MINORITY CAUCUS

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

Parliament House – Accra (Ghana)

6th November 2026

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GHANA'S DIGITAL HEALTH CRISIS: MINORITY DEMANDS ACCOUNTABILITY OVER SYSTEM SHUTDOWN AND POOR GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Background: The GHIMS Promise and Akamai Shutdown

1. In October 2025, the Minister of Health, Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, announced the introduction of the Ghana Health Information Management System (GHIMS) to replace the Lightwave Health Information Management System (LHIMS). Government presented GHIMS as a state-owned platform intended to strengthen national control over health data and reduce dependence on private service providers.

2. Barely a year later, the Ghana Health Service (GHS), in a communication dated 2nd November 2026, disclosed that critical electronic health information systems, including DHIMS2, had been inaccessible since 29thOctober 2026, following the suspension of ten servers by Akamai over an outstanding payment of just **US$64,510.95**.

3. Although GHIMS and DHIMS2 perform different functions, both form part of Ghana's wider digital health ecosystem. This development raises serious questions about the sustainability of government's digital health strategy and its ability to safeguard essential national health information systems.

Digital Health Investment Without Adequate Safeguards

4. The Minority finds this development deeply troubling, particularly given government's assurances that GHIMS would address longstanding challenges in Ghana's digital health infrastructure.

5. The Ministry of Health's budget increased from approximately **GH¢17.8 billion in 2025 to GH¢22.8 billion in 2026**, representing a 28% nominal increase. Although these are ministry-wide allocations, the public deserves a detailed account of the resources specifically committed to GHIMS and related digital infrastructure, and the measurable outcomes achieved.

6. **Digital health transformation must be measured not by the introduction of new platforms, but by the reliability, accessibility and sustainability of the systems serving Ghanaians.**

Failure of Oversight and Institutional Accountability

7. The Minority expresses profound disappointment in the Ministry of Health and the Ghana Health Service for allowing outstanding contractual obligations to escalate into a nationwide disruption of critical health information systems. **How could institutions entrusted with managing Ghana's health information infrastructure allow ten servers to be suspended over an outstanding obligation of approximately US$64,511?**

8. This raises serious concerns about financial planning, contract management and institutional oversight. The Minority equally questions the apparent insensitivity of Akamai in suspending essential health information services despite the potential public health consequences. While contractual obligations must be respected, the Ministry must review the agreement and consider terminating it where justified by the established facts and contractual provisions.

Our Demands

The Minority Health Committee calls on Government to:

A. **Immediately restore the affected systems** and provide a clear timeline for full operational recovery.

B. **Account for GHIMS expenditure**, including budgetary allocations, actual spending, implementation progress and integration with existing health information systems.

C. **Investigate the Akamai suspension**, establish institutional responsibility and take appropriate corrective action.

D. **Conduct an independent audit** of Ghana's digital health infrastructure, including hosting arrangements, interoperability, data security and business continuity.

E. **Establish sustainable financing and infrastructure safeguards** to prevent future disruptions.

Conclusion

9. The Minority maintains that Ghana's digital health transformation must deliver reliable services, not merely new platforms and policy announcements. **It is unacceptable for critical national health information systems to remain vulnerable to disruption over unresolved administrative and financial obligations.** The Minority will pursue the necessary parliamentary oversight to ensure accountability and prevent a recurrence.

Signed

HON. DR. NANA AYEW AFRIYE
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