



**INSTITUTE FOR  
DEMOCRATIC  
GOVERNANCE**

**The Road to Middle Income Status:  
An Analysis of the Growth & Poverty  
Reduction Strategy**

**Proceedings of Meeting with the Parliamentary  
Select Committee on Poverty Reduction**



*Jointly Organized by the Institute for Democratic Governance  
(IDEG) and the Canadian Parliamentary Centre, with support from  
the African Capacity Building Foundation*

**November 24-27, 2005**

List of acronyms	4
Background to the Meeting	5
Background to GPRS II	5
<b>1.0 Welcome and Introductory Remarks (Dr. Emmanuel Akwetey)</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 Background to the Canadian Parliamentary Centre's Work with the Committees (Gifty Adika)	7
<b>2.0 GPRS I (2002 2005): Achievements and Challenges</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1 Discussion	8
2.1.1 GPRS and the budget	8
2.1.2 Ownership of GPRS process	9
2.1.3 Strengthening the institutional capacity of NDPC	9
2.1.4 GPRS and international development frameworks	9
2.1.5 Locally generated funds to support GPRS implementation	10
2.1.6 Measuring poverty	10
2.1.7 Development vision for the country	11
2.1.8 Prioritisation	11
2.1.9 GPRS Funding	12
<b>3.0 GPRS II (2006 2009)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4.0 GPRS I Progress Reports</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1 Macroeconomic Performance	14
4.2 Production and Gainful Employment	14
4.3 Human Development and Basic Services	15
4.4 Protection of the vulnerable and excluded	16
4.5 Good Governance	16
<b>5.0 GPRS II (2006-2009) Thematic Presentations</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1 Growth and Private Sector Competitiveness (by Nii Moi Thompson)	17
5.2 Discussion	18
5.2.1 Modernizing Agriculture	18
5.2.2 The GPRS document and NDPC	18
<b>6.0 Human Resource Development (by Ms. Philomena Johnson)</b>	<b>19</b>
6.1 Healthcare	19
6.2 Water and Sanitation Management	20
6.3 Upgrading Rural Housing	20

	6.4 Discussion	20
	6.4.1 Education	20
	6.4.2 Health	21
	6.4.3 Creating value systems	21
	6.4.4 Sanitation	21
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Good Governance and Civic Responsibility</b>	
	<b>(by Dr. Emmanuel Akwete)</b>	22
	7.1 Public sector reform	22
	7.2 Decentralisation	22
	7.3 Security and the rule of law	22
	7.4 Gender Equity	23
	7.5 GPRS I: Challenges	23
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Key Areas Under GPRS II</b>	24
	8.1 Civic Responsibility	24
	8.2 Traditional Authorities in public affairs	24
	8.3 Political governance	24
	8.4 Economic governance	25
	8.5 Corporate Governance	26
	8.6 General Comments	26
<b>9.0</b>	<b>The Position of GPF on Governance Issues</b>	
	<b>(by Florence Dennis)</b>	27
	9.1 Promoting Democracy and Good Governance	27
	9.2 Discussions	27
	9.2.1 Civil Society Participation in Policy Making	27
	9.2.2 Too much detail	28
	9.2.3 Local Government	28
	9.2.4 E-governance	28
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Beyond GPRS-II Formulation: Implementation and Monitoring (By Dr. Emmanuel Akwete)</b>	29
11	Mechanisms for CSO-Parliament Engagement (by Gifty Adika)	29
12	Wrap up and Closing	31
	Appendix 1	
	List of participants	32

CPC	Canadian Parliamentary Centre
GPRS-I	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
GPRS-II	Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy
IDEG	Institute for Democratic Governance
ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
GPF	Growth and Poverty Forum
CSO's	Civil Society Organisations
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
CGM	Consultative Group Meeting
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
MMDA's	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
M and E	Monitoring and Evaluation

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005, the Parliamentary Select Committee on Poverty Reduction asked the Canadian Parliamentary Centre (CPC) in Accra to help organise a workshop on the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS II) for the Committee's members. The CPC in consultation with the Institute for Democratic Governance (IDEG), and with support from the African Capacity Building Foundation organised a workshop from 25-27 November, 2005 at the Manet Paradise Resort, Ada in the Greater Accra Region.

In addition to the members of the committee, two members from each of the following parliamentary committees were also invited: Government Assurance, Public Accounts, and Finance Committees. Representatives of the Growth and Poverty Forum (GPF), a coalition of civil society organisations (CSOs), devoted to constructive discourse between state and non-state actors in national development, also attended this meeting. A list of participants in the meeting is attached as Appendix 1.

The final draft of the GPRS II was submitted to the Cabinet in early November 2005 for comments, following a year of extensive consultations. The change in name from Ghana to Growth, according to the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), is to reflect a transition from stabilisation under GPRS I to growth under GPRS II. Following the Cabinet's review of the document a Consultative Group Meeting (CGM) was held in Accra on November 7 2005, during which the country's development partners were given the opportunity to comment on it. The GPRS II was then submitted to parliament for its input. The workshop for the parliamentarians was therefore a contribution to the process of formulating the GPRS II.