

NEWSLETTER



THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE RTIC WITH SOME
DIGNITARIES AT THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP
AFRICA CONFERENCE HELD IN THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO



RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION
MARKS OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP
(OGP) WEEK



ASHANTI AND BONO REGIONAL MINISTERS
COMMEND RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION

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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FOREWORD

By Coporate Affairs / The Editorial Team



Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq. (Executive Secretary)

We are delighted to welcome you to the May 2026 edition of the Right to Information Commission’s Newsletter. May was a productive and impactful month for the Commission, marked by significant engagements, insightful discussions, and strategic initiatives aimed at advancing transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in governance.

In this edition, we bring you highlights from our Open Government Partnership Week Forum, a courtesy call on the Ashanti and Bono Regional Ministers by the Executive Secretary and her Team, and sensitisation programmes, all undertaken to promote greater awareness and understanding of the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989), and to strengthen compliance with its provisions.

You will also discover inspiring stories of progress and innovation as the Commission continues to deepen public access to information and foster a culture of openness across public institutions.

As always, this newsletter serves as more than a summary of our activities—it is your gateway to staying informed, empowered, and connected to the Commission’s mandate of promoting the fundamental right to information.

We sincerely appreciate your continued readership and support, and we invite you to join us in championing the right to information as a powerful tool for building a more transparent, accountable, and inclusive society.

We hope you enjoy this edition and thank you for journeying with us.

THE EDITORIAL TEAM



RTIC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ATTENDS OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP AFRICA CONFERENCE AND PAYS COURTESY CALL ON CDAI PRESIDENT IN MOROCCO



The Executive Secretary of the RTIC Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq. (second left), together with the President of CDAI, Mr. Omar Segrouchni (distant right), Tarik Nesh-Nash (second right) Snr. Regional Coordinator of Africa and the Middle East and Aidan Eyakuze (left) CEO of OGP at the Open Government Partnership Conference held in the Kingdom of Morocco

The Right to Information Commission Ghana on 4th May 2026 paid a working visit to La Commission du Droit d’Accès à l’Information (CDAI) in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, marking a significant milestone in strengthening collaboration between the two institutions in the promotion of access to information and open governance.

The visit provided an opportunity for both institutions to exchange experiences, share best practices, and discuss their respective legal and institutional frameworks governing the right of access to information within their jurisdictions. Discussions also focused on deepening institutional cooperation, promoting peer learning, and advancing transparency and accountability mechanisms across Africa.

The delegation from the Right to Information Commission Ghana was led by Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq., Executive Secretary, and comprised Mr. Vincent Opoku, General Manager, Finance & Administration; Mr. Michael Duodu-Sakyiama of the PPBME Department; and Ms. Audrey Korlekuor Odjeawo of the Office of the Executive Secretary.

The delegation from La Commission du Droit d’Accès à l’Information (CDAI) was led by its President, Mr. Omar Seghrouchni.



Delegates of CDAI with officials of RTIC at the meeting.

The visit was further graced by the presence of Aidan Eyakuze, Chief Executive Officer of the Open Government Partnership, Tarik Nesh-Nash and Kgothatso Semela, Senior Regional Coordinator for Africa and the Middle East, who commended Ghana and Morocco for translating discussions on collaboration and cross-border learning into practical institutional engagement.

Both institutions reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation in promoting transparency, accountability, citizen participation, and democratic governance. The partnership between CDAI and RTIC Ghana represents an important step toward building a more informed, participatory, and empowered African society.



The Executive Secretary with some officials of RTIC and delegates of CDAI

RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION MARKS OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP (OGP) WEEK



Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq., Executive Secretary of RTI Commission addressing Management and Staff at the OGP Week Forum

The Management and Staff of the Right to Information Commission (RTIC), on Thursday, 21st May 2026, commemorated Open Gov Week with a deliberative forum aimed at deepening discussions on transparency, accountability, citizen participation, and open governance within Ghana's democratic framework.

Open Gov Week, observed globally from 18th to 22nd May, marks fifteen (15) years since the establishment of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), a global movement

dedicated to promoting transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance systems.

Held at the Commission's Head Office in Dzorwulu, Accra, the engagement brought together Management and Staff to reflect on the importance of open governance and the Commission's role in advancing democratic accountability through the effective implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989).

