

COLLOQUIUM ON ENSURING PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN GHANA
'Preserving National Security in Elections 2012 and Beyond'



Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, Ghana 23 October 2012

REPORT



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We would want to acknowledge the following organisation for the support to the Colloquium



Rapporteurs

Ms Nancy Annan
Mr Festus Aubyn
Mr Fiifi Edu-Afful
Ms Nana Bemma Nti

Photographs: Mr McDonald Achaab
Cover design: KAIPTC
Design and layout: KAIPTC
Printers: KAIPTC

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CONCEPT NOTE

A COLLOQUIUM ON ENSURING PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN GHANA

THEME: “PRESERVING NATIONAL SECURITY IN ELECTIONS 2012 AND BEYOND”

1.0 Introduction

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) supported by the German International Development Cooperation (GIZ) and other partners is organizing a colloquium to critically consider the possible challenges and threats to peace and security before, during and after the December 7, 2012 elections in Ghana. This colloquium will assess the level of preparation by the various state agencies, first in identifying, and second, have clear ideas of all security related issues on the elections and acceptable behaviour; third, exchange ideas to enable stakeholders to openly discuss the idea of security and peace issues related to the elections, fourth, discuss how to respond to potential threats and fifth, to determine the capacities that are needed to mitigate such challenges that can undermine a peaceful and violence-free election. As a result therefore, this concept paper provides an overview of the major potential security threats to the 2012 elections, the objectives of the meeting, expected outcomes and composition of the participants. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 23 October 2012 at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, Ghana.

1.1 Identifying Potential Security Threats to the 2012 Elections in Ghana

Under Ghana’s 1992 Fourth Republic Constitution, elections have become the main instrument for ensuring the orderly process of political leadership succession and change. The transition to multi-party democracy in 1992 has witnessed five successive, successful and peaceful presidential and parliamentary elections. Ghana is preparing to go to the polls in December 2012 for the sixth time to elect a president and parliamentarians for the legislature. By continental standards, the electoral processes in Ghana have been smooth when compared to elections in many other African countries such as Zimbabwe, Kenya and Cote d’Ivoire. However, efforts to ensure effective security before, during and after elections have been the greatest challenge.

Ghana’s political landscape is currently characterized by a high level of mistrust and suspicion among political parties towards state institutions such as the Electoral Commission (EC), the Judiciary and the Security Agencies. These institutions are often criticised by political parties for lack of objectivity and political bias. For instance, media comments on the supposed weakness and perceived inadequacies in the electoral system as well as administrative shortcomings in the recently held biometric voter registration and the level of mistrust among the various political parties has raised questions on the credibility of the electoral systems and state

security apparatuses. Moreover, it also contributed to the eruption of violence at some polling stations across the country. The questions that need answers by all are how the EC will ensure a credible and transparent behaviour to engender trust in the electoral process.

On the part of the security agencies, the challenges involved in impartial policing of and responding to political incidences at both national and constituency levels have led to using approaches that are often informed by political opinions. This has created a negative perception about the credibility, transparency and neutrality of such state institutions in preventing and resolving electoral violence. This conference seeks to deliberate on issues which relate to: How the security agencies can deal swiftly, impartially and effectively with electoral related violence to engender stakeholder trust and peace.

There is also a high level of political intolerance, which often leads to violent confrontations between supporters of the various political parties. Similar to this development are the use of aggressive, intimidating and violent languages in public political discourse and the increasing level of media polarization and biased political reportage. One other factor that has contributed to is the non-compliance by political parties to abide by and conform to the Political Parties Code of Conduct which they have agreed to respect.

The manipulation of religious, identity and ethnic cleavages, unresolved land disputes, ethnic and chieftaincy disputes by political elites combine in different forms to threaten the December polls. Due to the politicization of these issues, they often invite violent reactions from competing groups. Another development that is linked to the above is the involvement of Chiefs in active partisan politics. For instance, some traditional rulers have reportedly aligned themselves to certain political parties and even canvassed for votes at public functions, thus potentially splitting their subjects. Youth mobilization for violence by politicians at opposition strongholds is yet another concern that deserves attention. These developments have resulted in an emergence and dependence of alliances and a formation of youth groupings that are most often mobilised to intimidate political opponents during electioneering campaigns and the voting period. Examples of these groups include the *Azorka Boys*, *Kandahar Boys*, *Aluta Boys*, *Gbewa Youth*, *All-die-be-die fun club*, just to mention a few¹. The use of private and personal security guards (“Machomen”) during elections has also gained roots in the political system². For instance, most of the incidents of intimidation,

¹ For more information see Edmond Gyebi, “Politicians fueling northern conflicts” <http://ghanaian-chronicle.com/politicians-fueling-northern-conflicts/>, accessed 16 July 2012

² Issah Alhassan, “Macho man campaigns against election violence” <http://ghanaian-chronicle.com/macho-man-campaigns-against-election-violence>, accessed 16 July 2012.

harassment and violent clashes across the country during the recent biometric voter registration process in some places were allegedly committed by such “Machomen” and youth groups. Another dimension to this is the inability of the judiciary to also provide quick judgments against these offenders to deter would-be violators of electoral laws. Small arms and light weapons availability and proliferation are a concern as they can be used to cause insecurity in the upcoming elections.

The foregoing indicators are symptomatic of potential threats to the December 2012 elections which require collaborative efforts by all stakeholders to defend Ghana’s modest democratic gains. Thus, the role of stakeholders such as the EC, Security Agencies, Government, Political Parties, the Media, the Electorate, Civil Society Groups including Religious and Traditional Rulers, the National Peace Council, the Academia, International Partners and Donor Agencies is crucial in ensuring that peace prevails before, during and after the elections. Against this backdrop, the KAIPTC is convening a stakeholders’ colloquium to discuss and develop efficient proactive and containment strategies to ensure violent free elections.

I.3 Objectives

The Colloquium seeks to (a) identify the potential challenges to peaceful elections in Ghana, (b) assess the likely potential challenges to peace and security before, during and after the December 2012 elections in Ghana, and (c) determine ways in which multiple stakeholders can respond to and address those challenges to ensure a peaceful election.

More specifically, the meeting envisions to:

- Identify and discuss challenges to peace and security before, during and after the December 2012 presidential and parliamentary polls;
- To create a platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas and openly discuss security and peace issues related to the elections;
- To discuss how to respond to potential threats;
- Assess the organizational competencies, capacities and level of preparedness of the various stakeholders in addressing such challenges; and
- Make recommendations for preventing and managing election-related violence for the December polls.

1.4 Expected Outcome and Output

At the end of the colloquium, it is expected that the discussions will lead to the development of proactive strategies that will inform policy decisions and enhance the collective efforts of all stakeholders to ensure violence free elections. Additionally, a communiqué which would include all policy outcomes from the colloquium would be released to the media for publication.

1.5 Participants

The colloquium will bring together members of the National Election Security Task Force which include the Military, Police, Prisons Service, Fire Service and the Immigration Service. Representatives from the National Electoral Commission, Political Parties, Civil Society Organizations, the Academia and the Media will also be invited.

1.6 Date and Venue

The colloquium is scheduled to take place on the 23rd October, 2012 at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, Accra, Ghana.



(left to right) Most Reverend Professor Emmanuel Asante - Chairman of the National Peace Council and Honourable Lieutenant General (rtd) John Henry Smith - Minister of Defence of the Republic of Ghana

SECTION ONE: OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome Remarks by the Commandant of Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre
Air Vice Marshal Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo



Air Vice Marshal Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo - Commandant KAIPTC

The Honourable Minister for Defence and Chairman of the KAIPTC Governing Board

Honourable Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Members of Parliament, herein present

Your Excellencies Ambassadors and High Commissioners and their Representatives

The Chief of the Defence Staff and the Representative of the Inspector General of Police

The Deputy Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of Ghana

Nananom

Our invited dignitaries and guests from national political parties, National Peace Council, National Election [Security] Task Force, the National House of Chiefs, the National Commission for Civic Education, the Ghana Journalists Association, other civil society groups, NGOs, and stakeholders and actors and partners in politics in Ghana

Our guest observer from the Kofi Annan Foundation in Geneva

The media

And last but not the least, the Chairperson and Moderator for this event, Prof Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I welcome you to the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre on behalf of the Governing Board and the Executive Management Team and all staff of the Centre. For those of you which it is the first time in visiting us and I doubt whether there is anybody who has not been here in this room before, we are an organisation that [was] made for peace. The Kofi Annan Centre was primarily established to train people for peacekeeping operations. Over the last few years, we have been involved into a bit more than that. We are basically concerned with conflict prevention, conflict management, and post conflict societies, especially peacebuilding. It is for these reasons that we are primarily interested [in hosting today's Colloquium].

First of all as a national institution, we believe the reputation we carry around the world and the work we do is also partly because we are based in Accra, Ghana. It means that our Ghanaian environment is a major contributor to what we do and are accepted all over the world. It is therefore also in our primary interest that Ghana remains a showcase of political maturity and advancement. That explains one of the reasons why we are insisting on having this thing at this time.

Secondly, we do not only do training, we do research, we do study, and we try to teach people. And one of the key courses being run at this Centre is Election Observation and Election Management. All our courses are informed by empirical research and training analysis. For us, violence in election is a critical issue. So, if we are going to run courses on elections we must understand the dynamics that drive the issues. It is for this reason, for example, that the Centre will soon be coming out with a publication on *Managing Election-Related Violence for Democratic Stability in Ghana*. It is not the only work we have done. We have done a cross-section of work on election and election instability and violence in West Africa which will be coming out very soon for scholars. For us therefore, credibility of elections is key to democratic process. And for us therefore, to teach meaningfully, on any of these our courses, we have to understand what the processes are. So, we intend also that this colloquium will be something of value to the Centre as an institute dedicated not only to peace but for teaching and also studying elections, election observation, and election management. So let me confess that we also have our own intrinsic self interest in the outcome of this Colloquium.

We look forward that we will provide the platform for very frank and open discussions. And we look forward that all participants should bring to the table what they think freely and that they will get the responses they need in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere. And that by the time we finish and the Madam Moderator is summing up, we will have a common understanding of the security expectations, security needs and what is to be done on that day of the election. We hope to translate this into part of our studies and teaching programmes.

I must thank all of you and every one of your institutions and distinguished personalities here for accepting our invitation to be here this morning. And I will like to particularly thank our Moderator Chairperson, Prof Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, for accepting to do what she is doing for us today. We hope that the objectives for

this Colloquium will be achieved and we look forward to a very successful and peaceful Election 2012 in Ghana. A peaceful and successful election is an election that is acceptable to the people of Ghana across board.

Thank you all very much for coming.

Opening Address by the Chairman of the National Peace Council
Most Reverend Professor Emmanuel Kwaku Asante

Madame Chair

The Commandant of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Honourable Ministers of State

Distinguished participants

Your Excellencies

Invited Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

All Protocols due observed.

It gives me great pleasure and honour to be present here today to open this important colloquium on the theme: 'Preserving National Security in Elections 2012 and Beyond.' Madam Chair, I would like to first of all, express my profound gratitude to the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre for the invitation. My address will remain incomplete without recognizing the unique array of well-resourced persons and participants assembled here this morning to lead the deliberations on this colloquium. I wish to express my appreciation to you all for making time of your busy schedules to share your wealth of knowledge and experience on the subject for this colloquium. I am very much convinced that at the end of our deliberations today, our objectives would have been fully achieved.

Madam Chair,

Set against the backdrop of flawed, aborted and contested elections in West Africa and Africa in general, Ghana is a remarkable success story. The country has largely escaped the conflicts that have enmeshed its West African neighbours. Ever since multiparty democracy was restored in 1992, elections have provided the opportunity to further advance democratic consolidation in Ghana. Thus, elections have become more or less like a litmus test that subject the institutional mechanisms and processes established since 1992 to determine the sustainability of the country's growing political process and deepening governance systems. Under Ghana's Fourth Republic, five successive presidential and parliamentary elections have been held in 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008, with power being transferred from incumbent governments to opposition parties despite heated political tensions and razor-thin margin election results between candidates. These exceptional events have confirmed Ghana's place as a beacon of hope for democracy in Africa. Indeed, the battered reputation of African democracy has always been invalidated by Ghana's electoral outcomes, with the 2008 elections being a recent case in point as it contrasted sharply with other elections in other African countries that were marred with violence.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

Despite the country's well-deserved status as one of Africa's most democratic and stable country, electoral-related violence has become an unfortunate staple of elections in Ghana. This has manifested in several

forms and is most often prevalent in all phases of the electoral process: pre-election; voting day; and post-election period. We all know that peace, understood both as state of harmony characterized by the lack of violent conflict and respect for the rights of others, is the condition for the possibility of development, prosperity and security.

It is axiomatic that violent conflict in the sense of war and hostility can hardly achieve what peace can. The forces of peace can rule over ignorance and superstition, over illiteracy, over disease and physical suffering, over poverty and governmental oppression. Only peace can bring about social reforms. During war, people are too busy in militaristic activities to think of social improvement. It is only during peace that a literacy campaign can be started; that the standard of living of the masses can be raised; that better housing can be built for the poor; that more schools and colleges can be opened; that free education can be implemented; that prisons can be reformed; and that crime can be effectively checked.

Where peace conquers there is no violence or bloodshed; no grief to humanity and no damage to life and property. Violent conflict in the sense of war and hostility which are negation of peace “causes streams of blood and untold havoc. Only the victories of peace leave no maimed limbs or mutilated bodies, no ruined cities and towns. Even the proper working of democracy is possible only in times of peace.

There can be no elections, no government of the people when a country is in the throes of war and violence. Peace is in that sense, the condition for the possibility of the promotion of democracy. Peace points to a harmonious condition, a condition without hostilities that make it possible for individual persons and communities to realize their full human potentials as purposed by God.

As we all know, this year is an election year and as we are gearing up for elections in December 2012 the climate seems to be characterized by high political tension. If things that are being said on the air-waves and done in some places against political opponents or perceived political enemies are early warning signs, then we can say that we are in for trouble. We can say that if the election process is not managed properly the 2012 elections can dent our relatively enviable record of violent-free elections.

Yet there are signs of hope. Peace has become the clarion call of all responsible citizens. Young and old, men and women, educated and uneducated across party lines are not only calling for peace, they are also working, walking and marching for peace and we are grateful for this. A peaceful and secure environment provides an expanded opportunity and context for peaceful elections.

There is, however, a symbiotic relationship between peace, security and human rights. And we say this for these reasons:

- Conflicts cannot be prevented or peace maintained in a world of wanton violations of human rights. Here peace, security and human rights are closely related.
- The United Nations Charter for world peace recognizes the strategic importance of respect for human rights in the establishment of peace and security. Thus the call for a world peace is a call for the protection of human rights.
- At the heart of human rights is the question of justice. Justice is defined among other things as the “exercise of authority in the maintenance of right; to treat fairly or to show due appreciation.” Injustice is a social evil, a social disorder which destroys the equilibrium of society; a physical force which brings chaos to the goods of the earth. As a counter to injustice, justice promotes peace, harmony, concord in the social order. Justice frees from and prevents slavery. Justice promotes equity. All of this is to say that justice is the condition for peace and security and it demands the maintenance and protection of human rights. Human rights violations militate against both peace and security. Without the maintenance and protection of human rights there can be no peace, and

where there is no peace there is no security. Conversely the protection and maintenance of human rights facilitate peace which is a condition for security.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Human rights, however, cannot be considered in isolation from individual responsibility and obligation to the collective – community, state, and society. The generality of traditional Africans, for instance, emphasizes the ontological priority of the community over the individual. Our ancestors said: “If the human descended from heaven to the earth, he came to meet the human society.” This means that for most traditional Africans, the individual is defined and informed by the collective. Any discussion on individual human rights in Africa that fails to take into account this concept of ontological priority of the community over the individual will not do. Human rights in Africa calls for concern for all hands to be on deck. It is a condition for peace and it must be considered taking into consideration the intrinsic individuality and sociality of the human status. So all of us must work towards peace as we uphold justice, human rights and the tenets of democracy, the rule of law. There needs to be justice and peace in the world.

Clearly, ensuring the credibility of the upcoming December 7 2012 elections and preventing the occurrences of election-related violence would require the strategic design of prevention and management responses in an effective and transparent manner. We must recognize that this is not only the responsibility of the security services, the Electoral Commission or Government; it is the collective responsibility of all stakeholders including the National Peace Council, political parties, the media, civil society, religious and traditional leaders as well as individual voters. At this juncture, I wish to commend all stakeholders for the continual efforts to foster peace and stability even before, during and after this year’s election.

