CONSUMER PROTECTION-TARGETED SUBSIDIES, RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND REGULATION

MAAMI DUFIE

DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF CONSUMER SERVICES, PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY COMMISSION, GHANA

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- PURC'S Action Plan
- Leadership
- Strategies
- Pro-Poor Pilot Programmes
- Overall Goal

PURC'S ACTION PLAN

Commission Action Plan is founded on its Socio-Economic Policy which is based on the following criteria:

- Accessibility
- Affordability
- Quality
- Community Involvement
- Duty of Care

LEADERSHIP ROLE

PURC will take a lead role in protecting the interest of consumers in line with its regulatory mandate, as well as that of the Government's poverty reduction objectives

STRATEGIES

- Tariff: Lifeline Tariffs and Government Subsidy
- Legislation: L.I.s on Termination of Service,
 Complaints Procedure and Consumer Service
 Committees
- Regulations and Guidelines: Social and Tariff Policies, Tankering Guidelines, Consumer Charters, Consumer Service Practice, etc

STRATEGIES-CONT'D

- Targeting Investment for Low Income Groups: PURC will instruct urban utilities to include pro-poor criteria when undertaking investments in supply projects
- Public Awareness Programme: Public Fora,
 Radio & TV Adverts, Media Programmes,
 Monitoring Exercises to ensure adherence to performance standards

PRO-POOR PILOT PROGRAMME

 Pro-poor pilot programme involves ensuring water accessibility to urban poor in Accra in collaboration with Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) AND Water Aid

CONCLUSION

The overall goal is to provide lessons and opportunities for PURC to refine its Social Policy objectives