

SESSIONAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE METROPOLITAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE KUMASI METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY, HON. OSEI ASSIBEY ANTWI, AT THE 1ST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE 7TH ASSEMBLY AT THE TRUE VINE HOTEL, ADIEBEBA – KUMASI ON TUESDAY 27TH MARCH, 2018

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,
HON. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT,
HON. ASSEMBLY MEMBERS,
HEADS OF DEPARTMENT,
THE MEDIA,
LADIES & GENTLEMEN;

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations, Hon. Presiding Member on your re-election as leader of this august House. Congratulations also, Hon. Assembly members for having shown the way, especially for the five youngest Municipal Assemblies recently taken out of the Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly (KMA) and inaugurated on 15th March, 2018.

It is my most pleasant duty to welcome you all to the 1st Ordinary Meeting of the 3rd Session of the 7th Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly.

Let me first of all, thank the Almighty God for his guidance and protection so far. I would also like to thank the Hon. Presiding Member, all Hon. Assembly Members, Heads of Department and Staff of KMA for your support and co-operation.

I stand before you today, grateful for the trust you have bestowed on me, so far,

and at the same time humbled by the task that lies ahead.

Even though the size of KMA may have reduced, with the carving out of the five (5) new municipalities, the task is still onerous. It is therefore my hope that we will continue to work and dwell in unity with a common sense of purpose which is to make Kumasi greater and better.

Hon. Presiding Member,

The *Local Governance Act, 2016, (Act 936) in Section 28 (2)(a)* requires me to report on the performance of the Executive Committee and my functions, the state of affairs and the implementation of Central Government policies and programmes in the metropolis to the House at the beginning of each Session.

May I, in the execution of this duty, crave your indulgence to report on the key programmes and activities that have been vigorously pursued so far in line with our vision to create an enabling environment and provide essential services to guarantee good quality life for the people of Kumasi. My Address, therefore presents 2017 in retrospect as well as an outlook for 2018 in all the Assembly's key performance areas.

GENERAL ATMOSPHERE:

Hon. Presiding Member,

I assumed office on 13th April, 2017, barely a year ago, following a protracted period (2015-2016) of mistrust and suspicion among many of the Assembly's stakeholders namely, the Hon. Assembly Members, Staff, some Traditional rulers, traders, transporters, contractors and service providers most of whom the Assembly owed.

KMA was challenged with heavy indebtedness, forty-two (42) Court cases with

resultant “*Garnishee*” orders against the Assembly. The construction of three (3) major lorry terminals (one each at Sofoline, Anwomaso and Chirapatre) was stalled due to litigation. The Assembly’s governance structures were not fully in place. Waste management and revenue mobilization were both very difficult to undertake. Low staff performance and the poor attitudes of some members of the public towards KMA as an institution required the reverse.

Today, in close collaboration with the Manhyia Palace, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and the business community, we have stemmed the tide for the better. There is an improved atmosphere in KMA; staff, Hon. Members and the general public co-exist and work hand- in- hand smoothly.

My report will focus on the following priority areas:

- ❖ **Governance**
- ❖ **Creation of Additional Administrative Units**
- ❖ **Human Resource Management**
- ❖ **Revenue and Finance**
- ❖ **Court Cases/Judgment Debts**
- ❖ **Sanitation and Waste Management**
- ❖ **Roads and Transport Management**
- ❖ **Disaster Management**
- ❖ **Investment**
- ❖ **Trade & Industry**
- ❖ **Sister-city Relations**
- ❖ **Project Implementation**
- ❖ **Build Operate & Transfer (BOT)**
- ❖ **Social Interventions and Government Flagship Projects**
 - *Ghana School Feeding Programme*

- *Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)*
- *People with Disability (PWD) Fund*
- *Free SHS*
- *Planting for Food, Jobs and Investment*
- *“One District, One Factory”*
- ❖ **Major National Events in Kumasi**
- ❖ **Challenges and the Way Forward.**

GOVERNANCE

Hon. Presiding Member,

The local governance structures being the General Assembly, the Metropolitan Authority (Executive Committee) and its twelve (12) Sub-committees which now include the Trade and Industry/Private Sector Development Sub-committee and the Youth and Sports Development Sub-committee have been put in place.

In terms of the sub-structures, the nine (9) Sub-Metropolitan District Councils, as they were then, were duly constituted and inaugurated between 18th and 19th May, 2017; and the Councillors and Key Staff given an orientation on their roles and responsibilities on 25th July, 2017 by the Office of the Head of Local Government Service led by Hon. Ing. Dr. Nana Ato Arthur, the Head of Local Government Service himself.

The ninety-two (92) Unit Committees were also jointly inaugurated on 2nd May, 2017.

The twenty-one (21) Town Councils across the Metropolis were also constituted and inaugurated on 23rd October, 2017 at the Regional Co-ordinating Council.

To adequately equip members for the execution of their prescribed roles, a three-

day training programme was organized by Management for all Hon. Assembly Members from 8th to 10th March, 2017. It was facilitated by a three-member team led by Dr. Eric Oduro Osae of the Institute of Local Government Studies.

Hon. Presiding Member,

Going forward in 2018, I cannot complete my report on governance without reference to the creation of the new municipalities out of the Kumasi Metropolis.

Following the maturation of their respective Legislative Instruments (L.Is.) in December 2017, five (5) of our Sub-Metropolitan District Councils namely; Oforikrom, Tafo, Asokwa, Kwadaso and Suame have now become autonomous Municipal Assemblies and were inaugurated on Thursday 15th March, 2018.

The necessary arrangements, in respect of office accommodation, human resource and logistics are being vigorously pursued by KMA to enable a smooth take-off.

Some basic furniture and office equipment from Central Government have been delivered to the respective Municipal Assemblies which will for now operate from the hitherto Sub-Metropolitan District Council offices and rented premises until permanent office blocks are put up for them.

Regarding membership, KMA now has thirty-nine (39) elected members, nineteen (19) appointed members, five (5) Members of Parliament (MPs) in addition to the Metropolitan Chief Executive, giving us a total membership of sixty-four (64) representing 40.7% of the previous membership of one hundred and forty-seven (147).