With the four thematic areas for discussions today namely: the Security Agencies and Guaranteeing Peaceful Elections; Media Accountability and Security in Elections; Adjudicating Election Disputes; and Political Parties and Election Security, I have the strong conviction that perhaps this Colloquium will offer us the unique opportunity to review the existing mechanisms or frameworks for preventing and managing election-related violence and proffer some policy recommendations on the way forward in strengthening security and after the December 7 elections.

On behalf of the Peace Council, I wish to commend the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre for this important initiative and wish all of us successful deliberations.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

SECTION TWO: SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ELECTIONS 2012

Assurance Statement by the National Security Coordinator³

Lieutenant Colonel (rtd) Larry Gbevlo-Lartey

Sirs

Nananom

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am indeed humbled to be called here to make a statement. The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre I think needs to be commended for organizing this [Colloquium]. We at the National Security Council Secretariat think this is the way it has to be [when it comes to functions such as] an election. We think that [an election] is everybody's business and that we all have to get involved as a people to contribute to its success. [Therefore], creating this forum which brings together all stakeholders is the way to go. I would want to show my appreciation to the Commandant and his staff for involving civil society, the media, the military and the security services and all [in this forum].

As the Chairperson mentioned, [I would just want to] assure you, that we in the performance of our function have been in the process of doing all the planning and preparation that is necessary to ensure that we have a peaceful and successful elections. You can be assured that we are doing everything that it takes [to achieve that objective]. Today's [Colloquium] is going to be a big input in what we are doing and I hope [it] will help us further. So basically, that is the crux of my message; we are doing everything we can and everything we have to do to ensure that we have a peaceful and transparent elections.

Ghana has its own character, from which we cannot run away. Ghanaians are, in the first place, peace-loving people and we are very strong when it comes to espousing freedom and justice. A Ghanaian will ask for his [/her] freedom and when something is not just, a Ghanaian will let you know. We are cognisant of this attribute of our people.

I would now want to talk about the drivers of insecurity and the drivers of peace, with respect to the elections. We are being very pre-emptive in thinking outside the box and looking at how we can run these elections peacefully. We cannot just say that we ran peaceful elections in the past. The situation has quite changed. So we have to look at the situation today and see how we can think outside the box and bring some innovation that would make this year's elections and future elections peaceful and accepted by all Ghanaians.

For instance, as far as our office is concerned, this whole election is like a military campaign. The General who has been tasked with this campaign is the Chairman of the National Electoral Commission. It is his campaign to run. He has to set-out what he wants to do and make a decision on 'the what.' All other persons; the military, the police, everybody are simply there to help him and get our tasking from him. So we are looking up to the Electoral Commission to hear what the Commission has to say.

³ The main points of the statement have been presented here.

There have been discussions with the Commission, as I pointed out earlier; planning and preparations for the elections are already underway. We. The military campaign idea and the role of the Chairman of the Electoral Commission as the General of that campaign have already been put forward to the Commission during those discussions. The role of my office is to coordinate security nationally. We have made presentations to the Chairman of the National Electoral Commission regarding the country's security architecture. Traditionally, the coordination of security in the country comes from the National Security Council, the highest decision body that is chaired by the President. [Then], the Secretariat, of which I am Coordinator, links-up with the Regional Security Councils which manage and superintend over regional security matters. Then down at the district level, there are District Security Councils which superintend over [district] security matters.

[However, what we are proposing] for the specific purpose of running an election, [is that] we think that we have to think outside the box and re-shape this kind of arrangement because there are Regional Ministers and District Chief Executives who are standing for elections.⁴ So, we think to leave that structure [the security architecture] as the one that superintends over security matters, in the region or in the district [during elections], is not the way to go. We have put [this matter] before the Chairman of the Electoral Commission. As I have said, it is the Chairman of the Electoral Commission who decides 'the what.' and Elections Security Task Force, 'the how.' To expatiate a little bit on this concept, what we are suggesting to the Electoral Commission is that at the regional level, we [would] have a Regional Election Security Committee which is headed by the senior[-most] Electoral Commission officer in the region. At district level, we [would] have a District Elections Security Committee, which would be headed by the senior-most Electoral Commission officer in the district.

Now, with this kind of architecture, the [Election Security Committees would decide] 'the what.' [The structure] is similar to what we have at the Regional or District Security Council. Therefore, where the senior-most police officer and the senior-most military officer and representatives of all the other security agencies that would otherwise be operating from either the Regional Security Council or the District Security Council, would be represented [in these Elections Security Committees], which would be chaired by the Head of the Electoral Commission for the particular level; regional or district. They would decide 'the what'— 'what exactly is the problem in the district here? What do we need to do?' So once that is decided at that level, then [the National Elections Security Task Force], which is an operational wing [not there to make decisions for] the Electoral Commission would implement what the Electoral Commission decides needs to be done to help the [Commission] to conduct a successful election. [Thus, once the decision has been made, the senior-most police officer, as the police head the National Elections Security Task Force, would lead the implementation process.] Due to the need for more boots on the ground [during elections], the Fire Service, Prisons, Customs and the Immigration [Service] are being made to play police roles. The military plays a secondary role; only providing assistance when needed by those institutions. So there is no problem with the arrangement of the Task Force and how it is going to do its work. The only issue is who decides 'the what'?

Once, during a presentation alongside the Chairman of the Electoral Commission, when he stated something to the effect, that biometric registration is not a panacea for free and fair elections, something like that. On that day, he also expressed concern about this very thing that I am talking about. The fact that we would have the Regional Security Council or the District Security Council superintending over election security

⁴ Regional Ministers and District Chief Executives chair their respective Security Councils.

matters. In which case it is not very clear where the persons interests are. In which case I think this is a very critical thing that we would want the Electoral Commission to come out clear on.

During the meeting in which we made this point to members of the Electoral Commission, I realised there was some apprehension regarding an Electoral Officer superintending over the military and the police. And I told [them] that when you go to the military academy and come out and they give you a platoon at 21 years, you will go to your platoon and meet people above 50. You have the command, it is about roles. We are talking now about roles. We are not talking about age or anything. You have a role to play as the Head of the Electoral Commission in the region. You are expected to provide 'the what' and [the National Elections Security Task Force] will go and [work on] 'the how' as they have been trained to do. [This structure would remove any confusion/misunderstanding regarding instructions of Regional Ministers and District Chief Executives during the elections period].

I have laid some emphasis on this [issue] because I think that is important and we will be looking at the Electoral Commission to take a firm decision so we get the architecture clear. Once we get the architecture very clear, implementing it, I do not think will be much of a problem. Because, from what I have seen, I know the Commanders who are in charge of these elections, and as far as the Task Force is concerned, they know exactly what they are about. They have the commitment. The authorities are providing them with the resources that they require to do their job and we are coordinating [this process]. And again I want to assure you that they will be given the resources to be able to move around and do their work during the [elections] period.

I would want to ask for all the cooperation [needed during this Colloquium. Whatever we have to ask, let us put it out now. Let us think through it very clearly and let us get a very clear understanding what exactly we want to do to ensure that you know we have these peaceful and transparent elections.

Thank you very much.

The State of Readiness/Security Arrangements of the [Electoral] Commission for Elections 2012 Campaign⁵

Mr Amadu Sulley

Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration, National Electoral Commission

Distinguished members on the High Table

Fellow participants

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I think I am highly privileged to be given this opportunity to talk to this August gathering. Before I continue, I want to say that the Commission attaches very [great] importance to this Colloquium. We would have been here, the whole three Executive Members, but unfortunately, our Chairman is pinned down in the office with some of the residual issues which came up during the nominations. And the Deputy Chairman Operations is in Abuja, attending a conference of Chairpersons and their Deputies of all EMBs [Electoral Management Bodies] in the West African sub region. That is why they are not here today.

My presentation is going to cover the following areas:

- The activities that the Commission has undertaken so far leading us to the 2012 Elections;
- The challenges the Commission faces in some of these activities;
- The security arrangements that we expect the police to put in place;
- The 'dos' and 'don'ts' of our critical stakeholders during their campaign and on the Election Day; and
- Finally, I will take your comments, questions and answers.

I have brought some vital statistics on each the activities we have undertaken so far.⁶

Madam Chairperson,

To start with, I want to say that you all agree that a credible accurate and reliable voters register, is a necessary ingredient for ensuring a credible election. Or to put it in the popular parlance—'free, fair and transparent election.' As a result, the first major activity that the Commission undertook this year was to replace the old Voters' Register with the current Biometric Register.

Before we did that, since we were capturing the bio-data of registrants, it became imperative that the legal framework had to be look at. In that connection, the then CI 12 which governed the registration of voters in this country, was replaced with CI 72. I would not want to go into CI 72 very deeply but I will touch on some salient features which differentiates CI 72 with the old CI 12.

The first is the area of proof of eligibility. If you throw your minds back to the old registration system, when you got to the polling station or the registration centre, you only mentioned your name and indicated that "I am a Ghanaian; I reside here." You did not need to prove your eligibility. But this time round, CI 72 has incorporated that you need to prove that you are really a Ghanaian and you are of 18 years and above by the use of either your national identity card, passport, national insurance card or an old voters ID. Without [any of those items, the person's form cannot be endorsed]. So the proof of eligibility was incorporated in the new law.

⁵ The main points of the presentation have been presented here.

⁶ These statistics have been placed in the Annex.

The second is to do with the challenge mechanism in our registration system That is to say, if you get to the [registration] centre and any Ghanaian thinks you are not qualified to be captured, that person has a right to challenge you. These challenges are sent to the District Registration Review Committees which predicate all these challenges. [The new CI provides a time limit for these adjudications—7 days maximum], because justice delayed is justice denied. As you are aware, Madam Chairperson, election is action-packed and time-bound. So, if you delay the process, then you are trying to disenfranchise someone.

Before we took off [with biometric registration], the Commission decided that a pilot was needed. Therefore, we had a pilot exercise. I know participants would remember, we did a pilot in one rural centre and one urban centre. The essence of the pilot was for us to test our kits, our procedures and our trainees. [Regarding the latter, we tested whether they understood their training] on how to handle the biometric kit. . able to understand the training as to. Problems found were addressed. [At the end of the pilot before the actual biometric registration exercise began], we met all our stakeholders [including] political parties.

This morning, the Chairman of the [National] Peace Council asked why [the Commission] does not talk to political parties regarding they being focal points to spread information on the activities of the Commission]. I agreed with him and said we shall take it up.

[The biometric registration was thus implemented]. And an exercise of this nature, using ICT, I guess participants will agree with me, the challenges, are many. They are however less than those experienced by other countries that went through a similar exercise. When the exercise began, the challenges were technical, operational and logistical but we quickly put in place, mechanisms to address those challenges and in the second, third and fourth phases, the operation went on smoothly.

Looking at technical challenges, the components of some of the ICT equipment because of excessive heat in some parts of Ghana, freeze. The kit that we use for registration is made up of components. We have the fingerprint scan, the keyboard and the screen. So if you have a system made up of several components, as soon as one component breaks down, it affects the entire system, because the interplay of all the components in the system, enables the system to operate as a whole. So when, its scanner is not working, the whole system stops.

[Regarding logistics], there was pressure. Ghanaian were told [that registration would be done] in phases, thus, people should wait for their turn. They doubted this information, so there was a rush. Therefore, centres where we anticipated that not more than 1000 people would come, we ended up having over 1500.

[With regard to operational challenges, we had a situation where] simple operational instructions [were not being followed]. You are dealing with a computer. The instruction on how you key in [data is] “just click ‘ok’.” [However], your data entry clerk may decide, “I am not clicking ‘ok’ but I will tap the ‘enter’ key [instead].” [The result], the computer [does] not respond. So, they keep on tapping [the ‘enter’ key]. Or [in cases where one is to tap a key just once], the person would keep tapping the key, [if the computer does not respond. Feeling the pressure of people standing in a queue, several other commands may then be keyed in].

[Another operational challenge came from the registrants]. When we told registrants that when [they thought] ‘Mr A’ was not qualified to be captured, to fill in the Challenge Form and let the person go through the challenge mechanism, to the District Registration Review Committees. They would say “no.” and [there was physical prevention of ‘suspected ineligible’ registrants. Other registrants would say to them] “you don’t stay here. You are coming from Kasoa to work at the Makola and you say you are ordinary resident.”

As I said earlier [regarding logistical challenges during registration] we anticipated 1000 would come [to register at each registration centre]. The *modus operandi*, we used for this registration, was to do the registration in clusters. A cluster contained a maximum of four registration centres and [we said were would

spend 10 days] in each registration centre. We did the registration in phases [So, we asked people to wait for us to reach their registration centre. They did not but rushed to the first ones we opened.] “So there was pressure because [we] based our logistics supply on the statistics we expected. Even though we made room for overflows, the pressure was on. So logistically, we also run into some challenges.

All the same, at the end of the day, we were able to capture about 14 million Ghanaians. Out of that number, we had some multiple entries. People say that the biometric voters’ registration is to ensure that you cannot go in more than once. It is true. Some people doubted it. We had a situation in Accra where someone tried to [register] more than 10 times and he thought he was defeating the system. Before he was even picked up by the police, [it] had already popped up at the data centre that somebody had [been registered] this number of times. So we were waiting until he was apprehended. By the time he go to the data centre, we [already] proved [his multiple registrations].

The biometric system itself has some margin of error. The experts say it has a margin of error of 1.02. So that depending on the data that you are capturing, 1.02 per cent of that [data] would prove some challenges. There was a case of a woman whose fingerprint matched about 27 men. We could not understand whether it [was a case of] a spiritual husband or what. Immediately, you [saw] her, the 27 [men] would pop up. [There was also another case of a person’s data matching those of others].

[So, some cases of multiple entries are not deliberate. However,] I want to assure you that we set-up an adjudication team, which looked into all the 6000 multiple entries we identified, to establish the intent.

If you look at the data, somebody’s fingerprint and photograph, to establish that someone is mischievous, [if the person wants to] enter [his or her data] more than once, [the person] would not enter [the data] at the same centre. You find [those with mischievous intent] hopping from one centre to the other; some across districts and regions.

We looked [at those cases] critically and finally we were able to establish that 6000 of them intentionally [registered more than once]. [The others were due to] technical error or [or the inherent error rate in the biometric system]. [This number of intentional multiple registrants will be brought before political parties at the next Inter Party Advisory Council].

The other group the biometric system was able to identify were those who registered during the time earmarked for rest. At the end of the 10 days [for registration, one day], the eleventh day, was a rest day for our operatives to reorganise the system, get some rest and move to the next phase. So, all those [who registered on the eleventh day] have been put on a list that we call the exception list. [Furthermore,] there were those who were registered at odd times. You will find some of our operatives trying to capture people at midnight, [when registration [was from] 7am to 6pm. So if somebody was entered at 12 midnight or 2am, then [it was done at] an odd time and the machine is able to isolate [these discrepancies]. That is the good thing about the biometric [system; it is able to] telly who, where [and when, date and time] the data was captured.

So we have these three lists:

- those who were genuinely registered and are qualified [to vote];
- we have the multiple registration list; and
- we have the exception list.

Coming back to talk about the figure that we have captured, I think those of you who play with figures, [would] agree with me that the 2010 population census [shows] that Ghanaians 18 years and above are

about 13.8 million. And this was in 2010 and we have a growth rate currently of 2.5 per cent. So if [in] 2010 we were 13.8, [and with the given growth rate], [the number of persons over 18 which we captured for our voters' roll], about 14 million, is statistically acceptable. [Registration] ended on the 5th of May [2012]. Around that [time], the Statistical Service released the final report of the 2010 Population and Housing Census. As a result, the Commission went ahead to [undertake] another very important activity leading to the elections. This was the creation of the 45 newly constituencies.

This [action] generated a lot of arguments in Parliament. I would not want to bore you with that, Madam Chairperson, but I want to say that the Commission [performed its] constitutional duty and we lean on the 1992 Constitution. [I would] want participants later to look at Articles 45b, 46, 47 and 48.

Some people have asked "why the rush?" The Chairman of the [National] Peace Council asked me "Why now?" It is either now or never. The reason is very clear. Under Article 47(5) of the 1992 Constitution, the Commission has to review the boundaries of constituencies in this country if seven years has elapsed since the last review or within 12 months after the publication of the results of the population census. [Therefore people asked] "this is within 12 months why are you rushing?" [However, given the two conditions, we could have relied on the first, the seven years since the last review]. The last time we re-did the boundaries of constituencies was in 2004; [over seven years ago]. [We noted that if we were to use that option, however, the public would have asked] "how and on what basis are you giving these people the constituency?" "Is it because they look fine?" "Is it because you know you want to gerrymander?" [Therefore, we decided to use the second condition and] get the census report.

As participants are aware, the provisional figures of the 2010 Population Census, which took place in September 2010, came out in April 2011. There was no way we could use the provisional figures. So we had to wait for the final report in May 2010. The district by district population figures [indicated to us] if we should allocate five new seats to a particular region, based on population and land size, which again is a requirement in the Constitution. [With that data] we are able to say that these five seats going to region A, these are the districts, which are qualified based on the district population.

