PARLIAMENTARY
MONITOR SERIES

02

MONITORING REPORT ON THE 2ND MEETING OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 9TH PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

21 MAY — 31 JULY 2026

Prepared by
African Centre for Parliamentary Affairs (ACEPA)

Executive Summary

A visual overview of the meeting's legislative, oversight and institutional activity.

The 2nd Meeting of the 2nd Session of Ghana's 9th Parliament commenced on 21st May 2026 and adjourned sine die on 31st July 2026. The meeting was marked by notable legislative achievements, moments of institutional reflection, and episodes of heightened partisan tension. From the passage of landmark legislation to persistent absenteeism, dramatic confrontations on the floor of the House, and a mid-session walkout, the proceedings offered a revealing snapshot of the opportunities and challenges that continue to shape Ghana's parliamentary democracy.

This report, produced by the African Centre for Parliamentary Affairs (ACEPA), evaluates the performance of the meeting across Parliament's core constitutional functions. It highlights key legislative and oversight accomplishments, assesses institutional practices, and draws attention to areas requiring improvement, recognizing both commendable performance and developments that warrant concern.

The data, findings, and statutory frameworks presented in this report are synthesized exclusively from primary source materials provided by the Parliament of Ghana, including its official portal and internal administrative offices.

01 Setting the Scene

Opening priorities, institutional tone and issues carried into the meeting.

In their opening addresses, the Speaker of Parliament, the Majority Leader, and the Deputy Minority Leader outlined the priorities that would shape the meeting, setting the tone for the legislative business and parliamentary oversight.

The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin, reaffirmed Parliament's commitment to upholding the rule of law and urged committees to expedite work on key pending legislation, including the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, the Property Rights of Spouses Bill, the Parliament Transition Bill, and the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill. He also clarified the scope of parliamentary immunity, emphasizing that Members of Parliament are not above the law.

The Majority Leader, Hon. Mahama Ayariga emphasized Parliament's role in sustaining the country's economic recovery and ensuring a successful exit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme. He called on Committees to strengthen oversight of economic sectors by encouraging local content policies, increasing factory production, curbing smuggling, and proposals for tax reforms to help improve revenue mobilization. He further urged the House to scrutinize public expenditure to ensure resources are directed towards productive sectors and job creation. He also highlighted the need for accountability, transparency, and responsive leadership. He further revealed that the House will review and consider a number of proposals for constitutional amendments pursuant to the work of the Constitution Review Committee. He urged Members to remain punctual and actively participate in proceedings.

On behalf of the Minority Leader, the Deputy Minority leader Hon. Patricia Appiagyei called for Parliament to focus on issues affecting the lives of Ghanaians, including the economy, energy supply, youth employment, the worrisome conditions of Ghanaians in the Gulf countries, and national security. She urged the House to intensify its oversight role and hold the Executive accountable for addressing these pressing challenges.

Key Message 01	Expedite work on pending legislation, including the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, Property Rights of Spouses Bill and Parliament Transition Bill.
Key Message 02	Strengthen parliamentary oversight of the economy, with emphasis on local content policies, factory production, curbing smuggling, revenue mobilization and productive public spending.

Key Message 03	Focus on the economy, energy supply, youth employment, the conditions of Ghanaians in Gulf countries and national security, while strengthening oversight and accountability.

02 The Meeting at a Glance

Key indicators from the 2nd Meeting of the 2nd Session of the 9th Parliament .

11 **Business (sitting) weeks**	**37** **Total sitting days**	**12** **Bills Passed**
91 **Committee Reports Presented**	**50** **Statements**	**121** **Motions Adopted**
173 **Questions to Ministers and other Gov't Persons Programmed (Oral, Urgent)**		

COMMENCED	BUSINESS	SITTINGS	OUTPUTS	ADJOURNED
21 MAY	11 WEEKS	37	12 BILLS PASSED	31 JULY

03 Legislative Business

Bill and approvals produced during the meeting.

Business Statements

The House adopted 11 Business Statements for the 11 Sitting weeks. The last Business statement read by the Chairman of the Business Committee was on Friday 24th July 2026.