For your information, the membership of each of the five new Municipal

Assemblies is as follows:

- Asokwa – 20
- Kwadaso – 16
- Oforikrom – 24
- Suame – 16
- Old Tafo – 14

In terms of land area and population, the picture is also as follows:

S/No.	Assembly	Land Area (Sq Km)	Population (2010 Population and Housing Census figures)
1.	Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly	214.3 km ²	1,730,249
2.	Asokwa Municipal Assembly	23.04km ²	140,161
3.	Kwadaso Municipal Assembly	42.42km ²	251,215
4.	Oforikrom Municipal Assembly	49.78km ²	303,016
5.	Suame Municipal Assembly	12.88km ²	161,199
6.	Tafo Municipal Assembly	7.9km ²	146,024
TOTAL		350.32km²	2,731,864

Hon. Presiding Member,

I wish to assure all stakeholders that KMA will do all it takes to make the new Assemblies function effectively and efficiently in order that the entire "*Kumasiman*" benefits from this laudable decision taken by Government.

I pray that election of their Presiding Members and approval of the President's nominees for the positions of Municipal Chief Executive (MCE) will not suffer any set back.

In the interim, it is expected that a good number of the departments at KMA will facilitate the implementation of decisions by the new Assemblies until they have their own fully established. Administrative arrangements will also be made between KMA and the new Assemblies, where required, for the management and use of critical public facilities which require an established capacity to manage and whose benefits cut across Kumasi and its environs.

An Oversight Committee under the chairmanship of the Metropolitan Coordinating Director will work out the details in collaboration with the new Assemblies, and upon the approval of this Committee's Report, the sharing of assets and liabilities will be effected.

Hon. Presiding Member,

With reduced numbers now and in order to avoid duplication, it is proposed that the Market Sub-Committee be dissolved and its functions taken over by the Trade and Industry Sub-Committee, thereby reducing KMA's number of Sub-Committees from twelve (12) to eleven (11). I expect the House to deliberate on its number of Sub-Committees and to adopt the proposal on membership of the Executive as well as the Sub-Committees submitted by Management.

Hon. Presiding Member,

Our new Legislative Instrument (L.I.2260) still requires, in Regulation 16, that KMA establish the following Boards:

- (i) *The Metropolitan Planning Board*
- (ii) *The Board of Metropolitan Works, and*
- (iii) *The Metropolitan Board of Administration*

These Boards will comprise the Heads of the various Departments who will constantly monitor and evaluate the activities of the Assembly's departments for efficient service delivery. We shall not delay in having the Boards commence work.

The Manhya North Sub-Metropolitan District Council, also provided for by L.I. 2260, shall be inaugurated. In all, KMA is to have five (5) Sub-Metropolitan District Councils instead of the previous nine (9). They are the Bantama, Nhyaeso, Manhya South, Manhya North and Subin Sub-metros.

CREATION OF ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS/DESKS

To enhance the work of the Administration, the following units/desks were created in 2017:

- *Sister-city Relations Desk*
- *Investment and Tourism Desk headed by a Consultant to source funding and pursue investment*
- *Public Affairs/Communication Directorate*
- *Revenue Department headed by a Chief Accountant*

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Metro Guards

To sanitize, as well as restore order and discipline in the security wing of the Assembly, the Metro. Guards were screened.

Six (6) of them suspected to be medically unfit were referred to the Metro Health

Directorate for medical screening. And in accordance with the medical reports issued on them, they are to be reassigned as follows:

- i. One (1) to be retired on medical grounds
- ii. One (1) other to be referred to the psychiatrist for attention, and
- iii. The remaining four (4) to be reassigned to sedentary /light duties.

A Disciplinary Committee indicted five (5) Metro Guards in the discharge of their duties. Two (2) were suspended, two (2) others have been sent to the Works Department and one (1) re-assigned to night duties.

Ten (10) metro guards were dismissed for gross misconduct after having been found culpable by a formally constituted a Disciplinary Committee.

Promotions and Postings

In general, one hundred and forty-nine (149) staff were promoted to various grades. Twenty-one (21) staff were posted to KMA while twenty-three (23) were posted out in 2017.

REVENUE AND FINANCE

Hon. Presiding Member,

You will all agree with me that revenue is the back bone of the operations of KMA. Everything we do depends on our inflows. Bold steps have therefore been taken to improve the Assembly's revenue mobilization processes.

First and foremost, while waiting for the final approval by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to up-grade the Revenue Unit into a Department., we have assigned a Chief Accountant as Head, assisted by Five (5) Chartered Accountants to take full charge of the Assembly's revenues.

Consequently, daily monitoring and reporting on revenue returns are in place, and the use of IT applications is in progress.

Data Collection on Businesses

As part of measures, the Assembly's Revenue Enhancement Team is vigorously undertaking a data collection of all businesses in the Metropolis. The data collection captures stores, tables, kiosks, canopies, warehouses, umbrellas, etc. So far, data on business operations at Subin, Nhyiaeso and Bantama have been recorded as nine thousand (9,000), three thousand (3,000) and three thousand (3,000) respectively, and still counting.

The exercise is to assist the Assembly in its planning and forecasting for the respective revenue streams. This will go a long way to provide a more reliable source of input for the Assembly's budget preparation.

In addition, the **Water and Sanitation for Urban Poor (WSUP)** – an NGO - has procured a Consultant who is assisting the Assembly to update its property valuation list in collaboration with the Valuation Division of the Lands Commission. The consultant is also networking the major revenue generation centres of the Assembly to the Central Administration to enable the Assembly rely more on IT applications for its operations.

Hon. Presiding Member,

In our bid to find more avenues and also improve existing ones for revenue generation for the KMA, the various set-ups were restructured. Among these, was the issuance of Building Permits. We realized there was a huge potential for revenue mobilization in the issuance of Building Permits. Advertisements were, therefore, placed in the dailies, inviting the general public to come for their

permits after they have been approved.

An amount of **Eight Hundred and Ninety-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty-Two Ghana Cedis, Forty-Nine Ghana Pesewas (GH¢897, 422.49)** has so far been realized.

With the inauguration of the Kumasi Spatial Planning Committee in the latter part of 2017, the statutory monthly meetings of the Committee should be able to clear the backlog of building permit applications and avoid a recurrence.

Outdoor Advertising

Outdoor Advertising is also another area with huge potential. Management consequently met all advertising agencies for discussions on the need to streamline their operations in Kumasi.

