learned about Pertamina's production-sharing contract (PSC) fiscal regime, its corporate restructuring, and efforts to balance fossil fuel reliance with renewable



energy investments

Meetings with the Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources focused on energy transition policies. Officials emphasised boosting petroleum production to secure energy independence while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Strategies such as zero-flaring initiatives, carbon capture projects,

and the positioning of natural gas as a transitional fuel were identified as critical components of Indonesia's approach.

The delegation met with the Special Task Force for Upstream Oil and Gas Business Activities (SKK Migas). The agency's role in managing exploration, production,

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Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayio-Schandorf (PIAC Chair) reading the communique at the end of the 2-day Technical Consultative Workshop, while other partners look on.

COMMUNIQUE

By the Public Interest and Accountability Committee and its Partners at the Technical Consultative Workshop on addressing the declining crude oil production in Ghana

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), established under the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011, (Act 815) as amended, is to among others provide independent assessments on the management and use of petroleum revenues to Parliament and the Executive in the oversight and performance of related functions through the mandatory publication of Annual Reports on the use and management of petroleum revenue and its investment and to provide a platform for debate in that regard.

Conscious of the fact that sustainable crude oil

production is key to generating the revenue it is mandated to monitor and provide an independent assessment of, and having observed, and reported in its 2023 Annual Report, the consistent decline of Crude Oil Production in Ghana from 2020 to 2023, and its likely adverse impact on petroleum revenue, its management and investment and the need to address this trend;

In partnership with the Ministry of Energy, Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), Petroleum Commission, Ghana National Gas Limited Company, Department of Petroleum Engineering of the Kwame

Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), and in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders deliberated at a two-day Technical Consultative Workshop held on 16th and 17th October 2024 at Alisa Hotel, Accra, and having identified the factors contributing to the decline to include:

- Maturing oil fields leading to natural depletion,
- Investment constraints due to internal and external factors such as global energy transition issues,
- Technical and operational challenges including geological, equipment malfunctions and subsurface uncertainties,
- Legal, Regulatory and Fiscal challenges,
- Limited availability of reliable and high-quality data,
- Inadequate research collaborations between Academia and Industry,
- Downplaying technical considerations in decision making.

Issues this Communique as recommendations and action points for implementation to address the declining crude oil production in Ghana for the past four years;

1. That there is an urgent need to improve the legal, regulatory and fiscal framework to enhance the Country's Investment Climate and thereby attract the needed investments in the industry.
2. That there must be the development of a transparent and predictable framework for licensing and regulatory compliance to build investor confidence.
3. That the Government should promote and engage in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to facilitate upstream and downstream infrastructure expansion to enhance gas supply.
4. That the State must further focus on the development of gas reserves by revisiting and implementing the Gas

Master Plan to capitalise on underutilised gas reserves for national energy security and revenue generation.

5. That there is a need to strengthen collaboration between Industry and Academia to foster research and innovation in oil and gas production, and to create a centralised database accessible to Academia to enhance data-driven decision-making.
6. That there is a need to address technical and operational challenges by adoption and implementation of advanced oil recovery techniques and investment in technology for improved field operations and enhanced hydrocarbon extraction from mature fields.
7. That there is a need to encourage sustainable practices by developing a comprehensive strategy for integrating renewable energy sources with traditional oil and gas production to ensure a win-win situation.
8. That there must be improved stakeholder engagement through regular fora for dialogue among industry stakeholders, Government, and civil society groups to address concerns and share insights for the growth and sustainability of the upstream oil and gas industry.
9. That there is a need to pay more attention to technical considerations in decision-making in the industry and promote a culture of transparency and accountability.
10. That there is a need to strengthen and streamline the corporate governance structure of the National Oil Company (GNPC) to enable it focus on its core mandate.

Signed

Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf
PIAC Chair

Continued from page 24

and cooperation contracts offered lessons in governance. SKK Migas shared its initiatives for achieving carbon neutrality, which include reducing upstream emissions and introducing carbon capture and storage technologies.

The team also visited the Badan Pusat Statistics (BPS), Indonesia's central statistics agency. The PIAC team was briefed on how BPS collects, validates, and reconciles data from stakeholders in the

petroleum sector. This collaborative approach to data management, which ensures accuracy and timeliness, was identified as a potential model for improving PIAC's own data reporting systems.

The team takeaways were the importance of robust institutional frameworks and effective collaboration among industry stakeholders. The delegation noted that while Ghana operates a hybrid fiscal regime, Indonesia's reliance on PSCs has proven effective in attracting investments and managing

upstream activities.

The study highlighted the critical role of high-quality seismic data in de-risking exploration projects and drawing foreign direct investment into the petroleum sector. The team emphasized the need for Ghana to enhance its data collection capabilities and adopt Indonesia's best practices in governance and energy transition.

By drawing on Indonesia's success, PIAC aims to enhance Ghana's petroleum governance, ensuring that the sector continues to drive economic growth.