[Furthermore], the second requirement in the Constitution is that, should you create new constituencies, they will take effect after the next dissolution of Parliament. So if the constituencies do not mature now, and we wait for them to [do so] even on the 8th of January [2013],⁷ [the new constituencies] I just want to address the issue of why the rush, will take effect in 2017. Do we have to wait for that, Madam Chairperson?

[Moreover], when you look at Article 242 of the 1992 Constitution, it has given the composition of each District Assembly. Members of Parliament or a Member of Parliament in a constituency within the district is an ex-officio member of that Assembly and nowhere does it say that a Member of Parliament can represent two districts. The same is [found] in Act 462, the Local Government Act. Out of the 46 newly created districts and municipals, if we do not have the constituencies [maturing] now, we are going to have about 19 of the newly created district and municipal districts going without Members. Are we ready to do that? So that is why it became imperative that the constituencies are created.

We have had challenges. We were inundated with court cases since we tried to put the CI in Parliament but we did not do this thing without recourse to the August house.

Madam Chairperson, in June [2012], as soon as the Census figures were released and we came out with the *modus operandi*, the Commission met Parliament at Parliament House on the 15 June this year to brief them

⁷ The date for the induction of government after the elections.

on the *modus operandi* that we use in the creation of constituencies. We met again with the parties at the Inter-Party Advisory Committee to explain the criteria that we used. And as I said I have the documents that we used which I will give to the organisers to make copies to all participants to see how the seats were allocated.⁸

I remember the Commission met the religious leaders and I am sure the Chairman of the [National] Peace Council was there that day in our Commission. After we explained to them the method we used in allocation, they asked “why are you quiet? Come out and do a press conference and tell them.” And we said “no we met the parties and if they say they do not know, they are not being honest to us.”

Anyway as I said, the matter went to court and the last of the cases is in court. The judgement is coming on the 24th so I would not want to go further into that [case] to be in contempt of court.

After the creation of the constituencies, the next thing we tried to do was to meet the parties to tell them of the integrity of the process. We brought some of them to our Headquarters to take them to the so called ‘strong room’ to demystify their thinking that people manipulate figures in the ‘strong room.’ We took them to the ICT [room] and at the end of the day, they were all satisfied.

We exhibited the Voters’ Register to allow voters to check their data for corrections, for inclusions and for any objections to be made. And at the end, the voters’ roll became a legal document.

Now, I would want to concentrate on the security arrangements we want to put in place at the printing houses. After the nominations which ended last week. I am sure participants also know the positions of the presidential candidates. Some of the parties run into some challenges because they were not able to complete their nomination forms. Some had tried to complete their nomination forms in the premises of the Electoral Commission, which should not be the case. I think it is a lesson to all the parties now. The security arrangements we want the police to put in place are as follows:

- At the printing houses, we expect the police to give total security for the entire printing house. In the printing house, especially the ‘strong room’ where ballot [papers] are kept, the police should provide security day and night.
- The police should make sure anybody found in the printing house should be able to prove his [or her] identity by showing an identity card.
- The police should also escort all our printing materials, ballot papers right from the printing houses to the Regional Police Armoury under police guard with arms.
- From the Regional Police Command, we expect the police to ensure they guide the ballot [papers] right to the District Police Command.
- [Regarding] the movement of personnel and materials on Election Day, we expect the police to be very punctual on that day, due to the distribution of materials. and We expect the police to escort our personnel and materials to the polling station. The movement plan for personnel and materials has been drawn up; and this would be shared with the police.
- We are [also] going to provide the police with all flashpoints. There are some areas which were flashpoints the last elections [but may not be] this time round. And there are some which are not flashpoints which will later become flashpoints. So we expect the [police] to be active.

With regard, to the National Security Coordinator and his architecture, the new *modus operandi* or the formation of the [National] Election [Security] Task Force, the Commission is looking [into those issues]. The Commission is very much concerned because of the technicalities in security. So we

⁸These documents are in the Annex of this report.

expect that our officers will provide information to security personnel and they being the professionals in national security would know how to package it. But if [the National Security Coordinator] wants us to be in the driving seat, we will take our responsibility. We want to assure you we are looking [into those issues].

- On Election Day, we will ask the police in some of the riverine areas [to accompany our personnel and materials to the polling stations]. [We recognise the complaints of] some police personnel complain [about the lack of] life jackets and [not wanting to join boats without life jackets]. So, we want to assure them that this time round, provisions would be made for life jackets to enable them accompany our personnel and materials.

Now [I will] touch on the 'dos' and 'don'ts' on the campaign, especially by our stakeholders, the political parties. [During the] campaign period and on Election Day, Madam Chairperson we would expect the political parties to:

- Avoid the use of abusive language;
- Avoid the and a the hiring of thugs—'macho men;' and
- discourage their supporters from carrying arms to campaign areas.

I will briefly touch on some election offences, which we need the parties to pass on to their supporters. We will also hammer [these points in] on our publicity [campaigns] and public education:

- Interferences in the process, for instance, macho men going to hijack ballot boxes;
- You get to the centre you disrupt the process;
- You are found with election material when you are not an official of the Commission. We have not given you that mandate;
- An election official who tries to be partisan [and] is not showing neutrality;
- Intoxication, taking alcohol which will impair your judgement or the sale of alcohol about 500 metres from the Centre is a serious offence;
- Canvassing for votes on Election Day at the polling station;
- Aiding and abetting, trying to course an election official to misconduct himself or herself; or
Trying to manipulate figures. If party A got 76, you try to put it at 67.

I will like to end here. There are several of these offences.

Madam Chairperson, ensuring free and fair elections as the Chairman of the [National] Peace Council said, is a collective responsibility. So do not leave it to the Electoral Commission alone. Together, we [should] all play our roles very well [to] ensure that come December 7 [2012], our election will be acceptable to all our stakeholders.

I want to assure the police, the new Commissioner, that I have a catalogue of the infractions that took place in 2004 and 2008 elections, [including], the nature of those infractions, when they were reported to the police, and the action that they have taken. Some of them, they say, they are still investigating. I told him I will furnish him with that information. They will serve as a guide. I will also provide them with all flashpoint areas in this country to enable them to plan their movement.

Once again, Madam Chairperson. I thank you very much.

The State of Readiness of the National Election Security Taskforce for Elections 2012⁹

Preparation towards 2012 Elections

Commissioner of Police Mr John Kudalor, Director General, Operations, Ghana Police Service

Read on his behalf by Commissioner of Police Mr Patrick Timbilla (Regional Police Commander, Greater Accra Region)

Madam Chair

I am doing this presentation on behalf of the Director General of Operations. It is an honour for me to make this presentation on the topic *Security Preparations towards Elections 2012*.

Since Ghana return to democratic rule in 1992, we have held five general elections. Several District elections have also been held. Be it as it may, elections have widely become the only legitimate means by which a person or group of persons can ascend to political office in a democratic dispensation of which Ghana is no exception. This process is a keenly contested everywhere in the world. It is therefore important that all those who have a role to play in it, prepare adequately.

Experience from other parts of the world, especially in Africa has shown that elections have the potential of degenerating into violence if not properly planned and handled. The cost of such violence is unbearable. There is therefore the need to ensure that nothing of that sort occurs during these general elections in Ghana come December 7 2012. If even it does, we must make sure that it is appropriately contained and all matters resolved as early as possible.

The Ghana Police Service as the lead agency or security institution of election security, by its mandate in the 1992 constitution, is responsible for the maintenance of internal security. It is to do or handle the national security segment of the election with the support of other security sector agencies—namely, the Ghana Armed Forces, Prisons, Immigration, Fire and the Customs Department or CEPS.

Following from this, it is imperative that security services prepare adequately in the run up to the elections to keep the country safe, peaceful [and] secured before, during and after the elections. It is against this background that this preparation is being made.

My aim therefore is simple to present to you or discuss the preparation so far made by the Ghana Police Service to ensure peaceful elections come December 7 2012, particularly assessing the possible challenges before, during and after

To handle this task effectively, a National Elections Security Task Force has been put in place and this has been replicated at all the regions and the districts. The Task Force has put in place a comprehensive election security plan, which will be rolled on to ensure that there is peace, during, before and after [elections. This Task Force has the responsibility to plan, organize, implement, monitor and coordinate the preparations of the security agencies to create a safe environment for the elections to take place.

Membership of the Task Force comprises the Ghana Police Service, the Ghana Armed Forces, National Security Council, Bureau of National Investigation and the Electoral Commission. With co-opted members like the National Commission for Civic Education, NADMO [the National Disaster Management Organisation, and] the Ghana Information Services who would be doing the education and maybe publicity. Other members are

⁹ The main points have been presented.

the Immigration Service, the Customs Division of the Ghana Revenue Authority, Ghana National Fire Service, Ghana Prisons Service, supported by the National Ambulance Service, because of [possible casualties].

The Inspector General of Police is the Chairman from this current arrangement and from this presentation. This Task Force is to be replicated in all the regions and districts.

There are also seven sub committees—namely:

- Intelligence, Legal, Investigation and Prosecution;
- Planning, Implementation, Monitoring and Coordination;
- Personnel Mobilization, Deployment and Transport;
- Ballot Boxes Security as stated by the [Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission]. This has to be handled properly, to ensure that nothing untoward happens.
- Education, Publicity and Media;
- Finance Committee; and
- Medicals and Welfare, to take care of the medical and welfare needs of our troops and [possible casualties from the general voting public].

We have joint operational centres [at the] national, regional and district [levels]. And to ensure effective, operations a lot of training has been done all over the country to build up capacities of all law enforcement agencies in all 11 regions—Greater Accra Region is divided into two; the Accra and Tema regions.

I will use this opportunity [on behalf of the] Inspector General of Police to thank our development partners—the United Kingdom under the GIP and the UK Aid; the Hans Seidel Foundation; and the Government of France. They have all assisted us and I will use this platform to once again say, we are grateful to them.

We have a lot of activity areas to cover, right from polling stations to flashpoints and others. Part of the plan is to ensure that normal life takes place irrespective of the fact that it is voting time. So we are going to perform our traditional duties to maintain peace and security during the night and the day. [This means] we are going to contain armed robbery; [in other words], enhance Operation Camp Drive. This is the police-military patrol that takes care of or fights armed robbery at night and during the day. It is going to be enhanced so that people will not take advantage of the engagement on the election to maybe pull a fast one on us. We are looking at the key points and very vulnerable points (VVRP). Any point that needs security will be taken care of.

We have standby teams that will be called upon to address any public order issues. We have [mechanisms in force to deal with flashpoints] or we will double security at flashpoints. As [the Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission] said, the flashpoints are fluid; [locations which were flashpoints at earlier elections, may have ceased to be so]. Therefore, we are putting in place a mechanism to find out which are really flashpoints and we will handle them.

As I said earlier, the military is ever ready at the periphery to come in when the need arise under the resolve that we must create a very serene atmosphere. So [the elections will] be free and fair without intimidation. The military has adopted/put [in place its] own plans to make sure that they come in where and when necessary.

We have put in place comprehensive security plans that we are going to implement. The training is thorough, we have got the [necessary] logistics, what is left is to make it happen. How is this going to happen? And on this we say we as the security services are determined and resolved with the support of Ghana Armed Forces,

to deliver. We are prepared to make [the elections] free [and] fair [and provide security] before, during and after [the elections], relying on the threat assessments [we have made]. t What we want to ask from the public is cooperation. In the world over, security is a shared or collective responsibility. We cannot do it alone. We need your assistance and we can get to the end of the tunnel if people play by the ground rules.

The election laws are clear. They have just [been] spelt them out. Do what you are supposed to do. We are ready to take care of the bad [person] but we want the majority of the people to be law abiding and not risk taking the ballot box so you do not have anybody following you. But we have put in place measures to make sure that nobody can take a ballot box away. Let me assure you and anybody who would do anything contrary to the elections regulations, like interfering with the processes, we will be out there to check them. So we are just craving the intelligence indulgence and appealing to all stakeholders to buy into our security programme. So that at the end of the day, Ghana will continue to be the beacon of democracy in the world. So we are appealing to the general public. We have done our part, but we cannot do it alone.

[There is the case of] media accountability. Political parties have charted a Code of Conduct for themselves. They must walk their talk. They must implement it. But this [Code of Conduct] needs to be publicised. Some places they say they should not engage 'macho men.' But the 'macho men' do not know that they are not supposed to be engaged. They need to know so that they [are able] to resist [recruitment]. So let us put everything on board for people to know so that our work will be easy.

Everybody is urging for peace but how do we get there. This is our problem. We have done our part and we hope with the support of civil society, NGOs and others, we will all draw on the need for peace and try to implement or walk our talk. So that at the end of the day we will see light at the end of the tunnel.

Thank you very much.

Ensuring Peaceful Elections in Ghana- Role of the Ghana Armed Forces
Brigadier General DK Mishio, Director General Joint Operations, Ghana Armed Forces

Madam Chairperson

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps

Nananom

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

We have the opportunity as Armed Forces to discuss the role we have to play in the upcoming 2012 elections. I am Brigadier General Mishio, Director-General Joint Operations.

By way of introduction, it is necessary to indicate that our preparation for the 2012 elections started immediately after the 2008 elections. What we did was to look at all the challenges we had gone through in 2008 and then, to document what we needed to do to improve on future elections. It must be noted that what we did was to examine arrangements including logistics put in place before [and] during the 2008 elections.

Now, the biometric registration has been introduced to mitigate some of the challenges. We do not expect that it solve all the problems. Nationwide we have undertaken exercises code-named Exercise Bridget. This has been done in all garrisons. It is necessary to emphasise that preserving national security in elections and beyond is an appropriate theme considering our situation in Africa.

Violence due to elections has been witnessed by many countries in the world, in general and West Africa, in particular. And I must emphasise that Ghana Armed Forces has been engaged in Peace Support Operations all over the world and there, we have seen what actually violence after elections can do. [For example, there is] the most recent war in Cote d'Ivoire where over 1000 people lost their lives to due post-election violence. One hundred and three of those [people] were women and 42 were children. What befell Côte d'Ivoire is something we believe that the entire nation would like to avoid.

We also have displaced persons seeking shelter and I believe that we are also reeling under the challenges of both ex-combatants and refugees in Ghana.

This brings me to my aim, [which is] to discuss [the] Ghana Armed Forces role and our readiness for the December 2012 general elections. To achieve this, we will look at the role of the Ghana Armed Forces, the concept we have for our operations, the phases we intend to use, and then the challenges which have been identified in previous elections. I will conclude and then put forward some recommendations that we have.

First of all, the role of the Ghana Armed Forces is based on Article 210(3) of the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana, which states that:

“The Armed Forces shall be equipped and maintained to perform their role of defence of Ghana [and I emphasise the remainder] as well as such other functions for the development of Ghana as the President may determine.”

This is actually the basis for our support for the 2012 elections and it necessary to indicate that our role is to support the civil authorities, not to take over the police work.

Our concept of operations is that the civil police is to play the lead role with the Ghana Armed Forces and all other security agencies in support. Ghana Armed Forces will be deployed in all the 10 regions; 275 constituencies and over 19000 polling stations will be taken care of. It is necessary to indicate that if you look at the number of constituencies and we see with the number of the armed forces that we cannot deploy to assist at every polling station. That is just numerically impossible. However, the armed forces are going to deploy in such a way that we can readily support the police. We are in talks with the police to ensure that nobody is intimidated and [that] we play the role that we are supposed to play.

The Ghana Armed Forces would monitor and maintain a presence at the border points to prevent any external interference, before during and after the 2012 elections. We, the armed forces and the police, have come up with standard operating procedures that are to assist in the way we work together, so that we cooperate and work as a team. Already, the military and the police have been having joint staff conferences and meetings just to harmonize indicate, and detail out all the roles we have been playing in support. It is necessary to point out that vehicles and communications [equipment] have been acquired by the help of Government. And I believe during the next few days, these will be unveiled for the entire nation to see.

For our phases of operation, we have categorised our phases of operations into three that is:

- Phase I: the period before the elections. During this period, the Ghana Armed Forces is supporting the police to provide a secure environment for a smooth campaign. We shall be preparing to assist the Electoral Commission to transport and distribute materials. This is one area I believe that the Electoral Commission did not come up with but I believe we would have to factor [it] in because there are areas which are inaccessible [where] we may need to assist. Then there is the identification of flashpoints, the establishment of Joint Operations Rooms, the commencement of training which has already started in all military garrisons and one of the exercises we have been doing so far, which is just left with Accra, is Exercise Bridget, the exercise budget, and thee Colloquium that we have today at KAIPTC for peaceful elections.
- Phase II that is during the elections itself, [this involves]:
 - Deployment of personnel;
 - Escort/protect election officers and materials; this we will be doing in support of the police; and
 - We will be Liaising with the stakeholders.
- In Phase III, which is [the period after the elections]:
 - The Ghana Armed Forces will continue to assist in maintaining law and order;
 - Monitor post-election activities;
 - Respond to breaches that undermine peace and stability; and
 - [assist with] the Security of election materials, ballot boxes and declared results.