As a result, a 7-member Billboard/Outdoor Advertising Technical Committee made up of the various stakeholders has been constituted to clamp down on illegal Billboards and also sanitize the city to improve its aesthetics and the Assembly's revenues.

Therefore, early in 2018, steps were taken by the Works Department to remove billboards/signages which constituted nuisance especially at road intersections (junctions) to drivers and other road users. Further steps will be taken to deal with unauthorized billboards and nonpayment of fees to the Assembly.

Hon. Presiding Member,

Our good old Kumasi Central Market was not left out. The Assembly has instituted a Management structure for the Central Market with an Administrative

officer as head and assisted by a Senior Accountant. All the Sectional Heads at the market are now senior revenue staff.

The daily toll at the central market was also increased from GH¢0.50 to GH¢1.00 per the Fee-Fixing Document after a series of meetings with the Market Queens. Revenue has thus increased from Nine Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢9,000.00) to about **Sixteen Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢16,000.00) daily.**

I would also like to inform you that the Assembly has taken over the management and collection of revenue at the Sokoban Wood Village from Goldstreet Real Estate Consult. There is a management team headed by an Administrative Officer and assisted by the relevant compliment of staff. The Assembly, currently, generates an average of about **Forty Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢40,000)** a month from the Sokoban Wood Village. A remarkable improvement indeed!

Hon. Presiding Member,

An arrangement has been entered into for the management and collection of revenue at the Afia Kobi market, popularly called Abinkyi market. An interim Management team has been put in place to oversee the proper functioning of the market until the several complaints from the traders there, have been fully investigated and settled. The Assembly is currently generating an average of about **Twenty Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢20,000)** a month which is expected to increase under the current arrangements.

The Race Course has seen a massive face lift in terms of bituminous surfacing of the roads, provision of sanitary facilities and security lighting. A lot of spaces

are also available for the relocation of the traders, but the majority of them are still in the streets.

To ensure things run smoothly, a new management team, headed by an Administrative Officer and assisted by a Senior Accountant, has been put in place there.

Hon. Members

Another factor that militated against revenue mobilization was the issue of leakages. We realized that there was a lot of fake General Counterfoil Receipts (GCRs) in the system being used to collect monies which never got to KMA. This issue has been reported to the relevant investigative bodies who are currently investigating the staff involved. In due course, you will be informed of the outcome of the investigation, and believe you me, all culpable officers will be dealt with in accordance with the law, without fear or favour.

Green Field Company Limited

The Assembly mandated Management to enter into a six-month MOU (which will expire in May 2018) with Green Field Company Ltd. in the area of night revenue and property rate arrears collection in the metropolis. They, however, wrote back to the Assembly requesting that they should rather be given the collection of revenue from markets so that their performance could easily be evaluated.

Consequently, Management proposes to allocate to them, the Subin Sub-Metro Property Rate, Bantama Market and night revenue collections.

Fidelity Bank Ghana Limited

The above-mentioned bank has expressed the strong desire to help the KMA in

its revenue mobilization. The bank will capture, report and monitor revenue collections for the Assembly.

The Bank has submitted a proposal which has been duly considered by the Public –Private Partnership Steering Committee towards the signing of an MOU with them.

As part of the proposal, the Bank will install some equipment, including Point of Sale devices for revenue collection activities at the Kumasi Central Market as a focus for the start. Systems will also be provided for the Assembly's entire revenue collection activities, following training and technical guidance for the revenue staff and accountants.

Hon. Presiding Member,

Be assured that the necessary steps have been taken to ensure value for money and also prevent any unwarranted legal disputes in relation to this and all other collaborations.

In the bid to computerize the marriage and divorce registration unit of the Assembly, Ecobank early this year, donated computers and accessories to the KMA and prepared to give technical support by training and software applications in this direction.

Finances

For the Internally Generated Fund (IGF), the Assembly mobilized **Thirty-five Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand, Six Hundred and Fifty-six**

Ghana Cedis, Sixteen Ghana Pesewas (GH¢35,292,656.16) representing **98.9%** of the targeted revenue of Thirty-five Million, Six Hundred and Eighty-eight Thousand, Nine Hundred Ghana Cedis (GH¢35,688,900.00) for the 2017 financial year.

Hon Presiding Member,

Our 2018 Action Plan and Budget will certainly have to be reviewed as a matter of course due to the creation of the five (5) new Municipal Assemblies. And this, the Finance and Administration Sub-Committee should see to.

COURT CASES/JUDGEMENT DEBTS

Hon. Presiding Member,

The year 2017 saw the Assembly make significant gains in the court room. In May 2017, the Assembly won an appeal against Freko FD Ltd. in the biggest judgment debt case ever, resulting in the scrapping of a GH¢42.4 million judgement debt granted by a lower court against KMA.

The Assembly also won a case against the Kejetia Traders Association, at the Supreme Court, which brought an end to the long-standing dispute between the Assembly and the traders over the Kejetia Project.

To find a lasting solution to the Assembly's numerous Court cases, a three-member panel of Lawyers has been constituted to support KMA's Solicitor to review the Assembly's cases pending in the courts as well as review all contract agreements.

Hon. Presiding Member,

The Assembly's judgment debt stock of Fifty Million, Six Hundred Thousand

Ghana Cedis (GH¢50.600,000) has thus been reduced by **Forty-two Million, Four Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢42,400,000.00)**.

The biggest challenge, however, has been the **Sixty-three Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢63,800,000.00)** debt owed the waste management service providers, especially J. Stanley Owusu who manages the Assembly's Landfill site and demands not less than GH¢100,000.00 per month from KMA to meet the monthly minimum operation cost of about GH¢1.4 million.

The situation calls for a financial bailout from the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and above all, the Ministry of Finance.

SANITATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

In addition to a number of periodic clean-up exercises which saw Hon. Assembly members, Heads of department, security personnel and voluntary organizations participating, KMA collaborated with the Aliu Mahama Foundation and undertook a clean-up exercise on 25th November, 2017 to commemorate the 5th Anniversary Celebration of the death of H. E. Alhaji Aliu Mahama, Vice President of Ghana from 2001 to 2009.