Project Inspections

In the second half of 2024, PIAC inspected the following projects in five regions of the country. The remainder of the projects not captured in this newsletter can be accessed via the link below: https://www.piacghana.org/ova_doc/projects-inspections-h2-2024/

- **Upgrading of Klefe Town Roads in Ho Municipality (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH₵)	Year	Status of Work
6,090,932.27	2021 - 2022	The Team inspected selected roads in the Klefe township passing through the Achatime, Dome and Ziavi communities. The project, which was initially scheduled to be completed in 12 months from 2020, was completed in 2022. The PIAC team was informed that a Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) service line, which passes through sections of the project, leaks and wears off the bitumen seal on the road. The Team also observed that potholes and cracks had developed at various parts of the project, especially in the Dome and Ziavi communities.



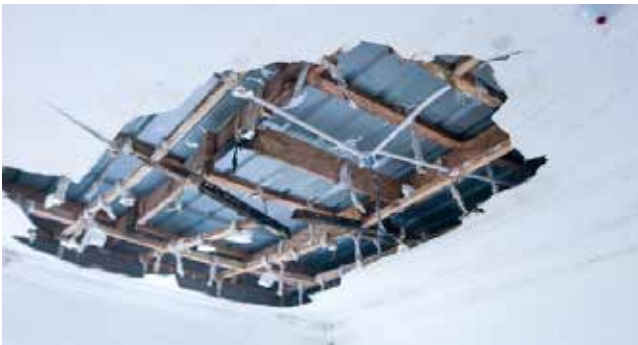
- **Construction of Roads and other Infrastructural Amenities for the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS) at Sokode (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH₵)	Year	Status of Work
6,552,253.33	2014 - 2017	The Team inspected an internal road project within the University. At the time of the inspection, the team observed that a significant portion of the road had not been constructed. The Team informed that this was because the contractor had abandoned the project due to non-payment. The team also observed that the asphaltic overlay on the portion of the project that was constructed had worn off



- **Construction of Art Gallery in the North Dayi Constituency (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
155,915.91	2020 & 2023	The PIAC Team inspected an art gallery at Vakpo in the North Dayi District. The art gallery was intended to showcase artifacts of artisans in the wood carving industry and localise revenue from the sale of these artifacts. The project comprises a gallery space and a washroom. At the time of PIAC's inspection to the project, the team observed that the ceiling of the washroom had caved in due to the accumulation of rainwater. The Team also noticed that the designated room intended to house the wooden artifacts had no shelves, and for that matter, the artifacts were displayed on the floor of the gallery.



- **Construction of Kitchen Facility at Vakpo Senior High Technical School in the North Dayi Constituency (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
180,198.38	2019 - 2020	The Team inspected a kitchen facility at the Vakpo Senior High Technical School. At the time of the inspection, the Team witnessed that the walls of the facility, which was branded as an Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP) project, had visible defects such as cracks. Management of the school informed the team that the facility was in use, and served as bakery as well a practical centre for Home Economics students.



• **Construction of Pavement of Anfoega Market North Dayi District (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
119,877.98	2021	The project scope comprises the laying of pavement blocks at the Anfoega Market. At the time of the Committee’s visit, the project had stalled, with depressions in sections of the project area due to uneven compaction.



• **Agenda 111 Project Inspection at Kpeve (Volta Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
-	-	<p>At the time of the Committee’s visit, 26 out of the 32 buildings on site were roofed. 22 out of the 26 roofed buildings had window installations, and other external works ongoing. Also, the Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) Tank and waste treatment installations were completed at the time of the visit.</p> <p>All four (4) buildings under Muharam Limited’s contract were at the superstructure level.</p> <p>Knowing that the Project primarily arose from the need to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus, it was worth noting that there was no dedicated Treatment and Holding Centre for the management of infectious diseases, as part of the scope of works.</p> <p>The PIAC was satisfied with the overall progress of work of the Project</p>



• **Agenda 111 Hospital Project at Ningo- Prampram (Greater Accra Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
-	-	<p>As at the time of the visit, work was ongoing and there is a projected completion timeline of November 2024. Also, plans were advanced to get all the medical equipment ready for installation by the timeline for the hospital to be operational. The project has a 100-bed capacity with varied ancillaries like wards, laboratories, surgical theaters, mortuary among others needed in a modern hospital. The physical progress was 80 per cent as at the time the PIAC Team visited.</p> <p>The PIAC Team expressed satisfaction with the progress of work as far as the physical structure of the hospital was concerned. Additionally, calls were made on the contractor and other stakeholders to expedite the processes leading to its full completion and subsequent operationalisation within schedule.</p>



• **Upgrading of Prampram- Anyaman (Latsinyo – Anyaman) Road (Greater Accra Region)**

ABFA Disbursement (GH¢)	Year	Status of Work
8.2million	2020	<p>The upgrading of the 22 kilometre stretch had been completed as at the time of the visit and the road was in use. The team travelled on the stretch to fully appreciate the work done.</p>





PIAC

Happy New Year



Wishing you a successful and
prosperous New Year.

PIAC...Safeguarding Ghana's Petroleum Revenues

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