



NEWSLETTER



Ghana's delegation together with the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information Germany

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**RTIC PARTICIPATES IN THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS (ICIC)**

VISION



“To facilitate the right of access to information: promote, and sustain awareness of the citizenry in their right of access to information and of institutions in their obligation to disclose information.”

MISSION



“To build an informed citizenry, to promote transparency in public discourse, protect, monitor and enforce the right of access to information and to hold public institutions accountable.”

CORE VALUES



- **Transparency**
- **Accountability**
- **Fairness**
- **Professionalism and**
- **Independence**



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Sensitization Efforts In The
Ashanti and Bono Regions**





**RIGHT TO
INFORMATION
COMMISSION**
REPUBLIC OF GHANA



WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the June edition of the Right to Information Commission Newsletter!

As we reach the midpoint of the year, we take a moment to reflect on our progress and renew our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the public's right to know. This edition highlights key activities, engagements, and initiatives undertaken by the Commission to promote access to information and foster a culture of openness in governance.

We invite you to explore the stories, updates, and insights shared in this issue, and we thank you for your continued interest in the work of the RTI Commission. Together, we are building a more informed and empowered society.

Enjoy reading!

RTIC PARTICIPATES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS (ICIC)



Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq., Executive Secretary, RTI Commission Ghana (middle) and Nana Kwame Duah, Board Member, RTI Commission Ghana (third from left) in a group picture with some members of the African Network of Information Commissioners (ANIC)

The Right to Information Commission of Ghana participated in the 2025 International Conference for Information Commissioners (ICIC) held from June 23rd to June 25th, 2025, in Berlin, Germany. This significant global gathering brought together Information Commissioners and professionals from across the world to exchange ideas, best practices and innovations related to the promotion and protection of the right of access to information. The purpose of the ICIC is to enhance transparency, accountability and citizen engagement through effective information governance practices.

Representing the Commission at this year's conference were Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, the Executive Secretary and Nana Kwame Duah, Member of the Governing Board. Their participation underscored Ghana's commitment to the principles of openness and accountability which are essential to democratic governance. The conference served as a valuable platform for sharing Ghana's experiences and challenges in implementing effective right to information systems, while fostering collaborative solutions to common issues among participating countries.

During the conference, the Commission presented a comprehensive report on its successful collaboration with UNESCO, which culminated in Ghana hosting the 2024 International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI). This collaboration focused not only on advocacy for the right to information but also on raising awareness among individuals and institutions about the significance of universal access to information as a fundamental human right.

The Commission also highlighted its extensive stakeholder engagement efforts particularly in the development of the Legislative Instrument (LI)



Closed Door Session

governing the implementation of the Right to Information Act. These collaborative processes are essential to ensuring that Ghana’s legal framework aligns with international standards while being responsive to the needs of the Ghanaian public.

Furthermore, the Commission shared updates on its public sensitization initiatives, including targeted outreach to churches and mosques. These engagement activities play a critical role in promoting a culture of information-sharing and transparency within communities, encouraging citizens to actively exercise their right to access information.

The report also showcased recent study visits to the Right to Information Commission of Ghana by several notable institutions, including the Freedom of Information Office of the Philippines, representatives from the Open Government Partnership, the Ministry of Information of Namibia and a group of research students from Cambridge University. These visits fostered mutual learning and capacity building, providing opportunities to exchange knowledge and improve institutional practices.

Ghana’s participation in the 2025 ICIC exemplifies the country’s sustained commitment to transparency, accountability and good governance. It highlighted the critical role that access to information plays in empowering citizens, strengthening civic engagement, and enhancing democratic values. Through continued collaboration, knowledge sharing and the adoption of effective practices, the RTI Commission remains dedicated to building a more open and informed society where information is accessible to all.