Solid Waste

Solid waste management has been a challenge compounded by the poor attitudes of the public, especially at the Central Business District (CBD), obsolete equipment and the Assembly's indebtedness to service providers, among others.

Consequently, efforts are being made to involve all stakeholders in the bid to rid

the city of filth and so far it has been good. We, on 12th March, 2018 out- doored one hundred and fifty tricycles popularly called "**aboboyaa**" (branded for waste collection only) to enhance the carting and disposal of solid waste in the Metropolis. The ceremony which took place at the Jubilee Park was attended by the Minister of Sanitation and Water (Hon. Joseph Kofi Adda), the Deputy Ashanti Regional Minister (Hon. Elizabeth Agyemang) and a good number of Hon. Assembly Members and the members of the public.

The access road to the Oti Landfill site has been improved and lighting provided to enable 24/7 operations in waste collection and disposal. However, the damaged weigh bridge is yet to be fixed.

Hon. Presiding Member,

The ***Night cleaning*** has been effectively sustained, with the periodic involvement of Hon. Assembly Members, staff, the security agencies and voluntary groups. The target areas have also been scaled up from the Central Business District (CBD) to include the Central Market and the Race Course Terminal/Market. We have had 150 National Service Personnel trained as Sanitation Crusaders to undertake public education in readiness for the strict enforcement of our sanitation bye-laws this year; that is 2018.

Liquid waste

Liquid waste disposal has not been left out of the equation. Rehabilitation of the liquid waste stabilization ponds is underway at a cost of Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand US Dollars financed by Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP). However, the Assembly must make efforts to raise the remaining Four Hundred Thousand U.S Dollars (US\$400,000.00) to fully complete the project.

The Assembly, in close collaboration with WSUP, has successfully facilitated the construction of four hundred and eighty-seven (487) household toilets out of a target of one thousand, two hundred (1,200). The programme is however on-going.

The Assembly has entered the ***Sanitation Challenge (Ghana) Competition*** which has a prize *money of Four Hundred Thousand British Pounds*. We are keeping our fingers crossed hoping that our proposal meets the mark.

“Operation Keep Kumasi Clean and Green”

Although, the “Operation Keep the City Clean and Green Campaign” has not yet been officially launched, the Assembly has started interacting with various stakeholders who have all shown an enthusiasm and preparedness to support the project.

The under-listed companies have generously supported the Assembly so far in the bid to clean and green Kumasi:

- *Zoomlion Ghana Limited donated 1 Pick Up and 8 tricycles*
- *Steaman Waste Management donated 10,000 pens*
- *National Investment Bank issued a cheque of **GH¢66,900.00** for the beautification exercise.*
- *First National Bank Limited donated 5,000 tree seedlings.*
- *Some other institutions undertook the planting of 7,152 trees in 4 Sub-Metros, namely, Subin, Asokwa, Nhyiaeso and Bantama.*
- *Between October and December 2017, a total of one thousand, one*

hundred (1,100) seedlings were planted in the vicinity of the KMA Clinic, Ahodwo Roundabout and the Race Course bringing the overall number of trees planted to eight thousand, two hundred and fifty-two (8,252) as compared with an annual target of one thousand (1,000).

Processes will be set in motion to officially launch the project and we look forward to your full participation.

ROADS AND TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

Hon. Presiding Member,

You would all agree with me that Kumasi roads have been in a deplorable state for some time now.

The heavy rainfall that the metropolis experienced in 2017 damaged a number of culverts which were in serious need of repair. Five (5) out of the six (6) culverts which needed emergency repair works have been completed **at Anwomaso, Deduako, Edwenase, Abrepo (Samed Hotel) and Kwadaso Estate (Knapo drive).** Work is also progressing steadily on the sixth (6th) culvert at Tanoso Topre.

Pothole Patching and Resealing in the Metropolis

In my previous Sessional Address, I indicated to the House that tenders for 6-No road projects to be funded by the Road Fund (Ministry of Roads and High Ways) had undergone evaluation and were awaiting approval from the Ministry of Roads and High Ways and subsequent award by the Metro Entity Tender Committee. The approval came, and concurrent approval for the award of these projects was

received from the Regional Tender Review committee on 2nd March 2018. Subsequently, the Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly Entity Tender Committee on 8th March 2018 awarded the six (6) projects to the successful tenderers/contractors for completion in twelve calendar months. The projects are as follows.

Contract Name	Lot	Name of Contractor	Contract Price (GH¢)	Contract Duration [months]
Pothole patching and Sectional Repairs on Oforikrom, Bantama and Subin Sub-Metropolitan Roads in Kumasi	ASM 001	M/s Multiwave Construction Works	1,699, 530.00	12
Pothole patching /Sectional Repairs and grading works on Tafo – Pankrono , Suame and Manhyia Sub – Metropolitan Roads in Kumasi	ASM 002	M/s Sefwiman Construction and Business Limited	1,976, 730.00	12
Pothole patching /Sectional Repairs and Grading Works on Tafo Pankrono , Suame ,and Manhyia Sub-Metropolitan Roads in Kumasi.	ASM 003	M/s Yanquan Company Limited	1,986, 740.00	12
Resealing Works on Oforikrom,Bantama and Subin Sub-Metropolitan Roads in Kumasi	ASM 006	M/s Reggio Company Limited	2,,563413.50	12

Resealing Works On Tafo Pankrono Suame and Manhyia Sub –Metro politan Roads in Kumasi	ASM 007	M/S Reggio Company Limited	2,698,330.00	12
Resealing Works on Asokwa Kwadaso and Nhyiaeso Sub-Metropolitan Roads in Kumasi	ASM 008	M/sKwagyeb Enterprise	2,738,260.00	12

Kumasi Roads and Drainage Extension Project (Lake Road project)

A consultant, Aurecon/Asafo Boakye and Partners Consult has been selected for consultancy services for the Second Phase of the Lake Road Project which would continue from Coca Cola Company site toward Atonsu. The project is being financed by Agence Française de Development (AFD) and the Government of Ghana, and its components include widening of the Lake Road (2km) from Coca Cola, lining of the Aboabo/Sisai drain (2km) and the construction of a terminal at Chirapatre. Evaluation Report has been completed and submitted for award of contract to the recommended contractor.

Sunyani Road Project.

