Country: Republic of Ghana

Committee: Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)

Topic: Improving the Access to Legal Aid and National Sentencing Policies

Ghana believes that every individual has the right to be represented equally and judged fairly in court regardless of their financial capacity. It is an undeniable fact that in order to attain and insure this, legal aid services are crucial. Additionally, Ghana recognizes that national sentencing rules are of exponential importance to a nation to establish a fair and effective justice system. For this reason, enhancing clear, comprehensive and consistent national sentencing guidelines are of utmost importance to promote a transparent and effective judicial system.

Ghana recognizes the importance of providing equal access to justice for all it's citizens. Our government has taken action to improve legal aid services and provide easy access to said services for all individuals by establishing the Legal Aid Commission in order to provide legal aid to those who are incapable of covering the financial expenses to ensure equality of access to justice and treatment before the law by serving as a public defender for the poor in need of cost-effective justice. Ghana is fully committed to further improving legal aid services to ensure all the citizens are able to get sufficient aid and a fair representation in court. In addition to that Ghana's national sentencing policy aims to promote consistency and fairness in the criminal justice system by establishing guidelines that provide the judges with a clear framework for determining appropriate sentences with the consideration of the nature of the crime and other vital aspects.[[1]](#footnote-0)

There are many ways to improve legal aid services such as educating those who find the process of applying for legal aid long and complicated and supporting non-profit organizations to both weaken the social stigma around requesting legal aid and to help said organizations carry out their acts with more support from the government. With collaboration from all nations we can help make this world a safer and more just place.[[2]](#footnote-1)

1. *Legal Aid Commission*. Ghana.GOV. (n.d.). https://www.ghana.gov.gh/mdas/99ab107546/ [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Study Guide\* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)