

**REMARKS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE-PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY, AT A  
MEETING WITH PARTICIPANTS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC  
PROCUREMENT NETWORK-STUDY TOUR ON 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2007**

Mr. Chairman,

Hon. Dep Minister,  
Representatives from the Commonwealth Secretariat, London,  
Participants of the CPPN-Study Tour,  
Friends from the Media,  
Distinguished ladies and Gentlemen

I am very grateful for this wonderful opportunity to be with you this morning.

As a matter of fact, the Commonwealth Public Procurement Network (CPPN) is an initiative of the Commonwealth Secretariat and a pretty young network for that matter. It was born in May 2006, when Senior Executives in Public Procurement from West Africa met in Accra, Ghana under the theme: ***Building Bridges on West African Public Procurement Systems***. The Commonwealth Public Procurement Network (CPPN) - West Africa Plus, at the time was attended by countries like: Cameroon, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. Building on successes achieved, a follow up CPPN forum was hosted by the Ghana Public Procurement Authority (PP A) at the Fiesta Royale Hotel, Accra from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2007 under the theme: ***Benchmarking, Monitoring and Evaluation (BME) of Public Procurement Systems*** with the aim of strengthening good practices in public procurement within the Commonwealth.

The forum was attended by 15 participants drawn from 11 Commonwealth African countries namely; Ghana, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Cameroon, Malawi, Uganda, Botswana, South Africa, Kenya, Mauritius and Tanzania. The forum received a total of eleven peer-review Country Papers highlighting the status and approach of individual procurement systems for Benchmarking, Monitoring and Evaluation.

It emerged during the forum that Ghana had made considerable progress in the area of Benchmarking, Monitoring and Evaluation which is worth sharing with member countries within the region. In recognition of the commonality of practices and the need to broaden and deepen existing capacity in this area, members agreed as part of a **ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN** to embark on a Study Tour to Ghana.

Mr. Chairman, PPA's efforts in the area of Benchmarking, Monitoring and Evaluation in Public Procurement are in compliance with its functions under Section 3 of the Act 663. So far, 213 Entities have been assessed, on the basis of their procurement activities in the area of Integrity and Transparency, Institutional Framework and Management Capacity. Despite the existence of few problem areas, the overall performance indicated improvements.

### **Conclusion**

To see a marked improvement in the overall performance in Ghana's Public Procurement, a Nationwide Short Term Training programme was rolled out last September and is expected to equip practitioners with the necessary information for better delivery of public procurement in the country.

Thus, for us in Ghana this PPME Tool, has been very useful in assessing levels of performance as a country as far as Public Procurement is concerned and we want to commend the Commonwealth for this beautiful opportunity in the CPPN to share and learn from our sister countries in the spirit of networking.