Currently, due to nonpayment of certificates raised by the contractor (Messrs China Geo), the contractor has abandoned site. The Department of Urban Roads in consultation within the Ministry of Roads and High Ways and other stakeholders have decided to take over sections of the 11km Road from Km 3 + 500 (Apatrapa) to Km 9+250 (South Junction/Boogies Supermarket) for repackaging.

Streamlining of use of Assembly's Equipment

Management agreed to equip the Urban Roads Department with some equipment for the day-to-day performance of maintaining the road infrastructure. In this regard, two (2) Graders and two (2) excavators were allocated to the department. The Transport Officer will be responsible for the fuel allocation and aided by an ad Hoc Committee, see to the maintenance of the equipment. The Department of Urban Roads will schedule and technically supervise the use of the equipment.

Road Investment Projects

Prospective investors have shown a keen interest in investing in several road projects in the city. The Assembly has received very positive responses from these prospective investors and we have no doubt, the road sector will receive a major boost from 2018.

Transport operations in the Metropolis

Hon. Members

Efforts are on-going to ease the unnecessary congestion to ensure an efficient transport system in the metropolis. Currently, the challenge has to do with finding adequate space for intra-city transporters ("trotro"). Another problem has to do with the movement of passengers to both the Race Course and the Abinkyi Markets. To salvage the situation, three (3) "Ayalolo" buses have been released to us by the Ministry of Transport under the Bus Rapid Transport Project which will be deployed in accordance with their operational guidelines in the Metropolis.

Relocation of Traders and Transporters

Hon. Presiding Member,

It is rather unfortunate that much as stakeholders appreciate the benefits of unimpeded movement of vehicles and pedestrians, few are prepared to cooperate for the success of the relocation of commercial drivers and traders who are plying their trade at such unauthorized places as the streets and pavements instead of the approved locations at the Race Course, Afia Kobni Market (Abinkyi), Edwenase, Adumanu, Pastasi markets and at the Adehye and Acheamfour terminals etc.

It should be noted that in spite of several stakeholder meetings and field inspections involving Traditional Rulers, representatives of the 24 Transport Unions in Kumasi, Market Queens and officials of KMA since 31st October, 2017, our efforts are yet to yield the desired results. Public education and announcements via the radio stations and the Information Service Department's vans, all seem to have fallen on deaf ears.

Hon. Members, the Regional Security Council (REGSEC), having taken note of the efforts of KMA as against the recalcitrance of the traders and the commercial drivers has authorized the increase in the number of security personnel on the Relocation Task Force with effect from Monday 26th March, 2018.

Hon. Presiding Member, let no one cry foul if the security personnel resort to high handedness on disobedient members of our community who want to continue messing up the city. **Hon. Presiding Member,** "Where persuasion fails, force must be applied"; to say the least.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The Metropolis experienced a number of fire outbreaks during the last quarter of 2017 resulting in the loss of properties at Anwomaso and Bomso, among others. A total of 4 houses were completely destroyed.

There were windstorms that ripped off the roofs of some basic schools at Asem and Amakom. The Metropolis was at the mercy of floods which caused havoc at several areas including Kwadaso Estate, Kaase, Atonsu and the Friends Garden area where the road was cut off. There was also an incident of a building that collapsed at Kwadaso resulting in two deaths and severe injuries to two other occupants.

About four hundred (400) victims whose belongings were washed away were privilege to receive relief items from NADMO, and the Assembly paid One Thousand, One Hundred Ghana Cedis (GH¢1,100.00) to 11 disaster victims at Kwadaso in December 2017.

Hon. Presiding Member,

In addition to some initiatives by Assembly members who request for support to desilt streams in their areas, Management is designing a comprehensive action plan for the needed desilting works to be undertaken this year in order to forestall flooding, especially when the Metrological Service Department is warning us of expected downpours.

Structural Integrity Test Committee

The Assembly proposed a Structural Integrity Test Committee to assess buildings in the Metropolis and accordingly advise Management on the demolition of weak and unsafe buildings in order to protect lives and property.

Consequently, the Ghana Institute of Engineers came in that they would meet this technical need of the Assembly instead of a committee of functional heads as proposed. We, therefore, look forward to having them act as promised.

To reduce the incidence of fire associated with handling LPG, wood, charcoal, fire crackers and electrical gadgets at public places, house-to-house educational campaigns especially at slums will continue to be undertaken.

INVESTMENT

To attract investment and harness the tourism potentials in the Metropolis, Management has established an Investment and Tourism Desk, headed by a Consultant (Dr. Kojo Yeboah), to source funding and pursue investments.

In pursuance of this noble objective, the Assembly has developed a brochure entitled “Invest in Kumasi” and a booklet on Tourism with the theme “Sikadwa Culture and Tourism Development”. The Assembly has gone further to make series of presentations to teams of investors led by High Commissioners and Ambassadors. Among them were:

- *The British High Commissioner*
- *The Turkish Ambassador*
- *The Hungarian Ambassador*
- *The South African High Commissioner and many other business executives, both local and foreign.*

The discussions centered on the following fields of investment:

Waste to Energy

Twenty (20) Energy Companies have expressed interest in the area of converting waste to energy. All the prospective investors have been asked to submit detailed plans (feasibility studies) of investment to include proof of funding and the terms and conditions under which their projects will be implemented and managed.

Hon. Presiding Member,

For the first time, a company has demonstrated its readiness in turning Kumasi waste to Energy.

With the help of Ghana's Ambassador to Cuba (H.E. Napoleon Abdulai), Management had a successful meeting with the President and CEO of PSP Cuba, S.L, Jose Poch Riba for the construction of a plant for waste-to-energy in Kumasi. For the start, the company agreed on a labour composition budget of GH¢20,000.00 out of which GH¢16,000.00 has been deposited with KMA.

The Labour Team will consist of three (3) expatriates from Spain and twenty (20) Ghanaians. It has also been agreed for the Metro Chief Executive and his technical team to visit a waste-to-energy plant in Barcelona, Spain in May 2018 following which a detail work programme will be jointly adopted by KMA and the company.

Car Parks and Lorry Stations

Out of eighteen (18) unsolicited proposals received in 2017 to partner the KMA in the provision of socio-economic infrastructure, only four (4) companies have the muscle to arrange for adequate financing and do serious business with the Assembly after an evaluation was done.

