

**RIGHT TO
INFORMATION
COMMISSION**
REPUBLIC OF GHANA

JUNE 2026

NEWSLETTER



**RTIC STRENGTHENS INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
THROUGH INTERNAL AUDIT TRAINING**

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PARTICIPATES IN THE
LAUNCH OF THE WEST
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**RTI COMMISSION
SENSITISES AND
MONITORS PUBLIC
INSTITUTIONS ON
THE RIGHT TO
INFORMATION ACT,
2019 (ACT 989)**



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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 Larney Esq. (Executive Secretary)

As we approach the second half of the year, the Right to Information Commission is pleased to present the June edition of our Monthly Newsletter. This edition highlights our continued efforts in promoting transparency, strengthening public awareness, and fostering a culture of accountability across public institutions.

June has been a month of significant engagements, productive collaborations, and impactful interventions in advancing the objectives of the RTI Act.

From sensitization activities and monitoring exercises to our participation in key national conversations on access to information, we remain committed to ensuring that citizens

are empowered with the right information to support national development.

We invite you to explore this month’s updates and key highlights as we reflect on our progress and prepare for the milestones ahead.

Thank you for your continuous support and partnership in championing the right to information in Ghana.

THE EDITORIAL TEAM



RTIC STRENGTHENS INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY THROUGH INTERNAL AUDIT TRAINING



Management and Staff of the Right to Information Commission (RTIC) on Tuesday, 2 June 2026, participated in a one-day Internal Audit Training Workshop on **Guidelines for Conducting Public Service Audits and Report Writing** at the Commission’s Head Office in Dzorwulu, Accra.

The workshop brought together Management and Staff of the Commission, including officers who joined virtually from the RTIC’s Regional Offices across the country. Delivering the opening remarks, the Executive Secretary of the Right to Information Commission, **Ms. Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq.**, warmly welcomed participants and underscored the importance of the training in strengthening accountability, compliance, and institutional effectiveness. She encouraged participants to actively engage in the sessions and leverage the knowledge and skills acquired to enhance their professional responsibilities and contribute to the Commission’s mandate.

The training was facilitated by **Messrs. Patrick Neequaye and Frederick Lokko**, who provided practical insights into public sector auditing procedures, risk management, internal controls,

and effective report writing. The workshop sought to enhance participants’ understanding of audit processes, strengthen internal control systems, and promote operational efficiency within the Commission.

Through interactive presentations, discussions, and practical engagements, participants gained valuable insights into the role of internal auditors within the public sector and explored best practices for conducting audits and preparing comprehensive audit reports.

In his closing remarks, the Head of Legal, **Mr. Stephen Owusu, Esq.**, expressed the Commission’s appreciation to the facilitators for their insightful presentations and commended participants for their active participation and commitment throughout the workshop. He noted that the knowledge and skills acquired would contribute significantly to promoting accountability, transparency, and good governance within the Commission.

The workshop forms part of the Commission’s continuous efforts to strengthen institutional capacity, improve operational effectiveness, and uphold the highest standards of accountability and good governance in the discharge of its mandate.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION COMMISSION PARTICIPATES IN THE LAUNCH OF THE WEST AFRICA RIGHT TO INFORMATION REPORT AND POLICY BRIEF



Mr. Stephen Owusu Esq. (2nd from left) Head of Legal, RTIC, representing the Executive Secretary of RTIC at the Launch of the West Africa Right to Information Report and Policy Brief

The Right to Information Commission (RTIC) participated in the launch of the **West Africa Right to Information Report and Policy Brief** on **3 June 2026** at the **Accra City Hotel**. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, **Genevieve Shirley Lartey, Esq.**, was represented at the event by **Stephen Owusu, Esq., Head of Legal**. The report, titled “The Right to Information and Anti-Corruption in West Africa: An Assessment of the Implementation and Enforcement of International Frameworks in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Togo,” examines the implementation and enforcement of access to information frameworks and their contribution to anti-corruption efforts across the four countries.

The event was organised by **Transparency International Ghana** as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the implementation of Right to Information (RTI) laws across Africa and promote transparency, accountability, and good governance. It brought together representatives from public institutions, civil society organisations, governance experts, development partners, and other key stakeholders to deliberate on strategies for enhancing access to information, promoting citizen participation, and leveraging the right to information as a catalyst for transparency and accountability.

During the discussions, **Stephen Owusu, Esq.** outlined the Commission’s position on the imposition and payment of administrative penalties by public institutions. He highlighted the Commission’s concerns regarding situations where administrative

penalties imposed on public institutions are ultimately paid from public funds, thereby placing the burden on taxpayers rather than on the individuals whose actions or omissions led to the violations.

He further disclosed that the Commission intends to address this challenge through the proposed **Right to Information Regulations**, currently being developed as a Legislative Instrument (L.I.). The proposed Regulations are expected to provide a framework for imposing administrative penalties directly on individuals whose conduct results in breaches of the RTI Act and the consequent imposition of sanctions.

The launch formed part of broader regional efforts aimed at strengthening accountability systems and promoting the effective implementation of access to information laws. It also underscored the critical role of the right to information as a tool for combating corruption, enhancing transparency, and advancing democratic governance across West Africa.

RTI COMMISSION SENSITISES AND MONITORS PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS ON THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2019 (ACT 989)



In pursuit of its core responsibility to advance transparency, accountability, and public access to information, the Right to Information (RTI) Commission in June 2026 engaged a cross-section of public institutions through sensitisation and monitoring exercises.