[Regarding challenges before, during and after the elections, these have already been discussed].¹⁰

¹⁰ The challenges listed hereafter were projected on a screen during the Colloquium.

- Before Elections:
 - Violence during electioneering campaigns;
 - Protest against voter registration procedure;
 - Disobedience of the Public Order Act;
 - Clashes after political events;
 - Use of abusive words/insults;
 - Allegations of abuse of incumbency; and
 - Adverse media reportage.

- During Elections:
 - Late arrival of election officers and materials;
 - Conduct of election officers;
 - Conduct of party agents;
 - Conduct of voters;
 - Campaigning during elections;
 - Violation of election laws;
 - Protest regarding rejected votes;
 - Hijacking of result documents/ballot boxes;
 - Protest at polling stations/collation centres;
 - Anxiety over the declaration of results;
 - Inability to trace names; and
 - Missing voter's ID cards and attendant controversies.

- Post Elections:
 - Reactions to declaration of results;
 - Refusal to concede defeat;
 - Possibility of a 2nd round;
 - Protestations and riots; and
 - Disorder at swearing in ceremony on 7 January 2013.

[We will be supporting the police in addressing these challenges].

There are two main vital issues the armed forces would like to put across, which I believe will come out very clearly during the Colloquium:

- The first [issue] is on preventive measures that are to be adopted by all stakeholders in view of the challenges identified. This has to come out very clearly during the Colloquium.
- The second [issue is on] the reaction of the security agencies to challenges because there are infinite perceptions and ideas as to how to react to these challenges. For example, somebody takes a ballot box and is trying to run away. Does the police shoot or what do they do? Or [do] they try to apprehend? These have to come out very clearly and the roles of the police have to come out clearly as those of the military and other security forces. We have to come out very clearly for the period before, during and after the elections.

In conclusion, the Ghana Armed Forces started operations after the 2008 elections. The role that we have is essentially to support the police and civil authorities before, during and after the elections. We are definitely prepared for the 2012 elections but the challenges identified should be collectively addressed by all stakeholders.

We have a few recommendations.

- All stakeholders [should] maintain [a] high sense of professionalism, especially the military.
- The populace should be continually educated on the need to maintain peace and stability.
- Law enforcement agencies should be encouraged to deal with electoral offences without delay and should be professional
- Political parties, and this is very important, should be committed to the process of maintaining peace before, during and after the elections.

Thank you very much.

Key Findings of Book on Preventing Election-Related Violence in Ghana

Dr Kwesi Aning, Director of the Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research

Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

I think the Commandant made it very clear that as a training, research and education Centre, we try to do what we do best premised on solid practical hands-on empirical research. Precisely because election 2012 promises to be difficult and the rhetoric around it have focused on the potentials for violence, we decided, colleagues in the Centre and from outside, to write a book as a contribution to preventing conflict this year entitled *Managing Electoral Related Violence for Democratic Stability in Ghana*.

There is absolutely no doubt if one listens to the conversations, the rhetoric and the discourses that certainly democracy in this country is one of our success stories. But these electoral success and the peaceful turnovers arising from them have taken place alongside what we term in the book as “a burgeoning institutional context” and the broader political terrain that is highly accommodative, first of a vibrant press and a critical civil society.

These, however, do not overlook the fact that acts of violence have accompanied every single election in this country; at least under the Fourth Republic. They usually occur before, during and after these elections and are characterised primarily by threats, intimidation, physical assault, vandalism of electoral materials as well as the use of hate speeches and incendiary language. Election-related violence is routinely employed by the political class as an operational strategy or alpha strategy to obtain electoral advantage.

So, in this book we argue that whilst the underlying factors that inspire electoral violence in Ghana and other African countries are not markedly different from each other, in Ghana we are beginning to see slight changes that are considerably more worrying. We see zero-sum political interaction, pervasive neo-patrimonial arrangements and increasingly delayed institutional mechanisms to cope with these tense political dynamics.

Violence in political terms in Ghana, appears on the surface to reflect expressions, we argue of more profound structural difficulties pertaining to issues such as the deliberate manipulation of ethnic identities; the use of particular forms of religious language; deepening ethno-centrism; political polarisation and exclusionary politics; multiple and competing centres of authority. I will quote some of the words by those who seek political power in this country, illustrating that we have reached a point where we need to make a national decision as to whether the use of incendiary, threatening and abusive language that actually threatens the existential survival of this state should be used and accepted as a defining principle for attaining political power in this country.

In Ghana therefore, based on the work we have done, the violent manner in which the political undercurrents are given expression, particularly by the political class and their supporters during elections periods has become a matter of concern. For example, the incessant direct clashes between local party supporters, burning and looting of property, seizures of ballot boxes by ‘macho men’ and unemployed youth, we argue, constitutes a formidable threat to the growth and consolidation of democracy in this country.

The challenge, however, is to ensure that the rhetoric of peace is couched and supported by the actions of our political class. The book also makes this clear point. There are four key ways in which our political leaders communicate:

- [First,] a communication to the outside world that is mellifluous and creates an impression that they abide by and will accept the norms inherent in the political discourse of democracy;
- There is a second that goes to the people in this country, the electorate, that “we want peace that we support peace;”
- There is a third that comes through the body language that “I am telling you that this is for peace but I will be able and prepared to accept that you use very violent means;” and
- The fourth, that the book argues and the most disturbing are the things that are left unsaid by those who lead, creating a vacuum that allows political supporters and ‘macho men’ to behave in ways that are contrary to the stated and written words.

This book contains 10 chapters. We start by arguing in very broad strokes and presenting what we term as “the dynamic threats prevailing in Ghana’s democratic processes.” It highlights the anomaly of Ghana’s democracy and it raises fundamental issues and questions that set the stage for the more detailed studies that we see.

In chapter two the authors examine the nexus between electoral violence and its multiple indications for the processes of democratic consolidation in Ghana. The authors argue that democratic consolidation in Ghana is going to be difficult; that we like to tell ourselves about how well we are doing; and we like to compare ourselves to ‘x’ or ‘y’ country. But the authors make this clear point that because by 1957 Ghana was a forerunner for democratic growth and democratic gains; comparing ourselves to considerably poorer states that started their independence journey much poorer than Ghana with less educated people does not help in consolidating the democracy in this country. Thus, we need to raise the bar considerably higher.

The third chapter looks at the use of populace rhetoric and populism in Ghana’s democracy and argues that throughout our history every single electoral process has seen the use and abuse of populist behaviour; first to retain power and second to gain power and subsequently to retain it. The argument here is that populism and populist rhetoric has actually been part of Ghana’s political experience. The only difference in the Fourth Republic, however, is that it has assumed a disturbing dimension which could undermine the consolidation of democracy in Ghana.

My favourite chapter in this book is chapter four, which discusses the surging use and unguarded abuse of certain statements in Ghanaian politics particularly as we move towards elections 2012. Using a range of primary and secondary data with its insights from securitisation theory, these two young authors, assess the security implications of such language for the conduct of elections in this country. They identify four main political actors:

1. Elected political officers;
2. The leading members of the parties themselves;
3. The media; and

4. The panellists or the discussants and what they term, the serial callers.

The book does not make for comfortable reading. Nevertheless, I would like to quote Professor Arthur Maverick- “Not to know what happen before you is to forever remain a child”. Our intention with this book is to shock ourselves that this is the reality of our political discourse and those who want to govern.

We also discuss in the book issues of inter and intra-party conflicts within the broader context of democratic consolidation.

Furthermore, we interrogate the relationship between politics and the politics of patronage and electoral violence in Ghana—“I will do this” “Vote for me and I will do this for you”—what it does is that our political leaders create a ground swell of expected goods and services that they will have to deliver when they win. The unfortunate thing is that those goods and services are not for them to deliver and distribute as they see fit. Consequently, the youth who have been encouraged, recruited and incited to performing particular functions, decide to take the political classes on. The argument in that chapter is that there is a deliberate conflict between resource monopolisation, its skewed distribution, and the outright deprivation, which is the mark of patronage politics.

The subsequent chapter also travels back to the issue of abusive language. Here the author focuses most clearly on what he terms as the “media malaise and the political efficacy of our political class.” The author argues that the use of degrading languages in the media creates a weak basis of which we as Ghanaians continue to praise ourselves as the lovers of democracy and as the beacon of hope.

Chapter eight discusses the nexus between election observation and the prevention of election-related violence. Here the author makes an argument that the rhetoric of observation is good but the reality on the ground leaves much to be desired.

Without looking at some of the challenges through the gender lens, when you look at that particular chapter, I dare to say with deep respect that we need to bow our heads in shame. The language that we use about our mothers, our sisters, our wives and our daughters is terribly disgraceful. And I think the author takes time to show some of the structural violence that is meted out to women.

The final chapter deals with the issue of youth, those who are encouraged and who allow themselves to be encouraged to threaten all of us.

Quotations of some of the words used by our political class in chapter four include but not limited to:

- “If you beat someone, I beg you beat him well well;”
- “Ghana will not be like Kenya, Ghana will be like Rwanda;”
- “We want peace, nobody wants to fight in this country but an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth;”
- “This time, we will not sit down to be cheated or to be intimidated. If they hit one, we will hit three;”
and
- “We will win Election 2012 by hook or by crook.”

There are particularly very dangerous ethnic superlatives that I do not want to site on air.¹¹ The sum total of these 75 statements which we compiled six months ago depicts a very dangerous terrain.

This book will excite, it will titillate, it will annoy and it will certainly cause controversy but that is the business in which we are; this is an academic institution. More importantly, everything has been documented and footnoted in detail so that those who want to challenge, actually will open themselves up to further challenges. Our hope is that as we looked in the mirror, and promised ourselves to turn this country into a Rwanda; we will be shocked into saying “Did we really say that?” “Do we really mean that?” “What can we do to prevent ourselves from reaching that tipping point?”

Finally, this book must create a realisation that there is nowhere for us to go apart from the deep blue sea. That for those of us who have been refugees before, being a lone person in somebody’s country is one of the most terrible things any human being can experience. That is the rationale behind this book and I wish you happy reading.

¹¹ The first two hours of the Colloquium were broadcast live on Joy FM with the support of Meprolim Ghana Limited and CONSAR Ghana Limited.

Contributions, Questions and Answers Section¹²

1. A question was asked on the 2008 security architecture; what were the weaknesses and why was the Electoral Commission now being asked to provide direction/lead on security matters?

Responses centred on the leadership role of the National Electoral Commission during the elections period. The National Security Coordinator re-iterated his position that the National Electoral Commission should provide direction in security matters related to elections during the elections period. The challenge of the security architecture at both regional and district levels during the election period, was explained as the leadership of those security councils at both levels being elected officials. Those officials would be standing for elections and there could be a conflict of interest during the elections period.

The Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission believed that those in charge of security had better expertise to handle [security situations] than Electoral Commission officers [at the regional and district levels]. The Commission would, however, provide the National Elections Security Task Force with the necessary information to function [effectively] such as [electoral] rules and regulations and [the location of] flashpoints. The Commission was thinking about [the proposal of directing security during the election period].

2. A question was asked regarding professionalism in enforcing security and if the security architecture for the elections could provide assurance that security decisions were not political ones. The example provided was the selective nature of border closure during the 2008 elections.

The National Security Coordinator pointed out that decisions made by the National Security Council were for the security of the country. The Representative of the National Elections Security Task Force added that [the police/National Elections Security Task Force] were professional but required public support [to do their work]. He made a request for publicity for people to know the ground rules [with respect to elections]. Thus, the Chair was a call for the media to propagate the ground rules [in support of peaceful elections].

3. A question was asked on legal actions being taken against the 6000 double registrants and the identification of security operatives on Election Day.

The Deputy Chairman re-iterated that there were three lists [with regard to voter identification]:

- a. The list of legal registrants;
- b. The exception list—those whose registration were recorded at odd times; and
- c. The double registration list.

The plan would be to expunge the names of illegal registrants from the voters' register. However, this action would need to include the political parties. In the meantime, the law was being allowed to take its course.

Nonetheless, the Representative of the Ghana Police Service highlighted that the double registration problem/disqualification of some persons from voting would pose a security challenge on Election Day if the names were not published in advance. [At the plenary, it was recommended to the Electoral Commission that the names of the 6000 irregular registrants could be published on the

¹² Some questions and answers have been summarised; providing the main themes discussed.

Electoral Commission's website. Furthermore, while the high cost of publishing the information of irregular and possibly disqualified registrants in the newspapers was appreciated, it was recommended to the Electoral Commission to review its decision not to publish as it would prove a small price to pay with respect to the security of the country].

The Chair also recommended prosecution of persons on the list[s of irregular registrants] as disqualification without judicial oversight could create more problems.

Regarding personnel at polling stations on Election Day, the Representative of the Ghana Police Service provided that the personnel were election officer[s], party agent[s], security personnel and voter[s]. Voters were expected to leave once they had finished casting their votes.

4. There was a question regarding the sale of the publication *Managing Election-Related Violence for Democratic Stability in Ghana* It was recommended that alcohol should not be sold at all [during the elections period].

The Director of Academic Affairs and Research at KAIPTC shared that the book would be distributed at the end of the Colloquium to all participants for free.

Regarding a ban on the sale of alcohol, the decision was said to be that of the National Electoral Commission. The Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission explained that according to electoral law, alcohol could not be sold 500 metres or less of a polling station. If an intoxicated person disrupted the voting process, the person would face the law.

The representative of the National Elections Security Task Force added that the issue of alcohol was included in public education [by the National Elections Security Task Force]. It would have to be the decision of alcohol vendors not to sell alcohol during elections. There would be logistical challenges to enforce a ban on alcohol.

5. A question was asked regarding the solution put in place for those who had double registered, especially the underage registrants, and what would happen on the Election Day if those persons were identified and challenged?

The representative of the National Elections Security Task Force emphasised that the role of security personnel was not to challenge [voters] but to provide security for electoral officers, voters and the general public. However, party agents and the general public [would be able to identify eligible voters and to challenge ineligible persons]. In addition, Non-Governmental Organisations, monitors and all should know the ground rules which would aid enforcement of those rules.

6. A question was asked regarding the alternatives for electricity such as rechargeable lamps, as the country was experiencing load shedding [power cuts] and there was an experience of deficiencies in that regard during the previous elections.

The Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission pointed out that there was a Research Department in the Commission, which reported on the [electoral] system. [Thus] analysis was made on the Commission's strengths and weaknesses and the reports were factored into the Commission's plan. The Commission had already procured rechargeable lamps that were more durable than those of earlier election[s]. The Commission was also said to have a very good monitoring system.

7. There were some concerns raised regarding ‘macho men’ if they were participants at the Colloquium or listening to the proceedings live on radio and what should be done if any of those men were to pick up a ballot box [to take it away] on Election Day.

The representative of the National Security Task Force thought it was good for the ‘macho men’ to have the information provided. Nevertheless, if the ‘macho men’ [were to come to the polling stations,] they would be arrested. An appeal was also made for persons not to ride motorcycles to the polling stations.¹³

8. A question was asked regarding expeditious trials of electoral offences. The problem raised was of some trials in Ghana taken over four years.

The Chairperson assured participants that the judiciary was working hard on that issue and had put together a manual on election disputes. The judiciary was also making sure that such matters would be dealt with expeditiously. [Special] courts [for this purpose] had also been set-up.

The Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission confirmed the Chairperson’s intervention.

9. A concern was raised regarding the lack of mention of women as a special group [at the Colloquium]. This continued with a question on whether women candidates would be provided with special security [during the elections]. There was also a request for [the National Security Task Force] to educate candidates especially female candidates on the [electoral] ground rules and other information as political parties concentrate on campaign and winning strategies.

The National Security Coordinator explained that there was more of a push towards gender equality thus the gender theme was getting lost.

The representative of the National Security Task Force added that if [any candidate] had security concerns or problems, this should be communicated to the [relevant] security coordinator. Regarding security consciousness, the electoral law should be read and the [political parties] Code of Conduct was to serve as a guide.

10. There was another concern raised on the issue of lights during the elections. In this instance, it was regarding if voting continued beyond six in the evening [due to long queues]. A problem occurred during the 2008 elections and a report was made regarding problems of lighting when the queues extended beyond the election time. This was followed by a question regarding preparations for rainfall [during the elections].

