SESSIONAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVE, HON. OPOKU NYAME DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE KINTAMPO SOUTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY, 2022 AT THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY HALL.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

HON. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,

HON. ASSEMBLY MEMBERS,

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS/INSTITUTIONS,

NANANOM,

THE PRESS,

DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUEST,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is my pleasure to welcome Hon. Members to the first General Assembly meeting of the Assembly and apprise you of the state of affairs of the district since the house went on recess in December, 2021.

Hon. Presiding Member, the Executive Committee in accordance with section 21(3) of the Local Government Act 2016 (Act 936) exercised its statutory functions during the period of recess of the general house and took decisions at its meetings some of which may require your ratification for implementation.

Before then, Hon. Members, let me introduce to you the newly posted officers to the Assembly. Mr. Samuel Gyamena (District Coordinating Director), Mr. Francis Adjabeng (District Finance Officer), Mr. Nicholas Aboagye (District Planning Officer), Mr. Collins Frimpong (District Internal Auditor), Ms. Portia Okrah (Human Resource Manager), Mr. Richmond Owusu (District Procurement Officer), Mr. Abraham Yada Jampat (District Budget Analyst), and Mrs. Felicity Bediako (Revenue Head). I pray that they will put up their best to move the district forward.

SECURITY:

Hon. Presiding Member, it is the responsibility of all to ensure that the district continues to enjoy and maintain the peaceful ambience at all times. I wish to report that the security situation in the district had been relatively calm during the period under review.

However, we should be vigilant on scenes and issues happening in our environment. There are reports of Terrorists' activities in our neighboring countries, if care is not taken, we may experience same, hence "if you see something, say something".

DPAT PROJECTS:

Hon. Presiding Member, through the dint of hard work and commitment of staff, the Kintampo South District was able to pass the DPAT (V) exercise conducted last year and has been awarded an amount of One Million, One Hundred and Thirty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Six Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,139,846.00) to embark on developmental projects in the district. The following projects had been proposed and are yet to be awarded to contractors for execution in the following communities.

- 1. Construction of 1 No. Maternity Ward with Lying-inward, Labour Ward, ANC Unit, Gynaec Ward, Office, Consulting Room, Wound Dressing Room and Nurses Room at APESIKA.
- 2. Construction of 3 unit classroom block with office, Staff Common Room, and 2-seater KVIP Toilet at KRUTAKYI.
- 3. Construction of 3 Unit Classroom block with Office, Staff Common Room, and 2-seater KVIP Toilet at AGYEGYEMAKUNU.
- 4. Open up of 26km of non-engineered feeder roads (virgin) for selected communities such as KOBEDA NO.2 NANA YAA KROM, YAMOAHKROM ASANTEAKURA, AMOMA NYINAWONSU, JEMA-NKWANTA AND APAASO TOWNSHIP.

FINANCES:

i) <u>DISTRICT ASSEMBLY COMMON FUND (DACF)</u>

Hon. Presiding Member, the Assembly had taken receipt of 50% of 2nd Quarter 2021, 3rd Quarter 2021 and 4th Quarter 2021 of the District Assembly Common Fund release as at June, 2022.

They were in the sum of Two Hundred and Eighty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty-One Ghana Cedis, Eighty-Seven Pesewas (GH¢286,981.87), One Hundred and Forty-Three Thousand, Four Hundred and Ninety Ghana Cedis, Ninety-Three Pesewas (GH¢143,490.93), and Two Hundred and Eighty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty-One Ghana Cedis, Eighty-Seven Pesewas (GH¢286,981.87) respectively.

These funds have been committed to developmental projects such as completion of Chirehin CHPS Compound and construction of Mo – Nkwanta three-unit classroom block and payment of other developmental projects expenses.

ii) INTERNALLY GENERATED FUND (IGF)

The collection of Internally Generated Funds of the Assembly has not been bad; however, we need to do more to meet our target at the end of the year.

As at June, the Assembly had collected One Hundred and Seventy-Six Thousand, Six Hundred and Twenty-Six Ghana Cedis (GH¢176,626.00) representing 50% of the Annual projected IGF amount of Three Hundred and Fifty-Three Thousand, Three Hundred Ghana Cedis, Forty Pesewas (GH¢353,300.40)

iii) PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES (P.W.D)

Hon. Presiding Member, for the first and second quarters, some amount of funds had been disbursed by the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development for our brothers and sisters living with Disabilities.

An amount of Twenty Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty-Eight Ghana Cedis $(GH\phi20,388.00)$ had been disbursed to support the medical bills of Twelve (12) members of the Disabled Association.

Four (4) persons were given Educational Support, amounting to Eight Thousand, Three Hundred and Ten Ghana Cedis ($GH\phi 8,310.00$).