The four companies include; EuroLux Ltd. and Soccoex from Spain, VistaLux from South Africa and Swaggart Ltd from Ghana. KMA's engagement with them is ongoing and just a few weeks ago Soccoex did the presentation on their drawings of a car park facility design for Adum and have also engaged the Fidelity Bank to enable the transfer of their money to undertake the project when finally approved.

Affordable and Luxury Apartments

Swaggart Limited has completed feasibility studies and soil test at Patasi near the Parks and Gardens Offices and are currently awaiting funding from their bank. The proposed investment is valued at USD 100 million for three (3) projects being;

- *3 ultra-modern Bus Terminals with shops*
- *Hotels and other amenities*
- *10,000 units of affordable housing (1-3 bedroom units)*

Light Railway Project

As part of the Government's quest to revamp the Railway Industry, two (2) companies have submitted proposals and held discussions with the Assembly. The two (2) companies are Sinohydro (Power China) from China and Friends Transits from the USA. The Assembly has submitted all the necessary information to the investors to aid the realization of the Government's objective through the Ministry of Railways.

KMA on Smart Community Project

Kumasi is to benefit from the Ghana Investment Fund for Electronic Communication (GIFEC) project under the auspices of the Ministry of Communications. This Smart Community Project is part of the **Digital for Inclusion Project (D4I)** which seeks to integrate ICT in a secure manner to

manage a city's or a community's assets (including local departments' information systems, schools, libraries, transportation systems, hospitals and other community services).

Concept papers of some departments and units are under consideration for smooth implementation. Currently, digitalization of operations at the MCE's Secretariat and the Transport Department of the Assembly is seriously underway.

Under the smart city venture also, Kumasi can benefit from a network of communications and smart lighting, beginning with public buildings and the adjacent streets which can be connected with free WIFI. Thereafter, commercial areas that consume high electricity such as shopping centres and malls could connect to the facility.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Collaboration with KNUST

In furtherance of a KMA – KNUST collaboration, periodic invitations from the University Training Workshops, seminars and other relevant activities to enable eligible Assembly Members and staff improve upon their knowledge and skills, have been honoured. An example is the invitation to KMA to participate in the Chain Wide Learning Workshop at KNUST where the then Convener and the Secretary of the Trade and Industry Sub-Committee represented KMA on June 5 & 9, 2017. Other areas of collaboration are waste management and environmental sanitation, tree planting and beautification of the city.

SISTER-CITY RELATIONS

Following the creation of a Sister-city Unit/Desk, the following activities have been undertaken:

Activation and Renewal of KMA Relations with Sister Cities

Prior to my assumption of office, the Assembly had thirteen (13) Sister-city relations, twelve (12) of which had become dormant over the period.

All twelve (12) dormant sister-cities were written to, in order to rejuvenate the relations with KMA, and the responses were as follows:

- *The City of Atlanta in the USA wrote to the Assembly to propose a project to be explored in Kumasi.*
- *The City of Tshwane in South Africa, also acknowledged the receipt of our letter and is working on the way forward.*
- *The City of Dortmund in Germany, also confirmed receipt of our letter and has indicated getting in touch in due course.*

We are yet to hear favourably from the others.

Establishment of New Relationships

Official letters have been written to ten (10) new Cities (namely Austria, Malta, Anyang-China, Pretoria, Milan, Bergamo, Vicenza and Verona-Italy and Moscow-Russia) and we are awaiting their responses.

Sister-City Visits undertaken

The proposed visit to Anyang and Wenzhou in China could not be undertaken in 2017 and has therefore been rescheduled to April this year. The trip to Izmir in Turkey for an investment tour by a KMA delegation led by the Metro Chief Executive at the invitation of the Africa Trade Centre took place between 29th January and 1st February 2018.

Mexico World Cancer Leaders' Summit

The Minister of Health (Hon. Kwaku Agyemang Manu), who represented the

President of the Republic of Ghana, together with the Hon. Ashanti Regional Minister and my good self who represented Kumasi joined 300 Global Cancer and Health Leaders at the World Cancer Leaders' Summit (WCLS) under the theme '*Cities Driving Change*' in Mexico from 13th to 15th November 2017. Kumasi therefore made history by becoming the first city in Africa and the fourth in the world to be selected as part of the City Cancer Challenge (C/CAN 2025).

The selection was based on merit because KMA with technical support from the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) submitted a convincing proposal which beat all the other contesting cities in the world.

Consequently, KMA/Ghana and the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for 2018-2020, during which period, UICC will provide KMA with technical and financial support geared towards making Kumasi a self-reliant city in the prevention and control of cancers.

Following a Press briefing on the project on 22nd January, 2018 at the Milklin Hotel the official inauguration ceremony and the Executive meeting took place at the Golden Tulip Hotel on Wednesday, 6th February 2018. The Assembly in collaboration with the Ashanti Regional Co-ordinating Council has provided an office block to serve as the Administration for the project in Kumasi.

Hungary Collaboration

The City of Kumasi and the Government of Hungary have established mutual relations to promote economic and social cooperation/collaboration between the two.

A seven (7)-member committee is in place to manage the partnership in the

following areas;

- *Environmental Management*
- *Waste Management (Waste to Energy)*
- *Youth and Social Development*
- *Agricultural and Food Storage Facilities*
- *Establishment of a Medical Village*
- *Housing Regeneration (Construction of Affordable Houses)*
- *Development of a first class hotel at the Golf Park*
- *Construction of Roads and Car Parks*
- *Construction of a Convention Centre*

Kumasi as Climate Resilient City

In collaboration with the Kufuor Foundation and KNUST under the chairmanship of Prof. Joshua Ayarkwa, the Assembly developed four (4) concept papers for the attention of the United Nations Convention of Climate Change. They include;

- *Concept paper for Green Project Solutions (Afforestation and reforestation) in Kumasi Metropolis.*
- *Concept Note: Conversion of Wood and Coconut Husk into energy in briquette form.*
- *Concept Note on treatment of water bodies*
- *Concept Note for Hydrogen Economy Programme*

To move these ideas from the conceptual phase to implementation, the Assembly will engage stakeholders; undertake feasibility studies and prepare an implementation plan to make Kumasi a Climate Resilient City.

Official Visits to K.M.A.