The National Security Coordinator pointed out that rains did not normally fall [during the elections period—December]. [Regarding the problem of lighting if queues extended at polling stations beyond six in the evening], the Coordinator reiterated his call for the National Electoral Commission to lead

¹³ At plenary, the issue of ‘macho men’ was expanded. It was stated that political parties had adopted a Code of Conduct which provided that they would refrain from using ‘macho men.’ Furthermore, there was assurance that security would be provided for all flag bearers thus negating the need to bring ‘macho men’ to polling stations. There was also a call for civil society to impress [on political parties] to play by the rules of the game.

[the security aspects of the elections as well] as the Commission should be receiving reports from all commanders of issues faced.

There could be no assurance that there would be no blockages in the system. There was a request that logistics be available and that the Electricity Company of Ghana ensure that there were no power cuts [during the elections period].

11. A concern was raised that while there was representation [at the high table] from research and security [institutions], there was none from the Ghana Media Commission to share what [the Commission] would do to ensure peace and security during the elections. This was followed with another concern that only the Director of Academic Affairs and Research at KAIPTC [among all the speakers] mentioned the gender imbalances in ensuring elections in conflict, peace and security.

The Director of Academic Affairs and Research assured participants that cognisance had been taken of lapses [with respect to the Colloquium]. The Director also raised that there was a problem in the way the media reported issues. There had already been a case of the National Security Coordinator earlier address at the Colloquium being misquoted as stating that the heads of the Regional Security Councils and District Security Council should be removed.¹⁴ The Director explained that the persons who chaired those boards were [also candidates for elections] and thus a procedure was needed. Furthermore, [a similar] recommendation [to that made in the National Security Coordinator's address] was also made by a constitutional review [meeting] earlier at KAIPTC.

12. A question was asked regarding free and fair elections; what would happen to [a] particular voting station if votes cast happened to be more than registered voters [at that station].

The Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission emphasised the need for vigilance and if that problem occurred, an investigation into the polling station would be made. The results for that area could be cancelled but before that [action would be taken], a case would be considered on its own merit. [This type of situation] highlighted the importance of [political parties sending an agent to the polling station and the necessity of choosing a loyal, trainable, arithmetically literate and committed agent—one who would be willing to sit at a polling station] from seven in the morning to past midnight. [With regard to the long hours the polling agent may be required to spend at the polling station], the Deputy Chairman advised that [meals be provided for such agents at the polling stations as they had been cases where] agents had been left alone [and thus, left the stations] to find something to eat.

13. The final concern raised regarded measures put in place to ensure that all Ghanaian students would be given an opportunity to vote. This took into consideration that in September, students had enrolled in universities, [which could be in a different region from the one in which they were resident and had registered to vote]. Furthermore, on 7 December [2012, Election Day] students would still be in university.

Deputy Chairman of the National Electoral Commission shared that under CI 75, [the legal instrument] that governs the conduct of elections, students which were in school could use the transfer of vote's facility. This provision had already been announced by the Commission. The current

¹⁴ There had already been a misrepresentation made on the earlier address of the National Security Coordinator at the Colloquium on radio.

law provided that applications [for the transfer of votes] were to be made 42 days before elections. [The current law] had increased the days from 21 to be captured into the verification list. The [application] for the transfer needed to be done individually at the constituency office [such as the one in Legon]. The Deputy Chairman requested that students and the media should [pass on the information that transfer of votes were being made at that time].

The representative of the National Security Task Force warned that [student voting] could be a recipe for violence. [Thus], the National Union of Ghana Students should engage the National Electoral Commission to discuss the issue of the 42 day [period for the transfer of votes].

SECTION THREE: GROUP WORK ON ENSURING PEACEFUL ELECTIONS

Guaranteeing Security of the Election in Ghana on 7 December 2012

Chair: Major General (rtd) Nii Carl Coleman, Civic Forum Initiative

Coordinator: Mr. Ernest Ansah Lartey, Conflict and Security Programme,

Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Introduction

The police is mandated to provide internal security in the country. This is inclusive of ensuring public safety and security during electoral processes. However, due to lack of adequate police personnel to fulfil this mandate, other security agencies such as immigration, prisons, fire service and the military are often called upon to support the police in administering security during elections. The [National] Elections Security Task Force, often an ad hoc body and headed by the police command, is viewed as the security architecture in the country that allows enough security presence to guarantee safety and protection of all persons, including electoral materials and public installations.

One of the critical tasks performed by the security officer is to take ‘all necessary measures to prevent violence before, during and after the elections.’ But previous elections have been characterized by pockets of violence, and the police are often accused of displaying bias in their dealings with electoral offences leading to these reported violence. While it may not be in the purview of the police to prosecute electoral offences (as such matters are often dispensed off at the level of the Attorney Generals Department), the posture of the police, displaying readiness to prevent and counteract all forms of electoral violence may signal to the public a direct responsibility of the police and Attorney General’s Department to remain neutral in all electoral offences and prosecutions.

Syndicate One’s discussions focused on the composition, and the role of the elections security architecture with the view of highlighting the challenges and recommending the way forward in guaranteeing security and safety of the December 2012 elections. The following key areas were used to guide the discussions:

- Who provides the strategic leadership direction and oversight of the [National] Elections Security Task Force? Should it be the Inspector General of Police, the Police Council, Ministry of Interior, or the Electoral Commission? In essence, how independent is the [National] Elections Security Task Force from political interference and also interferences from political parties? How does the National Security Council arrangement function and operate vis-à-vis the [National] Elections Security Task Force?
- How is the Task Force prepared to deal with unauthorized persons such as ‘macho men’ and party thugs who may be seeking to disturb the smooth operations of the security system and the electoral process without raising human rights concerns during the elections?
- Are all ‘flashpoints’, ‘hot spots’ and ‘trouble spots’ identified and earmarked for adequate security deployments? While ensuring that security is beefed up in known flashpoints and political party

'strongholds', heavy security presence may also serve as intimidating factor which could prevent voters from coming out to exercising their franchise.

- What attempts are being made by the Task Force to retrieve and reduce the circulation of illicit fire arms in conflict-prone areas and the civilian population at large?
- How does the Task Force intend to manage security at the key border points (namely eastern, northern and western corridors) such that registered Ghanaian voters are allowed free passage across the borders to cast their ballot without any inhibitions? Similarly, what security arrangements will be put in place to prevent foreign nationals, especially from neighbouring countries who may attempt to participate in the elections?

Summary of Discussions

The Chairman of the National Electoral Commission was recognised as the official to provide strategic leadership direction and oversight of the National Elections Task Force. The reasons provided were:

- The Electoral Commission had a constitutional mandate to run elections. Thus, the syndicate group pointed out that the security of elections was part of the running of elections.
- The Commission's structure permeated districts;
- The Chair of the Commission was recognised as a neutral figure. As the Chair was nominated but his/her tenure transcended governments. Thus, he/she enjoyed security of tenure of office.
- The Chair did not respond to the Executive or any other institution.

The Syndicate Group advised that the structure and roles of the National Security Task Force should be well communicated. There was also a suggestion that the Inspector General of Police should take strategic instructions for the National Electoral Commission, which would filter down the [National Security Task Force]. Furthermore, there was a call for a directive for the District Security Councils and the Regional Security Councils to allow for elections security to be covered by the National Elections Security Task Force for a timeline determined by the National Electoral Commission.

Regarding independence of the institutions, the Syndicate Group recognised the National Electoral Commission and the National Security Task Force as being independent.

The National Security Task Force had undertaken/were undertaking different preparatory exercises to deal with security issues during elections, including:

- The setting-up of an operational Committee to deal with the issues [raised in the question]. This committee had/was considering scenarios and contingencies related to election security;
- Standby SWAT [Special Weapons and Tactics] teams had been put in place and were ready to be activated to deal with situations when they arose; and
- A communication plan had also been developed which included the necessary logistics and personnel.

There were suggestions provided as follows:

- Education of the public [on elections ground rules] should be beefed up via radio as a deterrence;

- Police should come out rules of engagement for all security personnel; and
- There should be adequate and good communication between the National Electoral Commission presiding officer [at the polling station], the patrols and political party officials [to ensure security]. The hotline 1911 [should be used for reporting security challenges].

There were also discussions on the security of ballot boxes at polling stations. It was shared that the police at polling stations would be unarmed but the patrol team would be armed. It was discussed that a ballot box was not just stolen but when [problems which could lead to the stealing of a ballot box] would arise, a patrol team would be called in. The patrol team's reaction time was three minutes.

It was advised that:

- [Security services] should be doubly alert during the end of voting as that was when ballot snatching would occur; and
- People should be prevented from using motorbikes [near polling stations].

The difficulty of stealing a ballot box was also discussed as the box was usually isolated in the middle [of the polling station; however, people surrounded the area of the polling station].

With respect to the identification of flashpoints and hotspots, it was shared that there were hotspots identified for/during the 2008 elections. Others were still being identified and security would be beefed up in those areas. It was recommended that what was needed was good intelligence and quick reaction by patrol teams to ensure hotspots were quickly covered.

With regard to actions to control illicit small arms, it was explained that the Ghana Police Service was responsible for issues of small arms not the National Elections Security Task Force. The police were working on Operation Dragnet which involved all regional commanders and organised swoops, snap road checks and barrier searches. The problem was that the police were not getting the needed intelligence. Thus, there was a need for intelligence gathering and education [of the public].

Regarding ammunition in homes or hidden ammunition, it was shared that the law only requested for permits. The problem was with 'illicit' small arms. It was explained that all locally manufactured small arms were regarded as 'illicit'.

With respect to traditional arms in Chiefs' houses, those arms were for musketeering and were less dangerous as gun powder was used not live ammunition. Nonetheless, the police did have a list of arms in Chiefs' houses.

Regarding border security, it was explained that arrangements had been made with neighbouring countries [regarding border security but this also depended on what the other country would want to happen at the borders with respect to security during Ghana's elections].

It was suggested that:

- Voters should be at the right side of the border way ahead of time to vote as borders could be closed;
- The National Security Task Force would need to make its plans clear [regarding border closure] and have those plans [announced] one or two weeks in advance of the possible action;
- Any decision on border closure should be universal; and
- Any decision to close the border or otherwise should be based on good intelligence and made public well ahead of time.

Regarding illegal entry points into the country, persons using those entries could be stopped and the infiltration of foreign nationals into the voting process had been minimised via the move to the biometric voting.

Recommendations

Following discussions, the Syndicate Group decided on the following recommendations to be included in the Communiqué:

- We call on the [National] Electoral Commission to assume its constitutionally mandated role to run elections which includes security, by providing strategic leadership and oversight of the National Elections Security Task Force.
- With respect to border management, we call on National Security [Council] that should there be a need for the closure of borders, it should be universal and public notified ahead of time (possibly two weeks in advance).
- We call for massive public education on issues related to election security for collective responsibility of security and minimise pressure on the security services.

Adjudicating Electoral Disputes during Presidential and Parliamentary Elections
*Chair: Dr Linda Darkwa, Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD),
University of Ghana*
*Coordinator: Dr Nicholas Okai, International Institutions Programme,
Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre*

Introduction

Fair adjudication of electoral disputes adds to the credibility of the electoral process and the genuine acceptance of the electoral outcomes by all parties. Disputes which may be referred to the courts for adjudication may include electoral offences such as multiple voting, frauds, and general security breaches such as mounting check points and road blocks by unauthorized persons. The high stakes in the elections may require that electoral disputes are adjudicated expeditiously. But this may be affected by the usually slow nature in tendering evidence to support successful prosecution at the courts. Judgments in these election-related cases are often politicized, creating a public perception that casts some doubts over the independence of the judicial system from political interference.

Syndicate two was tasked to focus on electoral disputes adjudication in Ghana. Specifically the following areas were expected to be the guide for their discussion:

- Are there adequate provisions for the fair election dispute adjudication in Ghana?;
- Are the existing mechanisms sufficient?; and
- What are the challenges for expeditious election disputes adjudication and resolution.

Summary of Discussions

It became evident in the group discussion that mechanisms exist in Ghana to address and manage election related disputes however, these mechanism have serious limitations that needs to be addressed. It is not all election related offences are criminal in nature. Some of these offences are purely civil. The structures that exist in managing election disputes could be formal and informal. Key among the formal structure includes the judiciary, Alternative resolution mechanism (ADR) system, the use of challenge forms and the security agencies. Informal structures comprise the National Peace Council, Religious Leaders, Traditional Authorities and Community Leaders. However the greatest challenge has to do with lack of knowledge of the very presence of these mechanisms. Furthermore, the lack of understanding on the part of the citizenry and even the security agencies on how to negotiate the legal formal system in adjudicating electoral disputes has led to violence and conflict situations.

When it comes to adjudicating electoral dispute offences in Ghana, the judiciary and the security agencies has the primary responsibility of handling especially all criminal cases linked to election disputes. Once a report is made to the police (which is the lead security institution in charge of election) an investigation process starts. The law explicitly states that once investigations are concluded, the docket should be forwarded to the Attorney General's (AG) office to initiate prosecution. The judiciary in order to facilitate the adjudication of election related cases has established electoral courts to facilitate the handling of election cases. The fundamental challenge with the process is that the police have the power to arrest, investigate and process documents for the court but they do not have the capacity to prosecute cases on their own. The AGs office has the capacity to prosecute but the gap within the process is when they have to decide which of the cases to prosecute. However the power of arrest does not only lie with the police or the security agencies

but the citizenry can also arrest any individual that commits election related offence and then hand him over to the police. Key to the power to arrest is that the police can arrest on suspicion but the citizenry can only arrest when the crime has actually been committed.

Sources of Election Disputes were enumerated as:

- Political Parties;
- Party agents at polling centres;
- The National Electoral Commission; and
- Security Agencies.

In addressing the issue of the existence of sufficient mechanism in addressing election disputes the group identified the lack of coordination between the electoral commission officers at the polling station and the security detail tasked to ensure security at the polling station. For instance, during the 2008 presidential and parliamentary elections, the security agencies did not show any commitment in handling electoral disputes especially the disputes that emanated from the strong holds of the two major political parties. Regardless of the coordination it was also identified that the security agencies lack the capacity to adequately support the electoral commission from doing its work.

Reasons why these existing mechanisms were inadequate were stated as follows:

- Basic lack of awareness of the existing mechanisms and structures;
- Basic lack of trust of the system;
- Delays in securing judgment for election related cases; and
- Lack of confidence in the judiciary.

The operational challenges included:

- The majority of police prosecutors were not lawyers as such they were unable to secure convictions for election related cases especially because they are very technical;
- Prosecutors did not follow-up on election-related cases particularly when results were declared; and
- Political Interference.

Suggestions from the Syndicate Group included:

- Enhance the capacity of the subcommittee on Legal, Intelligence, Investigation and Prosecution of the Election Security Task Force to undertake investigations of complaints on electoral disputes to facilitate and expedite prosecution by the Attorney General's office;
- The Electoral Commission must intensify public education (formal and informal) to enhance awareness on the current legal and policy provisions and mechanisms for adjudicating electoral disputes(Immediate term);
- Develop policy framework to enhance collaboration among Constitutional bodies such as the NCCE, ISD and the EC to ensure judicious use of resources for public education on matters relating to elections (Mid-term); and
- Enhance the capacity of the Attorney General's Office and the Judiciary to enable it expedite action on election disputes (within a maximum time limit of one year).

Political Parties Vigilance and Engagement with Security Agencies during Elections
Chair: Brigadier General (rtd) F.A. Agyemfra, Institute of Economic Affairs
Coordinator: Ms Margaret Alexander Rehoboth, Training Department,
Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Introduction

Although ensuring security during elections is a shared responsibility involving all stakeholders in the electoral process, it is the primary responsibility of the security agencies. Specifically, it is the role of the security agencies to maintain law and public order, protect life and property and to deal professionally and firmly with any breaches of the peace and code of conduct before, during and after the elections. However, over the years, political parties have resorted to the use of 'vigilante' groups during electioneering periods to prosecute their own parochial agendas under the guise of providing their own security. These vigilante groups have consisted mostly of bulky and well-muscled men known as 'macho men', 'party foot soldiers', polling station agents, members of keep fit or fun clubs and the youth mainly those who are unemployed. The activities of these groups have very often included protecting aspiring candidates and so called ballot boxes, and preventing under-aged voting or registration as well as double-voting by their political opponents. But more critically, there have been occasions where these groups have been used to intimidate voters and sometimes even disenfranchising voters, mounting road blocks to prevent perceived political opponents from their electoral areas, stealing ballot boxes just to mention a few. These activities have often resulted in violent confrontations between political parties sometimes leading to the destruction of properties worth millions of Ghana Cedis, injuries and deaths. The most disturbing aspect is that most perpetrators of these acts go unpunished, with persons suspected of involvement arrested and released almost immediately without being put through the judicial process.

