

Once more the Lord has granted us another Christmas, A period to engage with friends and loved ones and get together with our families.

This year has been a very busy and eventful one. The Audit Service Act, 2000 (Act 584) has been the major working tool of the Auditor-General and the Audit Service over the last 23 years.

During these years the application of Act 584 has been adversely impacted by number of emerging issues which have affected its performance. Some changes in the legal framework of some of our auditees have converted them into public limited liability companies. Also, a number of enactments have been made or amended which have affected some sections of Act 584.

The Audit Service Board and Management of the Audit Service, took a decision to get Act 584 to go through the necessary reviews and subsequently get the Act amended to be in line with the public sector financial management current practices.

The process is still ongoing. I want to take this opportunity to thank the chairman and members of the Law Review Committee for the work they have done so far. My special thank you goes to the facilitator. Nana Kwasi Agyekum-Dwamena, and his two able supporters, Mr. Samuel Frimpong-Manso and Mrs. Ama Awortwe-Bosumafi.

Also, this year, the Auditor-General was able to submit all the statutory Auditor-General's reports to Parliament before the mandatory deadline of 30th June. I congratulate the Auditor-General, Management and staff of the Service. I thank you very much for your hard work.

Once more, I commend and thank the Deputy Auditor-General. Performance and Special Audit, for seeing to the completion of some of the regional and district office buildings. He has also managed to get a contract signed to enable us to put up additional 12 offices in the new regions. Ayekoo!

Certainly, I cannot forget to congratulate our staff who passed their final professional examinations and were admitted to membership of their respective processional bodies. I also commend those who were successful in the various stages of your examinations.

Information on record shows that the Service now has 476 chartered accounting professionals and 11 non-accounting professionals as well as 1,547 first and second degree-holders. I take pride and honour in these achievements.

I regret to announce that during the year seven of our members of staff passed away. We send our condolences to their families. May the good Lord console and strengthen them.

On behalf of the Board of the Audit Service and on my own behalf, I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