These activities are part of the Commission’s mandate to strengthen institutional understanding of the RTI Act, ensure sustained compliance, and promote accountability by facilitating citizens’ access to timely and accurate information.

Institutions Engaged

The Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD), management and staff were taken through the key requirements of the RTI Act, including the designation of Information Officers, proactive disclosure of information, and adherence to statutory timelines for responding to requests.

The Bank of Ghana also welcomed the Commission, where officials explored practical ways of integrating RTI obligations into the Bank’s complex operations. Discussions highlighted not only the legal requirements but also the broader benefits of openness in fostering public trust.

At the Millennium Development Authority (MiDA), staff were reminded of the central role Information Units play in facilitating access to information, with emphasis on timely responses and the need to view compliance as a cornerstone of good governance. The sensitisation sessions followed a structured format covering designation of Information Officers, proactive disclosure, statutory timelines, and exemptions under Act 989.

Monitoring Exercise

In line with its oversight responsibility, the Commission also undertook monitoring visits to assess compliance with statutory obligations under the Act. Institutions visited included Ghana National Gas Company Limited, Nuclear Power Ghana, the Ghana Scholarships Secretariat, and MiDA. The monitoring focused on the designation and functioning of Information Units, record-keeping practices, and responsiveness to information requests.

At Ghana National Gas Company Limited, the Commission’s team reviewed existing structures for handling information requests and provided guidance on areas requiring improvement. Nuclear Power Ghana’s preparedness for RTI Act implementation was assessed, with attention to

proactive disclosure practices and the functionality of its Information Unit.

At the Ghana Scholarships Secretariat, compliance levels were examined and recommendations offered to strengthen systems for managing public requests. MiDA’s Information Unit was also monitored to evaluate responsiveness and overall compliance following earlier sensitisation.

Together, sensitisation equips institutions with knowledge and tools to meet their obligations, while monitoring provides oversight and guidance to reinforce accountability. These continuous efforts foster transparency, responsiveness, and safeguard citizens’ right to information across all public institutions.

Regional Offices

Complementing the work of the Head Office , regional offices extended sensitisation and monitoring to institutions across the country.

On 15th June 2026, officers from the Bono Regional Office engaged staff of the Department of Urban Roads in Sunyani. The session focused on the application process, the responsibilities of public institutions, and exemptions under the Act.

Participants welcomed the presentation with keen interest, and the lively interaction that followed suggested the message was well received and effectively assimilated.

The regional office also pursued its monitoring mandate, visiting institutions including the Office of Stool Lands, Controller and Accountant General Department, Department of Factories Inspectorate, Office of the Attorney-General, Labour Department, Department of Social Welfare, Department of Gender, NADMO, and the National Peace Council. The exercise revealed varying levels of compliance, with some institutions showing strong commitment to transparency while others fell short in areas such as submission of annual reports and establishment of Information Units.

In addition, the Bolgatanga regional office embarked on a sensitisation programme aimed at deepening awareness of the RTI Act among selected public institutions.

Institutions engaged during the month of June included the Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT), Sirigu Senior High School, and Bolgatanga Technical University. Staff of the Commission explained how the RTI Act came into existence, outlined the steps involved in accessing information from public institutions, and highlighted the powers and functions of the Commission. Participants were also taken through the exemptions provided under the law.

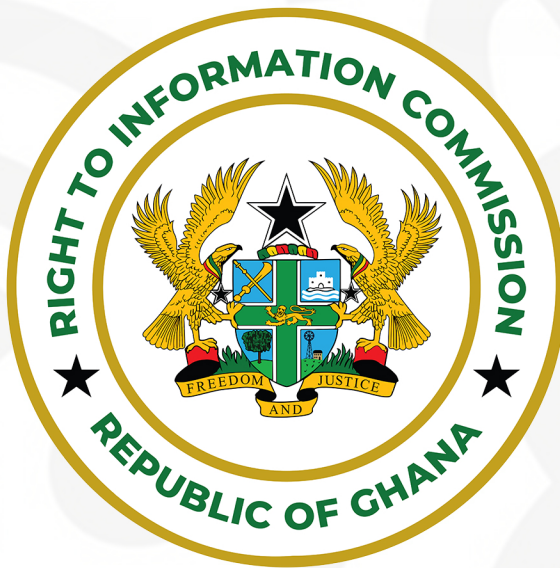
The sessions were designed not only to educate but also to empower institutions and citizens to actively request information and embrace openness in their operations. By the end of the programme, officials and staff had been equipped with practical knowledge to apply the law, reinforcing the RTI Act’s role in building a culture of transparency and accountability in public discourse across the region.



The RTI Commission's monitoring team (Accra) with officials of Ghana National Gas Company Limited.



Officials of RTIC (Accra) with Management and Staff of the Bank of Ghana following a sensitisation exercise



HEAD OFFICE - ACCRA :

Right to Information Commission
No. 4 Osu Badu Link, Airport West
Residential Area, Accra
GA-156-1702

CONTACTS

+233 30 2788 353
+233 30 2788 410
+233 30 2788 412
+233 20 2466 411

KUMASI OFFICE :

No. 140 Lesley Opoku Ware Drive
AK-095-5895

CONTACT

+233 20 4786 086

SUNYANI OFFICE :

Regional Coordinating Council
BS-0016-9971

CONTACT

+233 20 1511 579

BOLGATANGA OFFICE:

Information Services Department
building, behind Library Junction
UB-0014-9179

READ MORE ABOUT
RTI COMMISSION, GHANA
<https://rtic.gov.gh/>

E-mail: rticommission@rtic.gov.gh