Present at the engagement were the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Ms. Genevieve

Shirley Lartey, Esq.; the Technical Advisor to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Kweku Sersah-Johnson; the Board Secretary, Ms. Christine Yieleh-Chireh; Management; and Staff of the Commission.

In her remarks, the Executive Secretary, Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq., emphasized that access to information must not be treated as a privilege, but upheld as a fundamental right essential to accountability, citizen empowerment, and democratic development.

She further noted that the Commission’s commitments under Ghana’s 5th National Action Plan (NAP 5), including support for the passage of the Regulations to operationalize the Right to Information Act, development of public education materials, and intensified awareness creation programmes, represent practical steps toward building a governance culture anchored on openness and public participation.

The Executive Secretary also stressed that transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and openness must first be embedded within the internal culture of institutions if they are to be effectively promoted across the public sector. She encouraged staff to continue contributing meaningfully toward strengthening implementation and ensuring that open governance principles translate into tangible outcomes for citizens.

The event featured a presentation by Mr. Michael Duodu-Sakyima on the role of the Commission in advancing open governance and the status of

commitments being implemented by the Commission under Ghana’s 5th National Action Plan.

A panel discussion on the theme, “Towards an Open Governance System: The Role of the Right to Information Commission,” formed a major highlight of the programme. The session was moderated by Ms. Audrey Odjeawo and featured panelists including Mr. Steven Jones (Transport Department), Mr. Andrew Adu Boahene (Enforcement, Investigation & Compliance), Ms. Rene Dwamenah (Information Unit), and Kaynaj Nyameye Adjei (PPBME).

The Commission reaffirmed its commitment to championing initiatives that promote transparency, accountability, and citizens’ right to access information in furtherance of open governance and democratic development in Ghana.



Management and Staff of the Commission during the event

ASHANTI AND BONO REGIONAL MINISTERS COMMEND RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION



The Executive Secretary, Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey Esq., RTIC, presenting RTIC's 5 Year Strategic Plan to the Ashanti Regional Minister, Dr. Frank Amoakohene.



The Executive Secretary (left) presenting RTIC's 5 Year Strategic Plan to the Bono Regional Minister, Mr. Joseph Addae.

The Regional Ministers for Ashanti and Bono Regions have commended the establishment of the Right to Information Commission (RTIC) and the presence of its regional offices, describing them as important milestones in strengthening democracy, transparency, and accountable governance in Ghana.

The Bono Regional Minister, Mr. Joseph Addae Akwaboa, and the Ashanti Regional Minister, Dr. Frank Amoakohene, emphasized the critical role of citizens' access to information in promoting the rule of law, good governance, and active civic participation.

The Ministers made these remarks during separate courtesy calls paid to them by the Executive Secretary of the Right to Information Commission, Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq., as part of her monitoring and evaluation tour of the Commission's regional offices in the Ashanti and Bono Regions.

Speaking during the visit, Dr. Frank Amoakohene noted that democratic governments derive their authority from the people and must therefore ensure that citizens are adequately informed and involved in governance processes.

He encouraged the Commission to intensify its public sensitization efforts to deepen public understanding of the Right to Information Act and the important role the Commission plays in promoting transparency and accountability.

For his part, Mr. Joseph Addae Akwaboa acknowledged the significance of the Commission's mandate in advancing transparency and accountability within public institutions. He, however, cautioned against any misuse of the RTI framework, stressing that the Commission's role should remain facilitative and not be perceived as inquisitorial.

The Bono Regional Minister further pledged his support in ensuring that Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs) within the region comply with the provisions and principles of the Right to Information Act.

Addressing the Ministers, Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq., explained that her visit formed part of a nationwide monitoring and evaluation exercise aimed at assessing the operations of the Commission's regional offices and engaging staff to better understand their achievements, challenges, and operational needs since her assumption of office.

She was accompanied by Mr. Kweku Sersah-Johnson, Technical Advisor; Mr. Stephen Owusu, Head of Legal; Mrs. Ewurabea Ewool, Head of Human Resource; and Mrs. Vivian Tetteh, General Manager, Enforcement, Investigations and Compliance.