- Syndicate Group four focused on the activities of political party vigilante groups and how they undermine the electoral process. The group was to also recommend the way forward on how security agencies could engage them to ensure violent free elections. The following key areas were used to guide the discussions: What does political party vigilance entail?;
- What roles do vigilante groups play during election period?;
- How does the activity of political party vigilante groups undermine the electoral process?;
- Is it really necessary for political parties to use vigilante groups under the guise of providing their own security when it is the role of the security agencies?; and
- How can the security agencies manage the activities of political party vigilante groups to prevent violence during the December 2012 polls?

The subsequent section provides a summary of the group's discussions and recommendations to be factored into the final communiqués of the colloquium.

Summary of Discussions

The group noted that political party vigilance involves the use of individuals during the electoral process to protect the interest of parties and more importantly to ensure that the process is free, fair and transparent in order to prevent any suspicion of manipulation, interferences or fraud which can mar the electoral outcomes. In Ghana, apart from accredited polling station agents by the electoral commission, there are various vigilante groups who have been identified with the various political parties, especially the two major parties, the National Democratic Congress (NDC) and the New Patriotic Party (NPP). Examples of such groups include the Azorka boys, Kandahar Boys, Bamba Boys just to mention but a few. Their activities vary before, during and after the elections. But most significantly, vigilante groups serve as watchdogs over the electoral process and sometimes act under the guise of providing security for their party candidates as well as protecting ballot boxes from being snatched from political opponents at the polling stations. However, the group maintained that the consequences of their activities are mixed with both positive and negative elements. On the positive side for example, polling station agents who are accredited by the Electoral Commission are stationed at the polling centres during voting day to ensure that the process is free, fair and transparent. This kind of vigilantism produces very positive results because it prevents issues of suspicion and moreover, helps in the acceptance of electoral outcomes by all stakeholders. But on the other hand, party vigilance in the form of using “*macho men*” and *party thugs* to intimidate, harass, manipulate and disenfranchise voters during the electoral process is negative and this was what the group was mainly concerned about. Thus, using vigilante groups to disrupt the electoral process undermines the credibility of electoral outcomes and cast a slur on the entire process. It is important that such groups are disbanded to ensure a violence free election. The group also opined that Security Forces led by the police are the only agencies mandated by the Constitution to maintain law and public order during elections and no other group including vigilante groups have the legal right to provide election security. Therefore, it is not necessary for political parties to have such groups as they only undermine the electoral process through their activities.

Recommendations

Against this backdrop, the following recommendations were made with specific emphasis on the fifth discussion point/question:

- Declare political party’s vigilante groups illegal and offenders must be swiftly dealt with irrespective of their political affiliation.
- The political parties and the public should be educated on the illegality of the activities of political party vigilante groups.
- The political parties should be made to conform to the relevant provisions of the political party code of conduct that deals with the use of vigilante groups which they themselves have signed on to and perpetrators should be named and shamed.

Introduction

The role of the media in elections is very critical to ensuring peaceful elections in Ghana, Africa and the world. Although the media has played some positive roles to ensure the five successful elections Ghana has enjoyed under the fourth republic, there are still several challenges with media reportage during elections in Ghana. Partisan reporting, poor accreditation, wrong dissemination of polling results, counter accusations among politically affiliated media, among others are some of the challenges with the media resulting in possible violence and tensions before during and after elections. For example, in the 2008 elections two radio stations with close association with two main political parties National Democratic Congress (NDC) and the New Patriotic Party (NPP) were active in attempted tensions and violence through the spread of false allegations of cross attacks in the respective strongholds of the parties. These challenges, if persist may lead to electoral violence especially in the upcoming December 2012 elections. In lieu of this, it is important for new strategies and mechanisms to improve positive media role before, during and after election.

Thus, to develop practical strategies to enhance media accountability and security in elections 2012, the discussions of Syndicate Group Three were centred on four key points:

- The role of the media in elections;
- Managing media reportage during the electioneering process;
- Establishing and enforcing the legal framework to deal with free-riders; and
- Recommending ways of ensuring media accountability for elections in Ghana

Summary of Discussions

For over 20 years, Ghana has had five successful elections under its fourth republic which have gained the country notoriety as a beacon of democracy in Africa. Despite these successes, it is well reported that in all these five elections, there were notable pockets of violence and tensions, although on a small scale. The media, the group identified, as one of the main actors of election-related violence in Ghana. Throughout the discussion, it was evidenced that although the Ghanaian media has improved over the years, they still breach electoral regulations during elections which consequently lead to violence. The group further identified that

in the 2008 elections, while some media played positive roles such as informing the general public on the rights and responsibilities during elections and educating them on the electoral regulations, others did not follow approved accreditation procedures, were partisan in their reportage, gave false polling results as well as made false accusations of tensions in political party strongholds that stoked up violence. It was indicated that the private media are often the violators of electoral regulations and perpetrators of negative media practices during elections as compared to the state-owned media. This is because the former are easily manipulated and paid by political parties to propagate their bidding.

Additionally, the budding phenomenon of serial callers in Ghana's political economy also remains a critical concern for peaceful elections in Ghana. Serial callers are individuals who campaign on behalf of political parties sometimes with the hope of getting favours when the party gets into or remain in power. To achieve their goal, these callers use defamatory and insulting languages against their opponents often heightening inter-party and electoral tensions. Unfortunately political parties manipulate these serial callers to their advantage and the two main opposing parties are reportedly the usual offenders. This phenomenon is increasing and it concomitant violence engendering due to lack of media screening and oversight over the language used by these serial callers.

Furthermore, the strong affiliation of some media houses and serial callers to political parties often makes them go unpunished for their offenses especially those associated with the ruling political party. Also, the lack mandatory recognition of media offences as crimes in the existing criminal code prevents offenders from being punished thus hampering media accountability.

Factors Affecting Media Effectiveness in Elections

The group identified the following as some of the factors affecting the effective role of the media in elections:

- Limited education and sensitization of the media on electoral regulations and media code of conduct;
- Increasing political influence on the media. create new media outlets for their political advantage;
- Lack of proper accreditation for the media to ensure accurate and factual reportage during elections. New media houses are often created during election year some of which are unaccredited by the National Electoral Commission to disseminate election-related information;
- Limited authority of the National Communication Authority to sanction the media when they break electoral laws and do not adhere to the media code of conduct;
- Lack of enforcement of sanctions for offenders;

- Lack of collaboration between the National Electoral Commission and judiciary to expedite prosecution of offenders;
- Lack of understanding of the media on the security implication of their actions;
- The disjoint roles of the National Media Commission (NMC) and National Communication Authority. This affects their ability to effectively monitor and supervise the media; and
- Lack of implementation of the political party code of conduct by political parties.

Recommendations

To enhance media accountability and security in election 2012, the following recommendations were made:

- Bring together all key stakeholders (the National Electoral Commission, Political Parties, National Media Commission, National Communications Authority, Judiciary, Security Agencies) should agree on and enforce ground rules for the media in elections 2012.
- The National Electoral Commission, National Media Commission and judiciary should collaborate to expedite prosecution of media houses and person who go contrary to the guidelines on coverage of elections.
- The National Media Commission should encourage its members to abide by and respect the media code of conduct.
- Media persons should strictly adhere to accreditation procedures by obtaining proper accreditation from the National Electoral Commission through the Ghana Journalist Association (GJA) during elections.
- National Media Commission should issue guideline to media houses to liaise with political parties at the constituencies to crosscheck the veracity of reports before publication; and
- Increase education and sensitization of the media on reportage during elections. This can be done through the organization of workshops and seminars by the National Electoral Commission.

The main points of discussion and recommendations of each Syndicate Group, were presented at plenary. In the days following the Colloquium, the recommendations were woven into a Communiqué¹⁵ that was released first to some decision-makers and then to the general public.

¹⁵ A copy of the Communiqué can be found in the Annex of this report.



Plenary: Chairperson for the Colloquium and most of the Syndicate Group Chairpersons

Left to Right: Major General (rtd) Nii Carl Coleman – Civic Forum Initiative, Professor Henrietta Mensah-Bonsu – Director Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD) University of Ghana and Chairperson for the Colloquium, Dr Linda Darkwa – LECIAD and Mr Mumuni Abudu Seidu – National Peace Council

SESSION FIVE: CLOSING CEREMONY

Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Professor Henrietta Mensah-Bonsu

Director, Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD), University of Ghana

Let me thank you all very much. We have had a very long day but the very succinct action that you have remained showed your commitment to this programme. This morning we received assurances of security from those who should know. We received some suggestions for the Elections Security Task Force which are on the table, and are being discussed. I suspect that those ideas will be fine-tuned so that when they are adopted there will be no security issues during the 2012 elections.

We have been made to know that we the people are at the frontline of electoral security. So we should participate, should show an interest, encourage the public to show interest and make sure that we all have an event-free election. We have been told also of the multiple attempted voters and multiple registrants. Although their prosecution was touched on, it would have been good to hear from Electoral Commission officials and their representatives about the prosecutions and sanctions for such culprits since it is in their jurisdiction [their own officials]. It is important for people to know that when they are entrusted with responsibility, they should guard it well.

There were also discussions on the need for a more comprehensive code of electoral offences. Perhaps when this is over, we should as a people discuss this matter and devise a more comprehensive code so that we do not leave it to people's moral judgement.

Additionally, we have received assurances from the Electoral Commission that they will act and supply the police with historical documents or cases that have not seen the light of day for onward action. Perhaps we all need to do those things so that our democracy will move forward from strength to strength.

We have spent a useful day raising issues relating to the electoral system, the role of the police and Ghana Armed Forces in election 2012. We acknowledge that Electoral Commission is doing all it can to ensure a quiet election. The National Security [Coordinator] assures us that the [National Security Council is] thinking outside the box. Whatever they do and whatever we all do, I believe we should have an eye that the Constitution is our guide. I will therefore commend all of you for your commitment, interest and ideas that you have put forward. We have got the points that you wish to be included in the final Communiqué. This will be polished and arranged accordingly so that when you see the publication in the newspaper you will feel a glow of pride that you were part of its formulation.

I think the essence of our day is that the elections will be about all of us and we are all security operatives as far as the election is concerned. If it is credible, if it is peaceful, if it produces a winner that everybody can live with, then we can all go about our business without worrying which of our boxes to grab first and carry.

On your behalf let me thank the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre sincerely for giving us the opportunity to have these deliberations. We hope there will be more opportunities to dialogue about matters of national interest in a controlled atmosphere so we can all get our worth that as stakeholders we have also made our contribution.

We thank you very much,

Colloquium Coordinator's Vote of Thanks
Colonel Emmanuel Kotia, Course Director and Academic Programmes Coordinator,
Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Colonel Emmanuel Kotia of Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre closed the Colloquium by thanking first the Chairperson and then all on behalf of the Commandant of Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.



Left to Right:

First Row: Air Vice Marshal Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo - Commandant KAIPTC

Second Row: Most Reverend Professor Emmanuel Asante - Chairman of the National Peace Council, Honourable Lieutenant General (rtd) John Henry Smith - Minister of Defence of the Republic of Ghana, and Lieutenant General Peter Augustine Blay - Chief of Defence Staff

Third Row: Brigadier General Benjamin Kusi - Deputy Commandant KAIPTC , Commissioner of Police Patrick Timbilla - Regional Commander Greater Accra Ghana Police Service, Professor Henrietta Mensa Bonsu – Director of the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy University of Ghana and Chairperson for the Colloquium, and Dr Kwesi Aning, Director Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research KAIPTC

Fourth Row: Mr. Amadu Sulley - Deputy Chairman (Finance and Administration) National Electoral Commission

ANNEX

COMMUNIQUÉ

ISSUED AT A

STAKEHOLDERS COLLOQUIUM ON “PRESERVING NATIONAL SECURITY IN ELECTIONS 2012 AND BEYOND” HELD AT THE KOFI ANNAN INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTRE (KAIPTC), ACCRA, GHANA ON 23 OCTOBER 2012

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

1. Preamble

On 23 October 2012, The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), held a 1-day stakeholders colloquium on the theme: “Preserving National Security in Elections 2012 and Beyond”.

The colloquium was attended by 104 participants representing 51 organizations. Representatives from the Government of Ghana, the Diplomatic Corps, the National House of Chiefs, the National Elections Security Task Force, National Electoral Commission (EC), National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), National Peace Council, Political Parties, Coalition of Civil Society Organisations, Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO) Academia, Think Tanks, the National Media Commission and the Media were also present.

The Colloquium was presided over by Prof. Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, Director, Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy, (LECIAD), University of Ghana, Legon.

2. Development of the Communiqué

The final communiqué was based on four key thematic areas as follows:

- a. Guaranteeing Election Security in Ghana on 7th December 2012;
- b. Adjudicating Electoral Disputes during Presidential and Parliamentary Elections;
- c. Media Accountability and Security in Elections 2012; and
- d. Political Party Vigilance and Engagement with the Security Services during Elections.

At the end of deliberations, the participants agreed on the following recommendations:

- 2.1 That the National Electoral Commission (EC) should provide strategic policy direction and leadership, and also assume oversight responsibility of security arrangements provided by the Elections Security Task Force during elections.

- 2.2 That the National Security Council should provide advance and adequate notice to the public about possible closure of borders (if need be) in order not to create any public perception of unfair treatment of people living in border communities; and also not to disenfranchise eligible voters.
- 2.3 That the National Electoral Commission (EC) and the National Elections Security Task Force should sensitize the general public about the security arrangements for the elections, especially providing adequate notices about restricted zones earmarked for orderly voting, counting and collation of ballots at designated centres.
- 2.4 That the National Electoral Commission (EC) should intensify public education (formal and informal) to enhance awareness on the current legal and policy provisions and mechanisms for adjudicating electoral disputes.
- 2.5 That there should be increased capacity of the sub-committee on legal, intelligence, investigation and prosecution of the National Election Security Task Force to undertake investigations of complaints and reports of electoral disputes and irregularities to facilitate and expedite prosecution by the Attorney General's Department.
- 2.6 That the capacity of the Attorney General's Department should be enhanced to enable it expedite action on and deal with election-related disputes (within a maximum time limit of one year).
- 2.7 That a policy framework should be developed to enhance collaboration among constitutional bodies such as the National Electoral Commission (EC) and National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), and other stakeholders such as the Information Services Department to ensure judicious use of resources for public education on matters relating to elections.
- 2.8 That the political parties should strictly observe the Political Parties Code of Conduct, and also adhere to stipulations in the Public Order Act, 1994 (Act 491) for orderly political campaigning and for any other public events after the elections.
- 2.9 That the media should strictly adhere to the media code of conduct for the elections, and also to exercise circumspection with their reportage.
- 2.10 That the National Media Commission should be strengthened to encourage its members to respect and adhere to the media code of conduct on elections.
- 2.11 That every Ghanaian should be aware that the security of the 2012 Elections is a collective responsibility.