The under-listed dignitaries paid courtesy calls in 2017 for the strengthening and establishment of new relationships and to promote economic development:

- *Hon. Hajia Alima Mahama, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development.*
- *Ing. Dr. Nana Ato Arthur, Head of Local Government Service.*
- *His Excellency Giovanni Favilli, the Italian Ambassador,*
- *A six (6) member delegation led by Mr. Xie Shuhua, Vice Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultant Conference (CPPCC)*
- *H. E. Femi Abikoye, The Nigerian High Commissioner,*
- *A six (6)-member delegation led by Mildred Crump (Newark first African- American Council woman and the first female President of Newark Municipal Council) from Global Women, Newark-U.S.A.*
- *His Excellency Pingrenoma Zagre, the Burkinabe Ambassador,*
- *Her Excellency Pende Nesirn Bayazit, Turkish Ambassador to Ghana.*
- *Dr. Lakia Scott, Team leader of officials from Bradford City.*
- *His Excellency Nicole Maldonado, German Ambassador to Ghana*

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Court injunction orders stalled the steady development of some of the Assembly's projects such as Chirapatre, Sofoline and Anwomaso lorry terminal projects (all under the UDG), but thank God, by out-of-court settlements the last two have been completed and are in use while the Chirapatre project is expected to complete by April 2018 due to challenges encountered on site.

UDG Supplementary Funds

Our Assembly qualified for the grant of the UDG supplementary funds worth GH¢1,983,750.00 (US\$445,787). The criteria used for the qualification included the timely completion of projects, quality of work executed and the utilization of

the projects by beneficiaries.

The supplementary UDG funds, upon the World Bank's approval, were invested in the following projects:

- Completion of a 20 Bed Capacity Ward at Maternal & Child Health Hospital with Theater and other external works
- Procurement of 2,300 dual desks, 1,200 sets of student tables & chairs, 130 Sets of teacher's tables and chairs, 100 Cupboards for 15 newly rehabilitated and 7 newly constructed basic schools & Kumasi Sec/Tech School.
- Complete Furnishing of a Computer Laboratory and
- Construction of 50.0m x 6.0m (600 people capacity) additional sheds at Kwadaso (Sofoline) Lorry Terminal.

These projects have also been completed with the additional sheds at the Kwadaso (Sofoline Lorry Terminal) ready for painting.

Prempeh Assembly Hall Project

The Prempeh Assembly Hall Project renovation works are almost complete. It is now left with the delivery of the furniture and the hall would be ready for use very soon, while the external works funded under Common Fund continue.

Ministry of Education Projects

The Ministry of Education has between the latter part of 2017 and now awarded contracts for the construction of five (5) 6-unit classroom blocks at Atasemanso R/C, Duase M/A and Kotei M/A primary schools respectively, and a kindergarten block each at Asafo and Asuoeyeboa.

Street lighting for Security and Public Safety

In order to ensure public safety and enhance security in the Metropolis, one

thousand (1,000) bulbs and accessories were procured and installed on principal streets in the city, courtesy of the Ministry of Energy which also distributed a number of street light bulbs through the Members of Parliament.

Additional 2000 complete bulbs and accessories were procured and distributed through the Hon. Assembly Members in December, 2017 to boost the lighting situation in the various electoral areas.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

To address challenges associated with projects undertaken via Public-Private Partnership (PPP) (the major one being judgement debts against KMA) a Steering Committee has been put in place to evaluate all technical and financial proposals received in respect of PPP projects mostly on Build-Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Adverts are placed for “Expression of Interest” and when received, the Steering Committee vets and makes recommendations to the Entity Tender Committee for the final award.

Build Operate & Transfer (BOT) Projects

Hon. Members,

You will all recall that in my progress report to the General Assembly on 28th December 2017, I informed you of the establishment of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Steering Committee to evaluate all BOT Projects. Below is the list of projects so far approved through the Entity Tender Committee:

NO.	NAME OF COMPANY	PROJECT NAME	YEARS
1	Acheamfour & Sons Construction Limited	Construction of Bus Terminal at Tafo	14 years
2	Jaborah Const. Limited	Construction of Anwomaso Market	20 years
3	Jegien Enterprise Limited	Construction of market	70% for the

		behind Suame Police Station	investors 30% for KMA renewable every five years
4	Nat Uprising Co. Limited	Construction of shops, market sheds at Dr. Mensah	15 years
5	Great Nabil Ltd.	Construction of 2-storey market and sanitary facilities – Alabar Zongo	18 years
6	Alhaji & Madina Co. Limited	Construction of 2-storey market and sanitary facilities – Alabar	18 years
7	Abenak Enterprise	20 Seater water closet toilet at Asem	15 years
8	Jaborah Construction Limited	Construction of stores & Hostel facilities at Asem	18 years

All these investors are supposed to pay a commitment fee of 1% of the construction cost and a 10%-surcharge on gross income monthly at the start of operations.

In the situation where any of these projects happen to fall outside the jurisdiction of the KMA, its implementation, along with copies of all relevant documents, will be handed over to the relevant Municipal Assembly.

SOCIAL INTERVENTION PROGRAMMES AND GOVERNMENT FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Hon. Presiding Member,

The Nana Addo Dankwa led NPP Government is undertaking a host of flagship projects aimed at providing jobs and improving the lives of the people. Various modules and interventions are on-going and KMA has had its fair share.

Ghana School Feeding Programme

A total of 136 Basic Schools are currently benefiting from the Ghana School Feeding Programme but requests have been submitted for more schools to be rolled into the programme.

Livelihood Empowerment against Poverty (LEAP)

LEAP is a cash transfer programme for the poorest households in Ghana. It has among others, improved the health and education status of children, and provided assistance for basic needs including food. Target beneficiaries are orphans and vulnerable children, the aged (65 years and above) and severely disabled people who cannot work.

For the period under review, Two Hundred and Twenty Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy-two Ghana Cedis (GH¢220,572.00) out of an allocation of Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-eight Ghana Cedis (GH¢350,238.00) was disbursed to a total of seven hundred and five (705) beneficiary households in the metropolis.

Recommendations have been made for the expansion of the programme to enable us cover many more households.