The Right to Information Commission was established under the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989), with the mandate to promote, protect, monitor, and enforce the right of access to information held by public institutions and relevant private bodies in Ghana. Through its work, the Commission continues to advance transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in governance.



The Executive Secretary with the Ashanti Regional Minister and Officials of RTIC



The Executive Secretary with the Bono Regional Minister and Officials of RTIC

RTIC STAFF EMPOWERED THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



Dr. Lyanne Dede Sika Boateng of the Accra Psychiatric Hospital enlightening Staff of RTIC on Mental Health

As part of activities marking Ghana’s Purple Month campaign aimed at promoting mental health awareness, the Right to Information Commission (RTIC) on Friday, 15th May 2026, hosted a sensitization session for staff at the Commission’s Head Office.

The session was facilitated by a medical team from the Accra Psychiatric Hospital, led by Dr. Lyanne Dede Sika Boateng and Dr. Rebecca Hosi Abalo, who engaged staff in an insightful and interactive discussion on mental health and overall well-being.

The medical professionals delivered a comprehensive presentation on the key components of mental health ; cognition, mood, and behaviour and further explained the mental health continuum, which ranges from crisis, struggling, and surviving to thriving and excelling.

Staff actively participated in the session, asking questions for clarification and contributing meaningfully to discussions on mental health challenges and coping strategies in the workplace and daily life.

As part of the exercise, pre-screening and private consultations were also conducted, providing staff with the opportunity to engage one-on-one with the medical professionals on personal mental health concerns.

The session emphasized the importance of prioritizing mental well-being, seeking professional support when necessary, and fostering a supportive work environment that promotes productivity, resilience, and overall quality of life.

The Commission remains committed to initiatives that promote staff welfare, wellness, and professional development.

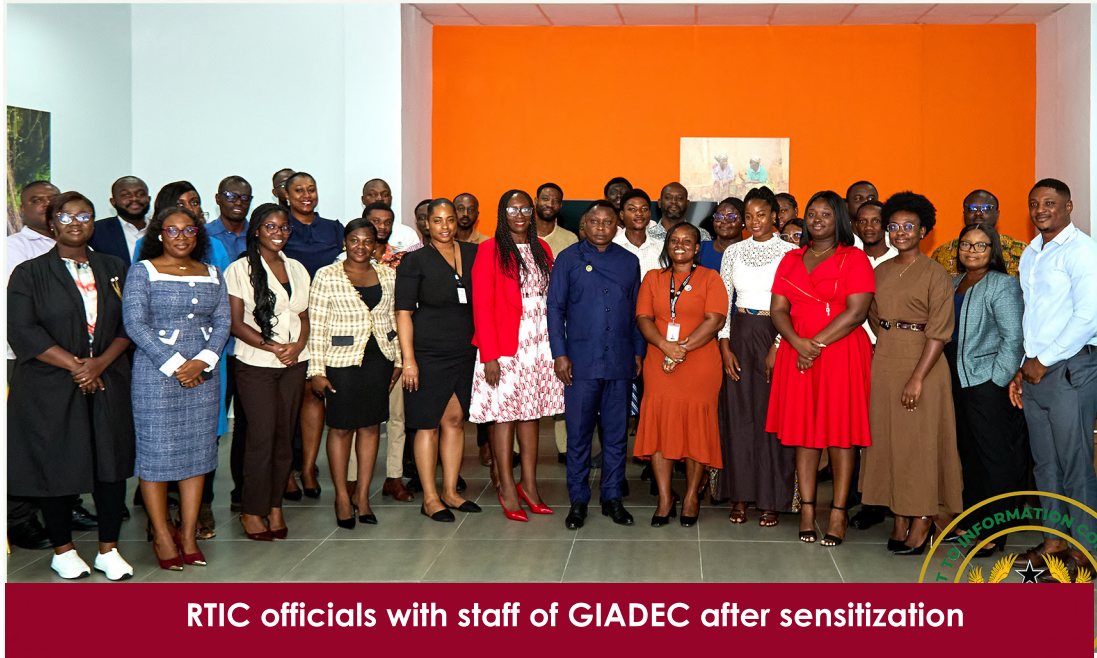


Accra Psychiatric Hospital Medical Team engaging Staff of RTIC during their presentation

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS GALLERY



RTI COMMISSION EXPANDS NATIONWIDE SENSITISATION ON THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT



RTIC officials with staff of GIADEC after sensitization

The Right to Information (RTI) Commission has sustained its nationwide sensitisation campaign, reinforcing its mission to promote transparency, accountability, and public access to information. In May 2026, the Commission engaged key public institutions in Accra to highlight the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989) and strengthen awareness of its role in advancing open governance.

