

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

ICT POLICY STATEMENT

PREAMBLE

The Government of Ghana (GoG) is committed to pursuing an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Accelerated Development (ICT4AD) vision aimed at achieving equitable economic growth and accelerated poverty reduction within a sustained economy. Thus improving the quality of life of the people of Ghana by significantly enriching their social, economic and cultural well being through the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) as the main engine for accelerated and sustainable economic and social development.

The main mission of the Ghana ICT4AD vision is to transform Ghana into an information-rich, knowledge-based and technology-driven high-income economy and society.

The Government recognize the crucial role that ICTs can play in improving efficiency of delivery in government services, reducing operational costs of government institutions and bringing government closer to the people.

To attain the vision of promoting multi sectoral accelerated national development and ownership or the Ghana ICT4AD policy implementation process, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is committed to using ICTs to strengthen its role of facilitating the link between the Executive and the Legislature.

The commitment of Government to ensure the multi sectoral application of ICTs informs the formulation of the ICT policy statement by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

VISION STATEMENT

Establish an enduring and self-sustaining democratic culture in Ghana.

MISSION STATEMENT

To facilitate the link between the Executive, Parliament and the Public to achieve a sustainable democracy and the flow of information within the democratic environment through collaboration and networking.

STRATEGIES FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF STATED MISSION

The Ministry is committed to the implementation of the following broad strategies towards the attainment of the mission for the realization of its vision:

- 1) Initiate and formulate policies on good governance taking into account the democratic needs and aspirations of the people of Ghana.
- 2) Promote public education, and research into parliamentary democracy in Ghana and disseminate the values of a democratic culture among all sections of society.
- 3) Develop plans in consultation with the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) to support the attainment of both national and sectoral goals.
- 4) Contribute towards the achievement of societal well-being and the creation and maintenance of democratic environment for a sustainable economic growth and good governance.
- 5) Promote the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the performance of the executive, parliament, ministers of state and related democratic institutions.

- 6) Facilitate the Ministry's catalytic role with parliament, legislature, private sector and civil society.
- 7) Facilitate the expression of concerns of civil society, NGOs and other association representing the poor, vulnerable and marginalized in the mainstream of society.
- 8) Promote the collection, collation and review of answers to questions raised in parliament.
- 9) Facilitate review of Ministerial policy papers, credit agreements, legislative proposals and other matters intended for deliberations in Parliament.

THE ICT DEPLOYMENT AND EXPLOITATION POLICY GOALS

- 1) To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of management and administrative functions of the Ministry through the deployment and exploitation of ICTs.
- 2) To deploy and utilize ICTs as tools to enhance, promote and develop a democratic culture among all sections of the people of Ghana.
- 3) To broaden the access to Parliamentary leadership and improve oversight functions of the legislative arm of government in support of poverty reduction and growth through the deployment of appropriate ICT tools and other delivery technologies.
- 4) To improve and strengthen the ICT resource capacities and facilities in the Ministry to enhance its core function and operations.
- 5) To use ICTs to improve the relationship between the Parliament of Ghana and Parliaments in Africa and other parts of the world.

ICT DEPLOYMENT AND EXPLOITATION COMMITMENTS

- 1) The Ministry is committed to the deployment of ICT-based tools and systems to facilitate the process of improving the relationship between government and the citizenry.
- 2) As part of improving its services, the Ministry is committed to facilitating the flow and timeliness of information between the various arms of government and the general public.

THE FOCUS OF THE ICT PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS:

- The Ministry is committed to providing Computers and Accessories to all Staff.
- The Ministry is committed to establishing a Local Area Network (LAN) for use by all its officers.
- The Ministry is committed to training all Staff in ICT.
- The Ministry is committed to use ICTs to link Cabinet and Parliament.
- The Ministry is committed to use various ICT tools to establish linkages with MMAs, Regional Coordinating Councils and District Assemblies to ensure free flow of information on the activities of Parliament.
- Establish interactive websites to disseminate information about the work of Parliament to the general public and also serve as a feedback system.