



Ghana to receive additional \$367m IMF support ...after successful fourth review

BY KINGSLEY ASARE

GHANA is to receive an additional \$367 million from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) following the successful completion of the fourth review under the Fund's US\$3 billion, 36-month Extended Credit Facility (ECF) programme.

The disbursement, announced in a statement issued by the IMF's Deputy Managing Director, Mr Bo Li, brings the country's total receipts under the programme to US\$2.3 billion since its inception in May 2023.

The Executive Board of the IMF completed the fourth review on Monday, paving the way for the immediate release of about \$367 million (equivalent to SDR 267.5 million).

The Board commended the authorities for their strong commitment to the programme and noted progress in key sectors of the economy.

According to the Fund, economic activity in 2024 and the first quarter of 2025 was stron-

ger than projected, supported by robust performance in the mining, agriculture, information and communications technology, manufacturing, and construction sectors.

On the external front, the IMF said the country recorded significant gains, driven largely by higher gold exports and increased remittance inflows.

Consequently, international reserves far exceeded the ECF programme targets.

However, the IMF noted a deterioration in programme performance towards the end of 2024, citing fiscal slippages ahead of the general elections.

This was largely due to the accumulation of arrears, while inflation also exceeded the programme's targets.

Furthermore, it said delays were recorded in the implementation of structural reforms across the fiscal, financial, and energy sectors.

In response, the Fund said the new administration had taken corrective measures to restore fiscal discipline and bring the programme back on track.

These include efforts to

achieve a fiscal primary surplus of 1.5 per cent of Gross Domestic Product in 2025, through enhanced domestic revenue mobilisation and rationalisation of expenditure.

It said measures were also in place to protect the vulnerable and safeguard social spending.

To support these efforts, several public financial management reforms had been rolled out.

These include stronger budget

controls, alignment of expenditure to available resources, and a comprehensive audit of arrears accumulated in 2024.

The IMF commended the authorities for enacting a 2025 budget aligned with the programme's objectives and adopting an enhanced fiscal responsibility framework.

Mr Li stated, "The authorities are strongly committed to restoring fiscal discipline and addressing

the structural weaknesses that led to the slippages."

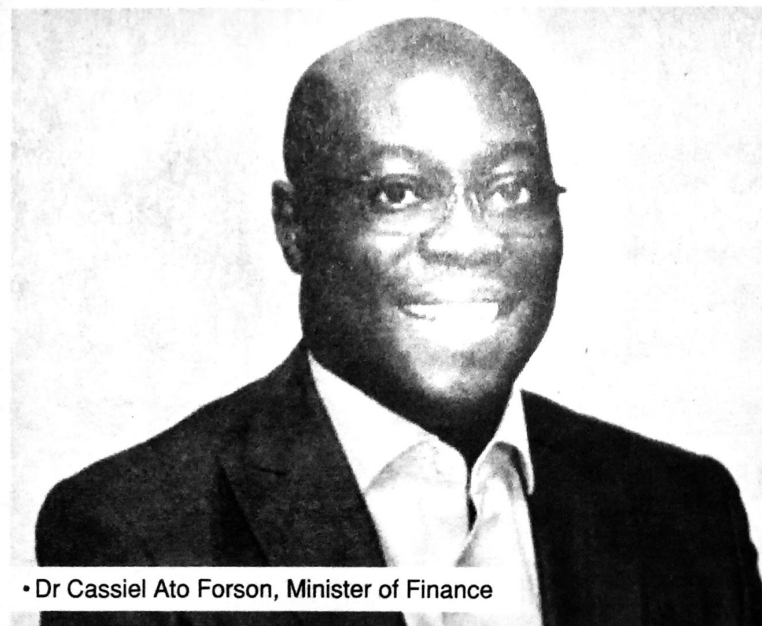
IMF indicated that progress had also been made in the area of debt restructuring.

"Ghana has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Official Creditor Committee under the G20 Common Framework, and is engaging commercial creditors in good faith to secure agreements aligned with programme parameters and comparability of treatment principles," the IMF stated.

On monetary policy, the Fund lauded Bank of Ghana (BoG) for its firm stance, which has contributed to the rebuilding of reserves and a decline in inflation.

The Fund urged the BoG to maintain a tight monetary posture until inflation returns to its target, and to enhance exchange rate flexibility.

Going forward, the IMF emphasised the need to sustain macroeconomic adjustments, finalise debt restructuring, and implement structural reforms, particularly in the energy and cocoa sectors, to boost private sector investment, create jobs, and strengthen economic resilience.



• Dr Cassiel Ato Forson, Minister of Finance