Whereupon, we, the under listed Chairperson for the Colloquium and Chairpersons for the Syndicate Groups, set our hands to this Communiqué on the date below:

Done in Accra on 29 October, 2012

- 1) Prof. Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, Director, Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy, University of Ghana
- 2) Major General (rtd) Nii Carl Coleman, Civic Forum Initiative
- 3) Dr. Linda Darkwa, Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy
- 4) Brigadier General (rtd) F.A. Agyemfra, Institute of Economic Affairs
- 5) Mr. M.A. Seidu, National Peace Council
- 6) Mr. Amadu Sulley, Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration Electoral Commission and
- 7) COP Patrick Timbilla (National Election Security Task Force)

COLLOQUIUM PROGRAMME

COLLOQUIUM ON ENSURING PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN GHANA 23 OCTOBER, 2012 KAIPTC, TESHIE - ACCRA PROGRAMME

SNL	TIME	EVENT/ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	REMARKS
1.	0930 hrs	Opening Session		
2.		Arrival of Dignitaries	Ebenezer Anum-Tetteh	Auditorium
3.		Welcome Remarks by Commandant, KAIPTC	AVM CEK Dovlo	
4.		Opening Address by Chairman of the National Peace Council	Most Rev (Prof) Emmanuel Kweku Asante	
5.		Group Photograph	Ebenezer Anum-Tetteh	KAIPTC Forecourt
6.		Press Interviews	Ebenezer Anum-Tetteh	Multi-Purpose Training Facility
7.	1000 - 1030 hrs	Coffee Break		Forecourt of Admin Block
8.	1030 - 1300 hrs	First Session		
		a. Statement by National Security Coordinator	Lt Col Larry Gbevlo-Lartey (Rtd)	Chairperson to moderate
		b. Presentation on the "State of Readiness/Security Arrangements of the National Electoral Commission for Elections 2012"	Mr Ahmed Sulley, Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration, Electoral Commission	Chairperson to moderate
		c. Statement of the "State of Readiness of the National Election Taskforce for Election 2012"	Director of Operations (Ghana Police Service)/Director General of Joint Operations (Ghana Armed Forces)	Chairperson to moderate

		d. Presentation of Research Findings on Election-Related Violence in Ghana	Dr Kwesi Aning, Director, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research (FAAR)	Chairperson to moderate
9.	1300 - 1430 hrs	Lunch		Mess
10.	1430 hrs	Break-out Session	Ernest Ansah Lartey, Margaret Rehoboth, Susan Nelson, Dr Nicholas Okai	Conference Room 1, MPTE, Model House 2, Multi-media Conference Facility
11.	1600 - 1700hrs	Plenary/Communiqué		
12.	1700 hrs	Closing		
13.	1705 hrs	Refreshment		Forecourt of Admin Block

**COLLOQUIUM ON ENSURING PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN GHANA,
23 OCTOBER 2012**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

SRL	NAME	ORGANISATION
1	Hon. Lt (rtd) Henry Smith	Ministry of Defence
2	AVM Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)
3	Brig Gen Benjamin Kusi	KAIPTC
4	Dr. Kwesi Aning	KAIPTC
5	Prof. Henrietta Mensah-Bonsu	Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD), University of Ghana
6	Most Rev (Prof.) Emmanuel Kwaku Asante	National Peace Council
7	Mr. Amadu Sulley	National Electoral Commission
8	Lt Gen Peter Augustine Blay	Chief of Defence Staff
9	Lt Col (rtd) Larry Gbevlo-Lartey	National Security Taskforce
10	Ambassador Frederic Clavier	Embassy of France
11	Prof. Winston A Odzor	Department of ECOWS
12	Asst. Comm. S.Tetteh – Quarchie	Ghana Customs, Excise and Preventive Service
13	C/Supt. David Eklu	Ghana Police Service
14	C/Supt. Lydia Yaako Donkor	Ghana Police Service
15	C/Supt. Victor Ameseker	Ghana Police Service
16	ACFO. Samuel Nana Brenya	Ghana Fire Service
17	DSI. Micheal Asare – Bediako	Ghana Immigration Service
18	Hajj Abdallah Tetteh	Ghana Muslim Missionary
19	Supt. Isaac K. Abuaku – Ameyaw	Ghana Prisons Service
20	Supt. Sampson Gunu	Ghana Prisons Service
21	DCOP. Ken Yeboah	Ghana Police Service
22	Maulvi Dr. A. Wahab Adam	National Peace Council and Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission

23	Mr. Keith Ashong	British High Commission
24	ASP. Irene Oppong	Ghana Police Service
25	ASP Kwaku Dompseh	Ghana Police Service
26	Mr. Micheal Ohene – Effah	Department for International Development (DFID)
27	Ms. Afi Yakubu	Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA)
28	Mr. Samuel Yaw Antwi	Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council
29	Mr. Seidu Mumuni Abudu	National Peace Council
30	Ambassador Kabrah Blay – Amilae	National Media Commission
31	Dr. John Abbosey	Creative Aduamtase
32	Col. Kporku Nick Kwame	Ghana Armed Forces
33	Mr. Henry Attoh Okai	National Peace Council
34	Nana Susubiribi Krobea Asante	National Peace Council
35	Ms. Manaih Semadeh	Embassy of Switzerland
36	Brig Gen Issah Wuni	Ministry of Defence
37	Miss. Mathilda Fahrendorff	KAIPTC
38	Mr. Kofi Quantson	Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO)
39	Ms. Vernelle Trim	Embassy of the United States of America
40	Ms. Liana Lucke	Hanns Seidel Foundation
41	Mrs. Janet Amegatcher	Ghana Bar Association
42	Mr. Kwasi Boateng	Ghana Anti - Corruption Coalition
43	Mr. Nii - Ofori Quaye	BRII
44	Mr. Thomas Wimmer	Embassy of Germany
45	Mr. Emmanuel Bombande	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
46	Mrs. Vivian Bruce – Tetteh	United Nations Development Programme
47	Lt. (GN) PV Aatare	Ghana Armed Forces (NAVY)

48	Mr. E.O Akwetey	Institute for Democratic Governance (IDEG)
49	Sqn. Ltr GA Osei – Owusu	Ghana Air Force
50	Brigadier Gen. DK Mishio	Ghana Armed Forces
51	Ms. Bertha Desmennu	High Commission of Canada
52	Mr. Y. S. Kabiru	Nigerian High Commission
53	Brigadier Gen. F. A Agyemfra	Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)
54	Mr. Titilope Mamattah	West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)
55	Nii Kinka Domona	National House of Chiefs
56	Col. W.A Ayamde	CHQ (Camp)
57	COP Patrick Timbillah	Ghana Police Service
58	Supt. Sylvester Boyuo	Ghana Police Service
59	ACP Simon Afeku	Ghana Police Service
60	Nii Otokunor Sampah	National Peace Council
61	Rev. Emmanuel Ansah	Civic Forum Initiative
62	Ms. Nana Odoi	German Agency for International Cooperation (GiZ)
63	Mr. Ishmael Adjei Browne	National Peace Council
64	Ms. Sylvia Annoh	National Electoral Commission
65	Ms. Charlotte Osei	National Centre for Civic Education (NCCE)
66	Ms. Hayara Mohammed	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
67	Mr. Brack Sebastian	Kofi Annan Foundation
68	Col M. M Aryee	Ghana Armed Forces
69	Mr. Abel Mawuh	Amnesty International
70	Dr. Linda Darkwa	LECIAD
71	Mr. Kobina Annan	EU Delegation
72	Ms. Belinda Bulley	Progressive Peoples Party (PPP)

73	Mrs. Victoria Armah	Progressive Peoples Party (PPP)
74	Mr. William Dowokpor	Progressive Peoples Party (PPP)
75	Rev. Dr. Nii Amoo Darku	National Peace Council
76	Esq. Rachel Njasa	Ghana Bar Association
77	Maj Gen (rtd) N.C Coleman	Civic Forum Initiative
78	Mr. Kourad De Bortel	German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)
79	ACP Frank S. Kwofie	Ghana Police Service
80	Nene Abram K Akuaku III	National House of Chiefs
81	Supt. Michael Teku	Ghana Police Service
82	Mr. Andrews Kofi Gyan	National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS)
83	Ms. Teresa Testa	Embassy of Italy
84	Mr. Giorgio Fraticelli	Embassy of Italy
85	Madam Louisa Atta-Agyemang	National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS)
86	Comrade Mamshie Omar Bawa	Convention Peoples Party (CPP)
87	Dr. Thomas Jaye	KAIPTC
88	Col. Emmanuel Kotia	KAIPTC
89	Lt. Col. John Buntuguh	KAIPTC
90	Mrs. Levinia Addae-Mensah	KAIPTC
91	Ms. Horname Noagbesenu	KAIPTC
92	Mr. Ebenezer Anum-Tetteh	KAIPTC
93	Mr. Ernest Ansah Lartey	KAIPTC
94	Ms. Nana Bemma Nti	KAIPTC
95	Mrs. Susan Catherine Nelson	KAIPTC
96	Mrs. Lydia Hagan	KAIPTC
97	Ms. Margaret Alexander Rehoboth	KAIPTC

98	Ms. Evelyn Avoxe	KAIPTC
99	Ms. Ayesha Nkrumah	KAIPTC
100	Ms. Phebe Adu-Darko	KAIPTC
101	Mr. Fiifi Edu-Afful	KAIPTC
102	Mr. Festus Aubyn	KAIPTC
103	Mrs. Blessing Adejoh Ojone	KAIPTC
104	Ms. Nancy Annan	KAIPTC

PROFILES

Air Vice Marshal CEK Dovlo
Commandant/Executive Director, KAIPTC

Air Vice Marshall (AVM) Christian Edem Kobla Dovlo was born on 16th May, 1950. He attended Mawuli School, Ho in the Volta Region of Ghana from 1962 to 1969 for both his GCE Ordinary and Advanced Level Certificates and proceeded to the University of Ghana in 1969 from where he graduated in 1972 with a B.A. (Honours) Degree in Political Science.

AVM Dovlo was enlisted in the Ghana Military Academy, Teshie for Cadet Training on 15th November 1975 and commissioned into the Admin Branch of the Ghana Air Force.

AVM Dovlo has, since his enlistment, served at almost all the Bases and Stations of the Ghana Air Force as follows:

- a. Officer Commanding, Personnel Services Flight (Nov 75 – Jul 79).
- b. Officer Commanding, Personnel Squadron (Jan 79 – Apr 81)
- c. Personnel Staff Officer – Air Force Head Quarters (Apr 81 – Jul 84)
- c. Officer Commanding Admin Wing – Air Force Base, Accra (Aug 83 – Jul 84)
- d. Organization Staff Officer – Air Force Head Quarters (Jul 84 – Sept 84)
- e. Senior Personnel Staff Officer – Air Force Head Quarters (Sept 84 – Nov 88).
- f. Director of Administration – Air Force Headquarters (Dec 92 – Sept 99)

AVM CEK Dovlo was the Defence Advisor at the Ghana High Commission in New Delhi, India from Sept 1999 to Jul 2003. On his return to Ghana in 2003, AVM Dovlo served as the Air Secretary at the Air Force Head Quarters. He later became the Director for Resettlement at the General Headquarters of the Ghana Armed Forces till 2005. Until his present appointment as Commandant of the KAIPTC, AVM Dovlo was the Director General Personnel Administration at General Headquarters of the Ghana Armed Forces from June 2005 – May 2009.

The Commandant of the KAIPTC also worked with the UNIFIL HQ as an MIO from Nov 1988 to May 1989 and was Military Observer with UNPROFOR in the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from Dec 1993 to Dec 1994.

AVM Dovlo has undertaken a number of general and specialist courses as a distinguished soldier of the Ghana Armed Forces and these include:

- a. Ground Duty Officers Course (GDOC) – Air Force Academy, Hyderabad, India (Jul 77 – Jul 78)
- b. Junior Staff Course – GAFCS (Jan – Apr 1981).
- c. Senior Staff Course – GAFCS (Sept 85 – Aug 86)
- d. International Defence Management Course (DRMC), Monterey, California (Jan – Apr 1987)

AVM Dovlo is married to Beatrice (Aku) and they have four grown-up children. He loves to read (will read anything interesting), play golf and basketball and to socialize.

Dr. Kwesi Aning
Director, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, KAIPTC

Dr Emmanuel Kwesi Aning was born on 22nd April, 1962. He attended the University of Ghana and completed with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) Honors Degree in 1986. He proceeded to the University of Copenhagen, Denmark for a Master of Philosophy (Cand. Phil) in the 1990. He completed a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) at the same university in 1998.

Dr Aning has worked with a number of institutions prior to joining the KAIPTC and these have included:

- The Governance Unit, Institute of Economic Affairs, Accra, Ghana where he was Director from 15 July 2000 - 30 June 2001;
- African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia as an Expert on Common African Defence and Security Policy & Counter-terrorism from 4 July 2005 – 2007;
- Center for Security Studies, Accra, Ghana as Senior Fellow from January 2005 – June 2005;
- Legon Centre for International Affairs, (LECIA), University of Ghana; and Research Director, African Security Dialogue and Research, Accra from 1 July 2001 – January 2005;
- Visiting Professor, European Peace University, Stadtschleining, Austria from May – June 2003; and
- Institute of Economic Affairs, Governance Unit, Accra, Ghana as Director from 15 July 2000 – 30 June 2001.

Dr Kwesi Aning's rich experience in security issues has been tapped by a number of organizations including the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), and Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) where he has held the following Non Academic Positions

- Member, Senior Advisory Panel on Haiti and Liberia, UN, January- February 2010
- Leader, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO-UK) team to suggest restructuring of the Conflict Management Division of the Peace and Security Directorate, African Union, October 2008
- Senior Consultant to the Under-Secretary General of the UN Department of Political Affairs, UN Secretariat, NY on drafting a Report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security. August – December 2007

Dr Aning has also been an Associate Professor in International Politics for a number of institutions in Denmark, UK, and Nigeria and has taught with the following Universities:

- Legon Centre for International Affairs (LECIA), Accra, Ghana;
- Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (GAFSC), Teshie, Accra;
- Institute of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; and
- Aarhus University, Denmark.

Dr Aning, who has written numerous dissertations and books, monographs and articles in several journals, has also contributed to numerous chapters in a number of books.

He is currently a member of the Economic Forum's Council on Conflict Resolution. He is married and has two children.

Prof. Henrietta Mensah-Bonsu
Director of the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD), University of Ghana

Professor Henrietta Joy Abena Nyarko Mensa-Bonsu is a Professor of Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Legon, specialising in Criminal Law, Conflict Resolution and Transitional Justice. She was a member of the National Reconciliation Commission of Ghana, a member of International Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) of the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission as a nominee of ECOWAS.

Currently the Director of the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy, she was for four years the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for Rule of Law (DSRSG – RoL) in the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). In the capacity, she led and directed the United Nations' effort at the restoration and reconstruction of the institutions and functioning capacities of the Rule of Law sector. Her duties included superintending the activities of the Human Rights and Protection section which had direct responsibility for the UN's support to the TRC and its successor institution the Independent National Human Rights Commission of Liberia. She has also worked on various aspects of security sector reform, including issues on gender mainstreaming, in a multidimensional peacekeeping operation as well as Elections.

She has served Ghana both nationally and internationally. In respect of the conduct of University of Ghana business, she served as Senior Tutor of Akafo Hall; Vice Dean and Acting Dean of Faculty of Law. She has also served on a number of public bodies of national importance, most prominent of which have been the Police Council; Ghana Medical and Dental Council; the National Reconciliation Commission; Methodist University College Council; President's Committee on Review of Education Reforms; Board of New Times Corporation; and Board of Ghana Broadcasting Corporation.

On the international plane, apart from numerous international conferences she has attended, she has recently served as a civilian mentor for the 3rd ECOWAS Senior Mission Leadership Course; member of two Committees of Eminent Jurists of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the African Union on the Lockerbie Case and Hissene Habre Case respectively. She has also served as Vice-Chairperson, ECOWAS Working Group on the Harmonisation of Business laws of non-OHADA States and ECOWAS Nominee on International Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC), Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

In addition to presenting papers at many conference and Workshops, she has published widely on Criminal Law, Media Law, Transitional Justice and Children's Rights.

She holds an LL.B from University of Ghana, an LL.M from Yale University and a Barrister's Certificate from the Ghana Scholl of Law. She was called to the Ghana Bar in 1982.

She is married with three daughters and two grandsons.

Most Rev (Prof.) Emmanuel Kwaku Asante

The Most Reverend Professor Emmanuel Kwaku Asante is the Chairman of the National Peace Council, the Chairman of the National Christian Council of Ghana and the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Ghana.

Lieutenant Colonel (rtd) Larry Gblevo-Lartey
National Security Coordinator

Lieutenant Colonel (rtd) Larry Gblevo-Lartey is the National Security Coordinator of the Republic of Ghana. He was born on 3rd June 1953 and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration and a Master of Arts degree in International Affairs both from the University of Ghana. He became a Solicitor and was also called to the Bar in August 1999. Before his appointment as National Security Coordinator in April 2009, he worked as a private Legal Practitioner in Accra since August 2003 with a break from August 2005 and October 2007 when he served as a United Nations Consultant with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations / United Nations Office for West Africa.

With regard to his military career, Lieutenant Colonel (rtd) Gblevo-Lartey's military training has included passing out of the Ghana Armed Forces Senior Staff College, Diploma in Command and Leadership from the United States Army School of Infantry, Georgia and passing the Operational Planning Course at the United Kingdom Operations Planning Centre, Dryad. His military service in the Ghana Armed Forces included the following positions:

- Directing Staff Senior Command and Staff College (February 2001 - August 2003);
- Commanding Officer Infantry Regiment (April 1994 - February 2001);
- Assistant Director Army Operations (Operations) (February 1994 - April 1994);
- Assistant Director Army Operations (Intelligence) (August 1992 - January 1993); and
- Regular Officer Cadet (Training) (November 1978 - April 1978).

He also served with United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations in the following capacities:

- UN Military Observer - Chief of Staff at the Sector Headquarters (Kananga) United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) (May 2002 to July 2003);
- UN Military Observer - Senior UN Military Observer for Central Bosnia Sector with the United Nations Protective Force (UNPROFOR) (January 1993 – February 1994); and
- Company Commander – Commander of Company Area of Responsibility with formed UN troops with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (November 1987 – June 1988).

He is married with children. His hobbies are playing golf and watching live football matches.

Mr Sulley Amadu
Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration, Electoral Commission

Mr Sulley Amadu has been the Director for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation at the Electoral Commission in Ghana, since 2005. In May 2012, he was appointed Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration, of Ghana's Electoral Commission.