18 BILLS	The House received 18 bills during the meeting; 12 were passed while others remained at different stages.

12 BILLS PASSED

01 Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill, 2025	**02** Ghana Investment Promotion Authority Bill, 2025	**03** Community Service Bill, 2025
04 Maritime and Related Offences Bill, 2026	**05** National Defence University, Ghana Bill, 2026	**06** Customs Bill, 2026
07 Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026	**08** Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026	**09** Excise Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2026
10 Tribunals Bill, 2026	**11** Ghana Cocoa Board Bill, 2026	**12** Energy Sector Levies (Amendment) Bill, 2026

KEY APPROVALS	2026 Mid-Year Fiscal Policy Review; Proposed Formula for the Distribution of the Road Maintenance Trust Fund 2026.

Members also made statements on youth unemployment, drug abuse, human rights, flooding, CSSPS reforms, Gulf States welfare, economic recovery, Hepatitis B, national security, fuel prices, the cocoa sector and related concerns.

04 Oversight in Action

Ministerial appearances and matters brought before the House.

During this Meeting, Ministers appeared frequently before the House to answer questions and respond to urgent public issues, reflecting Parliament's active oversight role.

According to the Business Statement, 23 Ministers were programmed to appear before the House to answer questions and matters relating to their respective portfolios, though Hansard records show that only 10 of them actually appeared.

APPEARANCES BY MINISTERS

Ministerial appearances recorded during the meeting

3 APPEARANCES

2 MINISTERS

- Health
- Education

2 APPEARANCES

1 MINISTER

- Food and Agriculture

1 APPEARANCE

8 MINISTERS

- Communication, Digital Technology & Innovations
- (Acting) Environment, Science & Technology
- Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts
- Roads and Highways
- Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs
- Works and Housing
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Lands and Natural Resources

16

TOTAL APPEARANCES

05 Legislative Performance

Attendance, absenteeism, permissions, productivity and committee referrals.

Attendance

There were 37 sittings during the 2nd Meeting of the 2nd Session of the 9th Parliament. Based on these sittings analyzed, on average, all MPs attended 29 out of the 37sittings, representing an overall attendance rate of 78.08%.

Most MPs recorded attendance rates between 64.86% and 91.89%, indicating that the majority were present for approximately 24 to 34 sittings during the Meeting. This reflects generally strong participation throughout the meeting, despite a small number of Members with notably low attendance.

Absenteeism

Absenteeism ranged between 0.00% to 81.08%. 172 MPs (62.32%) recorded attendance rates above the parliamentary average, while 104 MPs (37.68%) fell below the average parliamentary absence days.

While a large proportion of Members recorded moderate absenteeism rates, a smaller group recorded substantially higher levels, with some MPs absent for more than half of the recorded sittings; rates exceeding 50%.

Absent with Permission

The Standing Order 16(1) states that, “A Member shall not be absent for fifteen sittings in a Meeting during any period that Parliament has been summoned to meet and continues to meet, without a written permission of the Speaker”, making absences with permission a recognized procedural mechanism.

Against this provision, the analysis examined Members' recorded absences and the extent to which these absences were recorded as having been authorized. The findings revealed that 17 MPs (6.5% of the 276 Members) recorded more than 15 unauthorized absences during the meeting.

Comparison with the Previous meeting

Comparing the 1st and 2nd Meetings of the 2nd Session, overall parliamentary attendance recorded a decline, moving from 80.70% in the 1st Meeting to 78.12% in the 2nd Meeting, while absenteeism rates increased from 14.10% to 16.67%.

Additionally, the number of MPs achieving perfect attendance declined from 22 Members (including 3 females) in the 1st Meeting to 16 Members in the 2nd Meeting, with no female MPs.

Below is a comparative, side-by-side analysis of parliamentary attendance trends across the two meetings:

	1st Meeting, 2nd Session (Feb–Mar 2026)	2nd Meeting, 2nd Session (May–July 2026)
Number of Sittings	31	37
Overall Attendance Rate	80.7%	78.12%
Overall Absenteeism Rate	14.10%	16.67%
Absenteeism Range (MPs)	0.00% to 64.52%	0.00% to 81.08%
MPs with Perfect Attendance	22 (3 females, 19 males)	16 (0 females, 16 males)

The Standoff

A closed-door parliamentary briefing by Bank of Ghana Governor Dr. Johnson Asiama on July 15, 2026, sparked a fierce political standoff with the Minority describing it as a cover-up designed to hide details regarding forex injections and the central bank's losses that deserved total public transparency.

The Majority defended the closed session, citing Standing Order 76 and arguing that independent constitutional bodies routinely brief the Committee of the Whole without media coverage.

