SECURITY GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE (SGI) AND CONTEMPORARY NATIONAL SECURITY GOVERNANCE

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Introduction

Security sector governance refers to the process by which security institutions supply security as a public good. Security sector governance typically describes the principles of good governance that apply to provision public security.

One such governance programs in national security is the Security Governance Initiative (SGI) – a multi-year national security program signed in 2014 between the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and five (5) partner African countries, namely - GHANA, KENYA, MALI, NIGER, NIGERIA and TUNISIA to improve security sector governance and capacity to address national threats.

The objective of SGI Ghana is to facilitate expertise development on national security issues to assist with key reform of security sector institutional structures, policies, systems and processes specifically in Cyber, Maritime, Border Security and Administration of Justice (AoJ) for GHANA.

SGI National Working Groups

SGI operates through three working groups – The National Maritime Security Technical Working Group (NMSTWG), the National Cyber Security Technical Working Group (NCSTWG), and the finally the National Border Security Technical Working Group (NBSTWG) with representation from the security agencies, among others.

Ghana's SGI program is, however, administered under the auspices of the SGI Secretariat, and co-Chaired by the National Security Coordinator and the United States Ambassador.

Overview of SGI Activities

AoJ	National Justice Sector Assessment (Apr 24-May 5, 2016) Workshop for Prosecutors (Apr 26-27, 2016)
Cyber	National Cyber Familiarization Tour (Apr 19-21, 2017)
Border	Kenya Border Security Study Trip by Border Working Group (May 21-27, 2017)
AoJ	National Assessment (June 28-30, 2017) Workshop for Police Service and Prison Service (Jun 28-29, 2017)
Border	United States Border Security Study Trip by Border Working Group (June 4-17, 2017) National Border Security Assessment by Border Working Group (June 22-23, 2017)
AoJ	National Assessment (Jul 24-Aug 2, 2017) and Workshop for Registrars (Jul 24-25, 2017)
SGI Ghana	Steering Committee Meeting (Jul 24-Aug 2, 2017)
Border	Border Management Workshop by Border Working Group (Sept 18-19, 2017)
AoJ –	National Case Management System (CMS) Assessment (Oct 2-10, 2017), Intra-Agency CMS Technical & Policy Working Group (Oct 4-5, 2017)
Cyber –	Ministerial Level Roundtable (Oct 24, 2017) Stakeholder Mapping Workshop (Oct 24-25, 2017) Cyber Awareness Workshop by National Cyber Security Working Group (Oct 25-26, 2017)
Maritime –	Maritime Workshop by National Maritime Security Working Group (Oct 25-26, 2017)
Border –	Legal Authorities Workshop by National Border Security Working Group (Nov 15-16, 2017)
Maritime –	National Maritime Assessment (Nov 10- 16, 2017) TTX Exercise (Nov 24)
SGI Ghana	Ghana-Kenya-Mali-Niger, Nigeria, USA and Tunisia SGI Partner Meeting at Movenpick, Accra on Security Sector Governance, Coalition Building, Strategy and Resources, Justice and Inclusion and Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism (11-15 Dec, 2017)

Border –	Border Law and SOP Development Workshop by National Border Security Working Group in Florida, USA (Mar - Apr, 2018)

Border –	Border Security Architecture/Layered Security Workshop by National Border Security Working Group in Texas, USA (Mar - Apr, 2018)

Cyber–	Cyber Security Risk Management Workshop by National Cyber Security Working Group in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany (Mar - Apr, 2018)

Upcoming National Border Security Work

Consideration, National Implementation and Awareness Creation on the:

a. Draft new Multi-Agency Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) for Border Management; and

b. Draft new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for establishment of the National Border Security Committee (NABSEC), and Regional Border Security Committees to complement existing Border Security Committees (BORSECs);

c. Proposed Establishment of a Border Management Secretariat to be headed by a Border Coordinator

Upcoming National Maritime Security Work

Preparation, National Implementation and Awareness Creation on the:

a. Stakeholder Mapping and Consultation for development of the Draft National Integrated Maritime Strategy (NIMS)

b. Study Tour to US Government Facilities for Maritime Coordination

c. Draft Preparation of NIMS and Awareness Creation

d. Implementation of the NIMS

Upcoming National Cyber Security Work

Preparation, National Implementation and Awareness Creation on the:

a. Cyber Risk Management / National Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT) Workshop

b. Study Tour to US Government CERT Facilities

c. Draft Preparation of CERT Guidelines and Awareness Creation

d. CERT Implementation Program

Conclusion

The United Nations underscores five fundamental stages or areas of focus in the process of establishing governance in the security sector in a democracy. These are:

- Strengthening the national security legal framework
- Strengthening civil society's role and capacity
- Strengthening fragile security sector institutions
- Strengthening the security management system and
- Ensuring internal oversight

The key areas of cyber, border and maritime security are very key to contemporary national security. A strong national security system should be viewed as a work in progress - No nation state would not be able to deliver acceptable levels of macro-security unless it keeps strengthening and investing in its national security legal framework, institutional structures, personnel training, policies, systems as well as processes.