Since 1985, Mr Amadu has worked on election related issues in different capacities both locally and internationally. Locally, before assuming his current positions, in the 1980s he worked with the National Commission for Democracy, which was responsible for District Assembly elections, first as National Service Personnel and then as a Member of the Committee on Demarcation/Elections. In preparation towards Ghana's return to democracy in 1992, he was involved in the demarcation of 200 constituencies as well as in the conduct and supervision of the Referendum on the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana. He has since then worked in the planning, coordination, supervision of Presidential, Parliamentary and District elections in the country in different capacities including Taskforce Coordinator, Logistics Officer, Acting Accra Regional Director, Brong Ahafo Regional Director and now as the Director for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and the Deputy Chairman, Finance and Administration of the Electoral Commission.

Internationally, he was a member of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG) which supervised and conducted the Namibia Independent Election. As an Electoral Officer for South Africans voting in Ghana for the first multi-racial South African Elections in 1994, he supervised and conducted the elections process. He also served as the Registration Supervisor and Logistics Officer with the UN Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK); the District Electoral Officer and Deputy District Electoral Coordinator for the UN Transitional Administration for East Timor (UNTAET); a member of Commonwealth Electoral Experts who monitored the Pemba By-election in Zanzibar, Tanzania; the Field Coordinating Officer with UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL); the District Monitoring Adviser for UNMIT in East Timor; and as a member of the ECOWAS Fact Finding Mission for the 2011 Gambian Presidential Election.

Mr Amadu holds a Diploma in Statistics from the University of Ghana, a Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma in Public Administration from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) and a Certificate in Project Administration and Management from the Copenhagen Business College, Denmark.

Mr Amadu is married with six children; four boys and two girls.

***Commissioner of Police Mr Patrick Timbilla, Regional Police Commander, Greater Accra Region
Ghana Police Service***

Commissioner of Police Mr Patrick Timbilla is the Regional Police Commander of the Greater Accra Region. He is also a member of the National Elections Security Task Force.

Brigadier General DK Mishio
Director General Joint Operations, Ghana Armed Forces

Brigadier General DK Mishio was born on 10th October 1954 at Tishigu in Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana to Mr Albert Kodzo Mishio from Woe in the Volta Region and Memunatu Alhassan from Tamale. He attended Sakasaka Experimental Primary and Kalpohin Middle School in Tamale before proceeding to Tema Secondary School, from 1968 to 1973 where he obtained the General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level (GCE, O' Level). He continued to Saint Thomas Aquinas Secondary School where he obtained the General Certificate of Education, Advanced Level (GCE A Level), between 1973 and 1975. Brigadier General DK Mishio was enlisted into the Ghana Military Academy on 5 November 1976 till 3rd September 1977. He then continued to the Canadian Forces Officer Cadet School on 18 September 1977 and commissioned on 8 August 1978.

As part of his professional and developmental career, he has completed all the mandatory courses related to his career. These include; Young Officers Course between 10 January and 29 April 1983, Junior Staff Course 29 August – 16 December 1988 and Company Commanders Course, between 27 January and 25 May 1989, all at the Military Academy and Training Schools (MATS). He proceeded Senior Staff Course at the Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (GAFSC), Teshie from September 1989 to August 1990.

Brigadier General DK Mishio has also attended some foreign military courses. These include; Anti-Terrorism Assistance Programme Course in USA in 1993, Command and General Staff Course at Leavenworth, USA from June 1994 – June 1995, Joint Operations Planning Course, Maritime Warfare Centre HMS Dryard UK from 7 – 18 October 2002. He also holds a Master's Degree in Military ARTS and Science from Kansas, USA in June 1995. He became an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, United Kingdom in 2007.

Brigadier General DK Mishio has held several appointments in his chosen career. He was a Platoon Commander in 6th Battalion of Infantry from August 1978 to July 1979, Adjutant 3rd Battalion of Infantry from August 1980 to March 1984, Officer Commanding, Bravo Company; 3rd Battalion of Infantry between March and July 1984, Officer Commanding Delta Company at United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Ghanbatt 28 from July to December 1987. He was also Officer Commanding Bravo Company 3rd Battalion of Infantry from December 1987 to March 1988, Officer Commanding (Jungle Wing) Jungle Warfare School from March 1988 to January 1989 and Chief Instructor Jungle Warfare School from June to September 1989.

By dint of hard work, Brigadier General DK Mishio was appointed as the Assistant Director Army Training from 24 August 1990 to October 1991. From 13 October to 29 December 1991, he was the Second in Command of the then Forces Reserve Battalion and Acting Commanding Officer of the same Unit between 30 December 1991 and 29 December 1992. He was elevated to the position of Commanding Officer of the Forces Reserve Battalion between 30 December 1992 and 30 June 1993. Between 1 July 1993 and 1 June 1994, he was appointed as the Commanding Officer of the 64 Infantry Regiment.

Brigadier General DK Mishio continued to show exemplary leadership in his career. Consequently, he was appointed as the General Staff Officer Grade (G1) at the Army Combat Training School (ACTS) from June to July 1995.

He was a Military Observer for United Nations Protective Force in Yugoslavia from July 1995 to January 1996, Chief Logistics Officer of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slovenia from January to October 1996. He was also the Acting Second in Command of the Ghana Military Academy between October 1996 and February 1997. He became the substantive Second in Command of the same institution from 14 February 1997 to August 1999.

The Guest of Honour was also the Senior Operations Officer at the Headquarters of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) from 30 August 1999 to April 2001. He assumed the position of Directing Staff at the Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (Senior Division) from April 2001 to December 2003. He was also a Directing Staff at the South African National War College from January 2004 to January 2006 and Chief Instructor Joint Studies at the Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (GAFSC) from 7 February 2006 to 24 January 2007.

From 25 January 2007 to 21 May 2009, he was appointed as General Staff Officer (Coordinating) at GAFSC. He became Deputy Director General (Joint Operations) at the General Headquarters from 22 May to 21 December 2009 and rose to become the Director General from 22 December 2009 till date.

Brigadier General DK Mishio is married and loves reading and listening to music.

Documents Provided by the National Electoral Commission

SEHO

2012 EXHIBITION STATISTICS
NATIONAL

S.NO.	DISTRICT	NO. OF REGISTERED VOTERS		INCLUSIONS FILLED		NO. OF OBJECTIONS ON LISTS		NO. OF DECEASED PERSONS		NO. OF CORRECTIONS		TOTAL NO. VOTERS WHO CHECKED THEIR NAMES		TOTAL NO. OF VOTERS WHO CHECKED THEIR NAMES % TURNOUT
		MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MAJOR	MINOR	MALE	FEMALE	MAJOR	MINOR	MALE	FEMALE	
1	WESTERN	1,401,962	351	284	13	104	424	234	2,236	5,206	487,824	456,181	897,615	83.0
2	CENTRAL	1,220,644	237	219	1	3	420	344	1,958	41,843	341,115	285,326	710,841	57.9
3	GREATER ACCRA	2,788,091	334	349	32	213	180	105	4,882	45,948	695,413	706,063	1,399,076	40.0
4	VOLTA	1,186,512	230	184	12	94	342	169	4,238	13,244	339,516	415,264	754,779	63.5
5	EASTERN	1,428,060	210	179	14	89	408	267	4,096	14,055	435,078	448,242	879,017	61.6
6	ASHANTI	2,580,157	876	751	199	234	1,236	786	6,806	12,778	870,742	937,904	1,808,646	70.7
7	BONG AHAFO	1,246,145	231	164	2	6	417	226	2,490	12,152	414,345	426,353	834,698	67.0
8	NORTHERN	1,284,881	281	219	175	626	727	384	2,664	10,000	606,246	505,204	1,111,039	80.0
9	UPPER EAST	565,862	851	517	44	161	469	102	4,520	5,608	201,780	224,264	426,044	75.4
10	UPPER WEST	385,769	172	104	4	3	363	220	918	3,461	155,238	161,057	296,395	81.0
	TOTAL	14,069,573	3,873	3,249	408	1,265	4,996	2,960	35,341	185,243	4,363,842	4,621,946	8,985,788	63.9

SOURCE: EAC & RWDPY, EC 2012

Table 1. Population by Region and Sex, 2010 PHC

REGION	Number			Percent		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
ALL REGIONS	24,658,823	12,024,845	12,633,978	100.0	100.0	100.0
WESTERN	2,376,021	1,187,774	1,188,247	9.6	9.9	9.4
CENTRAL	2,201,863	1,050,112	1,151,751	8.9	8.7	9.1
GREATER ACCRA	4,010,054	1,938,225	2,071,829	16.3	16.1	16.4
VOLTA	2,118,252	1,019,398	1,098,854	8.6	8.5	8.7
EASTERN	2,633,154	1,290,339	1,342,615	10.7	10.7	10.6
ASHANTI	4,780,380	2,316,052	2,464,328	19.4	19.3	19.5
BRONG AHAFO	2,310,983	1,145,271	1,165,712	9.4	9.5	9.2
NORTHERN	2,479,461	1,229,887	1,249,574	10.1	10.2	9.9
UPPER EAST	1,046,545	506,405	540,140	4.2	4.2	4.3
UPPER WEST	702,110	341,182	360,928	2.8	2.8	2.9

 7/8/12

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF 275 CONSTITUENCIES

REGION	SEATS NOW	AREA	QUOTA	CURRENT POP	QUOTA	TOTAL QUOTA	QUOTA 45 SEATS	SEATS	DECIMAL RANKING	ADDITIONAL SEATS: 6	TOTAL SEATS
WESTERN	22	9,236	0.10	2,376,021	0.87	0.97	4.36	4	9th	0	26
CENTRAL	19	3,815	0.04	2,201,863	0.80	0.84	3.78	3	3rd	1	23
ACCRA	27	995	0.01	4,010,084	1.46	1.47	6.62	6	5th	1	34
VOLTA	22	7,943	0.09	2,118,252	0.77	0.86	3.87	3	2nd	1	26
EASTERN	28	7,698	0.08	2,633,254	0.96	1.04	4.68	4	4th	1	33
ASHANTI	39	9,417	0.10	4,780,380	1.74	1.84	8.29	8	10th	0	47
B/AHAFO	24	15,273	0.17	2,310,983	0.84	1.01	4.54	4	6th	1	29
NORTHERN	26	27,175	0.30	2,479,461	0.90	1.20	5.40	5	8th	0	31
U/EAST	13	3,516	0.04	1,046,545	0.38	0.42	1.89	1	1st	1	15
U/WEST	10	7,032	0.08	702,110	0.26	0.34	1.53	1	7th	0	11
	230	97,100	1.01	24,658,823	8.98	9.99	44.56	39		6	275

PROFILE OF 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

PREZ. CANDIDATE (PARTY)	VOTER ID. NO.	SEX	RELIGION	DATE OF BIRTH	HOMETOWN/ REGION	HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION	INSTITUTION	PRESENT/LAST EMPLOYER	POSITION	PROFESSION	MARITAL STATUS
AMANI MAHAMA (NDC)	6383003805	M	CHRISTIAN	29/11/58	BOLE NORTHERN	POST GRADUATE DEGREE	UNIVERSITY OF GHANA	GOVERNMENT OF GHANA	PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF GHANA	COMMUNICATIONS /MEDIA	MARRIED
Y HERBERT LARTEY (GCPP)	1740008352	M	CHRISTIAN	5/02/54	OSU GREATER ACCRA	MBA ECONOMICS AND FINANCE	UNIVERSITY OF BATH, UK.	SELF EMPLOYED	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	FINANCE, AGRICULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE	SINGLE
DO DANKWA DODU (NPP)	2635019850	M	CHRISTIAN	29/03/44	KYEBI EASTERN REG.	B.SC. ECON	UNIVERSITY OF GHANA	GOVERNMENT OF GHANA	MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS	LEGAL PRACTITIONER	MARRIED
SI NDUOM (PPP)	5045000675	M	CATHOLIC	15/02/53	ELMINA CENTRAL REG.	PHD	UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN	FIRST NATIONAL SAVINGS & LOANS COMPANY	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT	MARRIED
DODAI ODIKE (UFP)	5276020913	M	CHRISTIAN	13/09/64	ADWUMAK ASE-KESE ASHANTI REG.	'O' LEVEL	ADUMAN SECONDARY SCHOOL	ODIKE VENTURES	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	BUSINESSMAN	MARRIED
YASSAN (PNC)	7500020784	M	MOSLEM	4/09/72	BAWKU UPPER EAST REG.	EX. MASTERS IN GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP	GRADUATE SCH. OF GOV. & LEADERSHIP	CLEAN UP GH. LTD.	MANAGING DIRECTOR	ACCOUNTANCY	MARRIED
ABU SAKARA (CPP)	9759006290	M	CHRISTIAN	15/08/58	MANKUNA NORTHERN REG.	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY	UNIVERSITY OF READING, UK.	EXECUTIVE	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	AGRONOMIST	MARRIED
YEBOAH (INDP)	1583029457	M	CHRISTIAN	28/10/68	ATONSU- NSUTA	MBA	WARWICK UNIVERSITY, UK.	VITALSOURCE LTD.	DIRECTOR WEST AFRICA	ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES	MARRIED

R & M Dept. EC 2012

**PROFILE OF 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES
RUNNING MATES**

NAME OF RUNNING MATE (PARTY)	VOTER ID. NO.	SEX	AGE	POLLING SATION CODE	CURRENT RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	OCCUPATION
BEKOE AMISSAH-ARTHUR (NDC)	1908013723	M	61	C100515	9 SWITCHBACK RD., CANTONMENTS	ECONOMIST
JMEKAH (GCPP)	2245011933	M	60	C011202	HEADTEACHER'S BUNGALOW – NEW GBAWE SCHOOL	RETIRED EDUCATIONIST
AHAMADU BAWUMIA (NPP)	3027018013	M	49	H230401	NO. 10 6 TH ESTATE ROAD, KANDA, ACCRA.	ECONOMIST
OKKO (PPP)	3918047741	F	59	C132809	HNO. J3/3 NTHC ESTATES, LASHIBI, COMM.14, TEMA.	C.E.O. TOTALLY YOUTH
SELAGYEN (UFP)	3181010731	M	47	A022201	A A181	AGRICULTURIST
SANORITA DZATUGBE MATREVI (PNC)	5657035621	F	42	C082408	23 CYCAS ST. DANSOMAN	BILINGUAL TRANSLATOR
AKOSUA FRIMPOMAA (CPP)	1791020652	F	56	C061613	19 HIGH TENSION MENPEASEM, EAST LEGON	SOCIAL ACTIVIST
NII TACKIE (INDP)	1242017216	M	41	C160807	HOUSE NO.2 MARKET ST., ADEMTA	BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

R & M Dept, FC, 2012

About the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)

The Ghana Armed Forces has proudly served in several UN peacekeeping operations in Congo, Liberia, La Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Lebanon since 1960. To build on Ghana's five decades of experience and competence in peace support operations, therefore, the Ministry of Defence, in May 1998, approved plans for the establishment of an International Peacekeeping Training Centre. The Centre was envisaged to address not only Ghana's needs for training men and women to meet the changing demands of complex and multidimensional peacekeeping activities, but also to help meet the peacekeeping training requirements of the West African sub region and indeed, the continent.

On August 02, 2000, UN Secretary-General H.E. Kofi Annan 'cut the sod' for work to start on the building of the KAIPTC at its present location in Teshie, Accra – Ghana. A number of Development Partners responded very positively and generously to the former UN Secretary-General's call and in 2002, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany granted an initial 1.8 million Euros towards the cost of the building. This contribution was followed by other financial, human and material resource contributions from Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the UK, and the USA.

A few years after its establishment, the KAIPTC has carved a niche as a world class research and training facility for Africa - a regional Centre of Excellence that embraces all aspects of research and training for enhanced performance in integrated peace support operations. The Centre's activities draw participants from the full spectrum of the peacekeeping community, the security sector and civil, diplomatic and non-governmental agencies.

Since the first peacekeeping training course was organized in 2003, the Centre has run over 170 training courses for more than 7,200 military, police and civilians from over 86 countries and major organizations in Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America,. Core courses in peacekeeping activities are augmented by other specialist and train-the-trainer courses, seminars, conferences and workshops, all of which are designed to reflect regional needs and stakeholder requirements.

The KAIPTC also hosts a Field Training Team which conducts pre-deployment training courses for units in Ghana Armed Forces, military observers and other staff officers designated for UN/AU Missions. This team trains an average of over 3,800 individuals every year at the Bundase Training Camp.

In addition to the research and training programmes, the KAIPTC is now an accredited tertiary institution and runs Post graduate programmes in Conflict, Peace and Security as well as Gender, Peace and Security.



Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre
PMB CT210
Cantonments
Accra
Ghana
+233 302718200
info@kaiptc.org
www.kaiptc.org