People with Disability (PWD) Fund

No releases were made under this fund by the District Assemblies' Common Fund in 2017 except that KMA made available Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢5,000.00) to enable the registration and verification of the number of people

in the Metropolis with various forms of disabilities. However, in 2018 a total of GH¢356,715.44 has been transferred for disbursement to prospective beneficiaries.

Free Senior High School (SHS) Programme

All SHS within the Metropolis started the implementation of the free SHS on 15th September, 2017.

There were initial challenges in relation to accommodation for boarding students and also the problem of students from afar who were made day students. Concerns for additional classroom blocks and boarding facilities received from a number of SHS in the Metropolis have been forwarded to the Ministry of Education for attention.

Hon. Presiding Member,

It is very worrying that most of the SHS premises have been infested with bed-bugs requiring the immediate attention of the Ministry of Education to eradicate them since they pose a serious health hazard. Unfortunately, KMA is currently not in the position to finance a proposed mass spraying due to the huge cash outlay required, for an estimate of GH¢60,000.00 was submitted for the exercise at Opoku Ware Senior High School alone.

It will therefore be appreciated if in support of Government and for the sake of our young ones, philanthropic companies and individuals, especially producers of the requisite chemicals, could sponsor the mass spraying. KMA early this year with the assistance of NADMO undertook spraying of the bed-bugs at Opoku Ware Senior High School in January, 2018. Kumasi High School and a few other schools will follow as donations of chemicals are received.

Planting for Food, Jobs and Investment

A One-Day Regional Programme was held at Georgia Hotel on Tuesday, 25th July, 2017 on the topic “Sensitization Programme on Planting for Food, Jobs and Investment and the establishment of a District Centre for Agriculture, Commerce and Technology, (DCAT)” aimed at complementing the planting for more food and investment-related activities especially for all identified cash crops in order to avoid post-harvest losses.

Under the planting for food and job programme, the Government gave 50% subsidy of the total cost of inputs to farmers. Upon receipt of the inputs, farmers are made to pay 25% of the remaining 50% up front, and 25% to be paid after harvest. Over 40,000 bags of fertilizer was distributed to farmers in and around the Kumasi Metropolis.

The Department of Agric. also took delivery of some insecticides to combat the fall army worm invasion.

Due to lack of farm lands in the Metropolis, the Assembly has chosen the growing of vegetables, cereals and livestock production as its targets.

A Thirteen (13)-member team has been put in place to ensure and enhance Government’s industrial revolution and to promote agri-business. For the records, one hundred and eighty-six (186) acres of maize and thirty (30) acres of rice were cultivated in the Metropolis in 2017.

“One District, One Factory” (1D1F)

In accordance with the guidelines for the implementation of the “One District, One Factory” Concept, a District Implementation Support Team of Eleven (11) drawn from various government and quasi government institutions has been constituted.

This team would facilitate the implementation of the business proposals approved for implementation in the metropolis.

Street Naming and Property Addressing System

Under this project, all roads in the Metropolis have been tracked using a Global Positioning System (GPS). And one hundred and ninety-eight (198) ortho-photos have been validated and geo-referenced. Three thousand, eight hundred ninety-seven (3,897) streets have been digitized, and so, Kumasi can easily synchronize with the national addressing system rolled out by Government.

MAJOR EVENTS

- ***Eight-day Agric Festival;*** *As part of the celebration of the 33^d National Farmers’ Day, an 8-day Agric. Festival was held at Heroes Park at the Babayara Sports Stadium in Kumasi from 24th November to 1st December, 2017 which was climaxed with National Farmers Day.*
- ***District Farmers’ Day;*** *KMA had its version of the Farmers’ Day at Atwima Techiman on 27th November, 2017, at which deserving farmers and fisher folks were awarded. Mr. Maxwell Asankomah of Dakodwom won the overall Metro Best Farmer Award.*
- ***Fifteen (15)-Day Final Funeral celebration of the late Asantehemaa;*** *The final funeral rites of the late Asantehemaa, Nana Afua Kobi*

Serwaa Ampem II took place from the 1st to 15th of December, 2017 and this brought in dignitaries from far and wide to Kumasi.

- ***Regional Ministers' Conference;** The Conference of Regional Ministers was also held in Kumasi from the 14th to 16th December, 2017.*

CHALLENGES

In spite of the successes chalked by the Assembly, so far, it was not all smooth. There are some factors which do not augur well for our smooth operation.

Worthy of note are the following:

- *The absence of a befitting office accommodation for the Assembly continues the plague us in our effort to render quality services to our clients. An ultra-modern Administration block for KMA is still on the drawing board, and we shall need financial support to implement it.*
- *The attendant challenges in terms of vehicular traffic and ensuring an efficient public transport system whilst the Kejetia Terminal/ Central Market and other satellite terminals are being developed is also a huge challenge. Movement of both human and vehicular traffic is being challenged due to the refusal of traders and transporters to quit the streets and pavements in the CBD.*
- *The refusal of traders to relocate to the relevant satellite markets is also posing a challenge. Most traders with the connivance of some detractors continue to trade at unapproved sites on pavements and in the street while designated market sites at the Race Course, Afiakobi, Edwenase, Adumanu and others lie idle. A Task Force*

comprising the Military, Police and Metro Guards is doing its best to ensure the streets and pavements in the CBD are free for users.

WAY FORWARD FOR 2018

Hon. Presiding Member, Hon. Members of Parliament, Hon. Assembly Members, Ladies and Gentlemen

The way forward for 2018 sure does look bright. We have a line-up of strategies which we wish to implement in order to make life better for the good people of Kumasi as well as make the metropolis a safe and smart destination.

No stone will be left unturned in our effort to sustain the gains made so far and also continue to achieve 2018's targets in the following areas:

- i. Maximization of local revenue collection*
- ii. Ensuring a clean and green Kumasi*
- iii. Creating a safe and smart city conducive for investment*
- iv. Ensure the free flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic*
- v. Improvement in the road infrastructure and other social amenities*
- vi. Achieve energy efficiency via solar lighting and a clean work environment at KMA.*

It is our hope that we will all put our hands on deck to ensure the realization of these lofty dreams for the year 2018.

On this note, I bring the curtain down and wish Hon. Members a fruitful and dispassionate discussion of this address, going forward.

Thank you all and May the Almighty God bless our effort to develop Kumasi.