Walkouts

On July 15th, the Minority side of the House walked out in protest in what they described as the 1st Deputy Speaker Bernard Ahiafor's use of the Standing Orders to obstruct members of the caucus and undermine Parliament's oversight role during the Communications Minister Samuel Nartey George's testimony regarding the proposed SIM re-registration exercise.

The very next day, on July 16, 2026, the Minority Caucus staged another walkout during the consideration of the Tribunals Bill, 2026 following a heated parliamentary debate over Clause 4 of the bill arguing that the bill sought to establish a parallel judicial system not envisioned by the 1992 Constitution.

Suspensions

During the overnight deliberations on the 16th - 17th July 2026 of the TribunalsBill2026, proceedings were suspended for over 4 hours, following a request by the Majority Leader for consultations, despite the Minority leader's objection.

On 31st July, the First Deputy Speaker suspended proceedings for 10minutesfollowing intense deliberations on the Energy Sector Levies (Amendment) Bill, 2026when the Minority raised concerns over discrepancies between the version of the Bill reflected on the Order Paper and the document circulated to Members.

06 Debates That Defined the Meeting

Issues That Took Centre Stage

A. ECONOMIC PRESSURES	• Fuel taxes • 2026 Mid-Year Budget Review • Inflation • Cost of living • Re-introduction of Road Tolls
B. GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY	• Flooding • Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS) • Parliamentary attendance • Tribunal reforms
C. HUMAN RIGHTS	• LGBTTQAP+ & Human Rights debate
D. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES	• Galamsey • Healthcare

07 Parliament Beyond Legislation

Public engagement, commemorations, conferences and institutional diplomacy.

The 4th African Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Family Values and National Sovereignty

On June 3rd – 6th, Parliament hosted the 4th African Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Family, Sovereignty and Values bringing together parliamentary leaders, legislators, policymakers, traditional authorities, civil society representatives and other stakeholders from across Africa. Held under the theme, "Consolidating Parliamentary Consensus, Advancing the African Charter on Family, Sovereignty and Values," the conference provided a platform for cross-country parliamentary dialogue on the role of African legislatures in shaping policies that respond to the social, cultural and developmental realities of our societies.

A key outcome of the conference was the adoption of the Accra Declaration and the African Charter on Family, Sovereignty and Values.

Key engagements are highlighted below;

01
Maiden Edition of Mini Parliament

02
Information Sharing Session Launch

03
National Integrity Award Scheme Launch

04
Hon Zanetor Agyeman-Rawlings' Pan African Parliament Vice Presidency win

05
Open Government Partnership implementation and commemoration

06
Tributes

Late MP & Diplomat Victor Gbeho

Late Hon Emmanuel Kwame Dutt

07
Memorial anniversaries

Justice D.F. Annan (20th)

Late President John Evans Atta Mills (14th)

Late Hon Ernest Yaw Kumi (1st)

08
Health Awareness Days

Pre-eclampsia

Fistula

Sickle Cell

Hepatitis B

09
Observance Days

African Women's Day

Day of the African Child

Widows' Day

Albinism Awareness Day

World Day Against Child Labour

Persons with Disabilities Day

Eid al-Adha

International Day of Parliamentarism

10

Diplomatic Engagements

Official travels, courtesy calls, and engagements with Speakers, Ambassadors, foreign delegations, and diplomatic missions.

08 Looking Ahead

Bills to watch, expected continued discussions and pending business.

Bills To Watch Out For

01 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Private Member's Bill)	**02** Criminal Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (Private Member's Bill)	**03** Parliament & Parliament (Transition) Bill, 2026
04 Property Rights of Spouses Bill	**05** Minerals and Mining Bill 2026	**06** Public Procurement (Amendment) Bill 2026
07 Intestate Succession Bill, 2025	**08** Conduct of Public Officers Bill, 2026	**09** Economic and Organised Crime Office Bill, 2026

Expected Continued Discussions

- Youth Unemployment
- Flooding Solutions
- Update on the CSSPS reforms
- Hepatitis B coverage under the NHIA or Ghana Medical Trust Fund

09 Meeting Dashboard

A single-page visual summary of the report's core metrics.

37
SITTINGS

12
BILLS PASSED

91
COMMITTEE REPORTS

50
STATEMENTS

121
MOTIONS ADOPTED

168
QUESTIONS ASKED & ANSWERED