The Executive Secretary of RTI Commission, Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq. with Besnick Dervishi, newly elected president of ICIC and Information and Data Protection Commissioner of the Republic of Albania



A section of participants at the Conference



RTI COMMISSION INTENSIFIES SENSITIZATION EFFORTS IN THE ASHANTI AND BONO REGIONS

In line with its mandate to promote transparency, accountability, and public access to information, the Right to Information Commission undertook a series of sensitization activities in June 2025, targeting key stakeholders in the Ashanti and Bono Regions. These engagements aimed to deepen public understanding of the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989), and to support both institutions and citizens in upholding the principles enshrined in the law.

On Wednesday, 19th June 2025, the Commission conducted a face-to-face sensitization session with Boss FM, a prominent radio station in Kumasi. This exercise formed part of the Commission's ongoing outreach strategy to equip public institutions and media stakeholders with the knowledge required to comply with the RTI Law and serve as advocates for access to information. During the session participants were taken through the objectives and scope of Act 989, procedures for requesting information, categories of exempt information, offences and penalties, and the enforcement powers of the Commission. The interactive discussion generated insightful questions on topics such as the practicality of

certain exemptions, the legal authority of the Commission, and the collaborative role of institutions in ensuring effective implementation of the Act.

Continuing the momentum, the Commission engaged Moonlite FM in Sunyani the following day, Thursday, 20th June 2025, as part of its public education efforts in the Bono Region. Staff of the Commission appeared as guests on the station's morning show, under an ongoing media partnership with Moonlite FM. The 30 minute programme focused on educating the general public about the Commission's mandate and the significance of the RTI Law in advancing democratic governance. The Commission's officers highlighted key aspects of the law, including the procedures for accessing public information, institutional responsibilities, exemptions, and the Commission's monitoring and enforcement role.

Both engagements emphasized the importance of sustained media collaboration in reaching wider audiences and fostering a culture of openness across the country. The Commission encouraged

both radio stations to serve as key partners in driving public awareness and helping citizens and institutions fully embrace the RTI regime.

These sensitization exercises underscore the Commission’s unwavering dedication to ensuring that the Right to Information Act is not only known, but actively applied to promote transparency, good governance, and informed citizen participation.

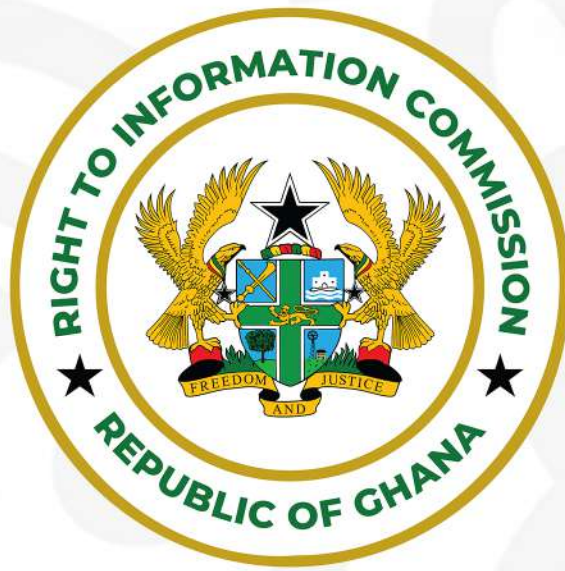
The sensitization exercises conducted in the Ashanti and Bono Regions reflect the Commission’s firm commitment to deepening public understanding of the Right to Information Act and promoting a culture of openness and accountability at all levels of society. By engaging media stakeholders such as

Boss FM and Moonlite FM, the Commission extended its reach and reinforced the critical role of information access in strengthening democratic governance.

These engagements served as valuable platforms for dialogue, learning, and collaboration—further solidifying the Commission’s position as a champion of transparency. As we move forward, the Commission remains dedicated to expanding its outreach, building strategic partnerships, and empowering both institutions and individuals to exercise their right to information confidently and responsibly. The journey toward an informed and transparent Ghana continues—and with every voice, every question, and every engagement we move one step closer.



RTI Commission staff sensitizing listeners on the RTI Act on Boss 93.7FM, Kumasi



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