In Accra, the Commission organised educational sessions for staff of the Ghana Biosafety Authority on 14th May and the Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) on 26th May. These sessions were designed to deepen participants’ understanding of the Act and its practical application. They formed part of the Commission’s broader efforts to ensure that both citizens and public institutions are well informed about their rights and responsibilities under the RTI Act.

Participants were taken through the objectives of the Act, procedures for requesting information, obligations of public institutions, and the importance of timely access to information in strengthening democratic governance. The interactive sessions also provided an opportunity for participants to ask questions and gain clarity on various aspects of the law.



RTIC Staff with officials of the Department of Rural Housing following a sensitization exercise

Bono Region: RTI Commission Engages Department of Urban Roads

Extending its outreach beyond the capital, the Bono Regional Office of the RTI Commission visited the Department of Urban Roads on 12th May 2026 to deepen understanding of the RTI Law among public institutions.

The sensitisation was facilitated by Akosua Serwaa Sarpong, Eric Tsisah, and Daniel Boadi, staff of the Bono Regional Office. The session brought together the head of the department and all staff, who were taken through the responsibilities of public institutions under the law, the mandate of the Commission, and the processes involved in requesting information. Officers also explained the categories of exempt information and the offences associated with failing to comply with the law.

The exercise ended on a high note with a lively question-and-answer session. Feedback from participants suggested that the presentation was well received and that staff had gained a clearer understanding of their obligations under the RTI Act.

Upper East Region: Commission Strengthens Awareness on RTI

In the Upper East Region, the Bolgatanga Office of the RTI Commission intensified its sensitisation drive in May 2026, engaging several public institutions to promote transparency and accountability.

Institutions that benefited from the exercise included the Department of Rural Housing, the Ghana Education Service, and the Ghana Water Company Limited. Officers from the Commission explained how the RTI Act came into existence, the steps citizens must follow to access information, and the powers and functions of the Commission. They also clarified exemptions under the law, ensuring that participants understood both their rights and the boundaries of the Act.

The sessions were marked by active participation, with institutions showing keen interest in how the law empowers citizens to demand accountability.



A Staff of RTIC sensitising officials of GIADEC in Accra

Conclusion

The sensitisation exercises conducted in Accra, Bono, and the Upper East Regions reflect the Commission’s broader strategy of engaging institutions across the country to embed transparency and accountability in public service.



RTIC officers with Management and Staff of Ghana Education Service after a sensitisation exercise in the Upper East.



A Staff of RTIC educating Officials of Ghana Water Company Ltd. on the Act in the Upper East .



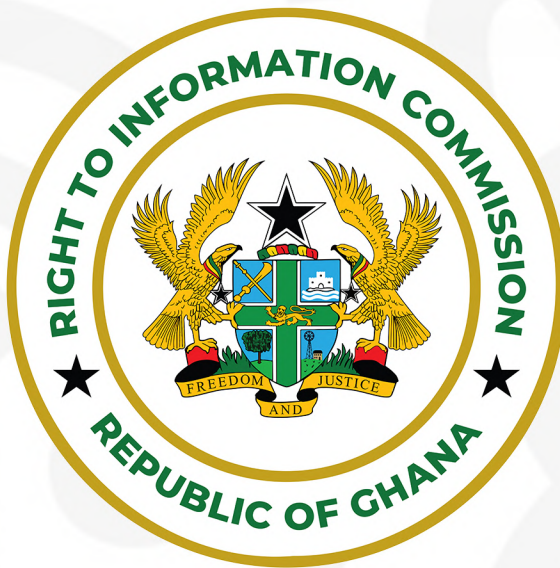
RTIC Officers with Officials of Ghana Water Company Ltd. following a sensitisation exercise.



An Officer of RTIC engaging the Department of Urban Roads in Sunyani



RTIC officials with officers of the Department of Urban Roads following the sensitisation exercise.



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