Hon. Presiding Member, in order to teach our brothers and sisters with disabilities how to fish and not feeding them all the time, fifty-one (51) beneficiaries were supported with a Seed Capital amounting to Sixty-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty Cedis (GH¢68,550.00). Again, an amount of five Thousand Cedis (GH¢5,000.00) was approved by the Assembly for capacity building for Twenty (20) P.W.Ds.

iv) LIVELIHOOD EMPOWERMENT AGAINST POVERTY (LEAP):

Hon. Presiding Member, it is gratifying to know that a total of Three Thousand and Ninety-Nine (3,099) persons from fifty-five (55) Communities district wide continue to benefit from this package.

This year, only one payment cycle has been granted to beneficiaries. Thus 75th and 76th cycle payment. The total amount is GH¢483,120.88

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY (LED)

Hon. Presiding Member, through the Department of Agriculture of the Kintampo South District Assembly in June, 2022 had distributed 30,000 seedlings of cashew to about 375 Farmers district wide. Each beneficiary farmer received 80 seedlings. The seedlings were nursed by the Department of Agriculture of the Kintampo South District at Jema – Nkwanta. This will improve the livelihood of these farmers for the next three (3) to four (4) year and reduce poverty in the district.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MANDATORY TRACK TERMINAL

Hon. Presiding Member, I wish to inform you that the Bono East Regional Coordinating Council and the Kintampo South District Assembly are in the process of acquiring a thirty (30) Hectares of land between Jema – Kintampo stretch of road for the establishment of Mandatory Track Terminal. This has become necessary due to rampant vehicular accidents and loss of lives along the Techiman, Jema and Kintampo High way. We have observed that most of these long-distance drivers do not rest. It is hoped that with the establishment this compulsory rest terminal, they will have time to rest, so that road carnage would be reduced.

EDUCATION

Hon. Presiding Member, let me also announce that, the District Assembly in conjunction with the Member of Parliament, had distributed 180 furniture in May, 2022 and 200 furniture in June, 2022. In all, thirty-two (32) schools benefitted and this will go a long way to enhance teaching and learning in our schools.

HEALTH

Hon. Presiding Member, the National Health Insurance Scheme is still on course. I would like to appeal to Honorable Member to appeal to their communities who are yet to take the COVID 19 vaccine to do so without further delay. The booster vaccine is also available in all Hospital facilities in the country. Everybody should take advantage of this opportunity.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ho. Presiding Member, the Executive Committee of the Assembly met on 5th July, 2022 and made the following recommendations to the house for consideration and adoption.

- 1. That, there should be a meeting with the chiefs concerning the management of the Public Cemeteries.
- 2. That, there should be inclusion of mango seedlings in the Planting for Export and Rural Development (PERD) program this year.
- 3. That, the Assembly should collaborate with NEDCO to ensure that the acquisition of Building Permits becomes a requirement for the issuance of Meters to any structure.
- 4. That, the 2022 Fee Fixing Resolution be reviewed for the 2023 Fiscal Year through stakeholder engagement.
- 5. That, there should be a review of Franchise Agreement with the managers of the Assembly's toilets to improve revenue generation.
- 6. That, all staff occupying the Assembly's bungalows should be made to pay rent due to the Assembly.
- 7. That, the Assembly should facilitate the completion of Anyima Police.
- 8. That, Assembly should take a census of all local Fulani herdsmen and cattle owners in the district and also animal.
- 9. That, the Assembly should ensure that all cattle in the district are tagged for easy identification of owners.
- 10. That, Assembly should invite contractors who have abandoned sites and uncompleted projects to the General Assembly for questioning.
- 11. That, Assembly should construct more classroom blocks.
- 12. That, the Assembly should provide electricity to Ampoma and Anyima toilet facilities.
- 13. That, the Assembly should provide market shells at Chirehin, Hyireso, Mo-Nkwanta and Mansie, markets.
- 14. That, the Assembly should maintain and replace all faulty street lights District wide.
- 15. That, the Assembly should re-gravel Ayorya-Asantekwa road.
- 16. That, there should be collaboration between VRA/NEDCO and Assembly members to take inventory of all inferior light poles from the various communities.
- 17. That, the Assembly should authorize the GES to levy children on common examinations.

The cost of examination for every term is indicated below;

Junior High School 1 - 3 = $GH \not\in 10.00$ Primary 1 - 6 = $GH \not\in 8.00$ KG 1 - 2 = $GH \not\in 5.00$

- 18. That, the Assembly should resource the committee in charge of projects inspection within the district.
- 19. That, the Assembly should meet the manager of VRA in Jema on the issues of moving Anyima out of Wenchi Area of electricity supply to Jema Area.
- 20. That, the Assembly members should collaborate with traditional authorities to sensitize the communities that are having cashew farms under high tension poles to allow VRA do their work.
- 21. That, the Assembly should take action to replace damaged water pumps of Anyima Small Water System.
- 22. That, Assembly Members should engage their WATSAN Committees in the repair of faulty boreholes.
- 23. That, the Assembly should put measures in place to improve communications District Wide.
- 24. That, all DACF projects should be completed.
- 25. That, the Assembly should establish a link with factories in the district that are into fruit juice production to supply drinks during meetings.

CONCLUSION:

I wish to once again join hands with Hon. Presiding Member in welcoming you to the meeting. Thank you for granting me the audience.

May God richly bless us all.