

INTERNAL AUDIT AGENCY

(Office of Government Machinery)



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

REF: DG/NTCE/2024/02

1st August, 2024.

NOTICE NUMBER: IAA/02/07/2024

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 2023 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF GHANA.

Reference is made to the 2023 Auditor-General's report on the public accounts of Ghana submitted to Parliament in accordance with Article 187 Clause 5 of the 1992 Constitution.

- 2. The report indicates a **32**% reduction in audit irregularities across the public sector of Ghana in 2023 over that of 2022 in the value of about **Gh¢5.2 billion cedis**.
- 3. The Internal Audit Agency (IAA) use this opportunity to congratulate Boards, Heads of Institutions, Audit Committees and Internal Auditors for achieving this feat.
- 4. It means there is a gradual improvement in the Internal Control and Governance systems of Public Institutions leading to a saving of over **Gh¢5.2 billion cedis** of public funds which could have gone down the drain.
- 5. Special commendation goes to Boards, Heads of Institutions, Audit Committees and Internal Auditors of Public Boards, Corporations and other Statutory institutions whose irregularities were reduced by **41.60%** (about **Gh¢ 6.2 billion** cedis) though they also made the highest contributions to total irregularities reported by the Auditor-General in 2023.
- 6. It is important to note that **99.24**% of **irregularities** in Public Boards, Corporations and other Statutory institutions are **recoverable** with **0.76**% arising from **administrative and procedural lapses**. Efforts should be made by the Audit Committees of these institutions to recover all the amounts and resolve the identified PFM Control Lapses.
- 7. The Auditor-General also issued a number of **Performance Audit reports** on the operations of selected Public Institutions, these reports contain important recommendations which if implemented, would further improve public service delivery and value for money in the management of public funds.
- 8. The Internal Audit Agency (IAA) is by this letter, directing Public Institutions to as a matter of urgency, **organize special Audit Committee meetings** to work with management to immediately implement recommendations in the 2023 Auditor-General's report.
- 9. Audit Committees and Internal Auditors are further advised to consider the 2023 **Auditor-General's Report** together with **Management Letters** on their respective institutions to ensure that recommendations in both documents are implemented wholistically.

- 10. Audit Committees and Internal Auditors are further advised, to take cognizance of requirements under the "Audit Recommendations Implementation and follow-up Instructions for Public Institutions (2023)" issued by the Minister for Finance and report appropriately on the Status of Implementing recommendations in the 2023 Auditor-General's report and Management Letters to the Agency not later than 31st October, 2024.
- 11. The Agency once again congratulate Audit Committees and Internal Auditors in the Public Sector for this feat and encourages them to continue to work hard to reduce irregularities in the Public Sector.
- 12. Boards, Councils, Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Management of public institutions are encouraged to cooperate and support their Audit Committees and Internal Auditors towards implementing these recommendations for improved Financial Management in Ghana.
- 13. We use this opportunity to thank Government, the Auditor-General and all other key shareholders for their support to Audit Committees, Internal Auditors and the Agency during the 2023 auditing period. We shall expect same support to enable us make progress towards reducing irregularities in the public sector during the 2024 auditing cycle.

14. Whilst thanking you, please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

E. O. OSAE (PhD, FCA)
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

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