



Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO)

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CODEO deploys 8000 observers and open its National Information Center ahead of Elections day

The Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO) has expressed optimism in the ability of Ghanaians to go to the polls peacefully and use tomorrow's elections as another opportunity to consolidate the country's democratic and electoral gains. Prof. Greenstreet reiterated that 'the December 2016 Polls offer Ghanaians another opportunity to rise above these challenges and prove to ourselves and the global community that we are determined to stay on the democratic path and deepen the development of our democracy. We must use this opportunity to elect our leaders and representatives to demonstrate our willingness to participate fully in the democratic process, and, above all, our commitment to accountable governance'.

She said this at a pre-election press conference organized by CODEO in Accra. She also announced that CODEO will deploy close to 8000 observers throughout the country on Election Day. Out of this number, 7000 observers will be deployed as Rapid Response Observers (RROs) to a representative sample of polling stations throughout the country and close to a 1000 of its Regional Coordinators, Constituency Supervisors and General Assembly Members as Roaming Observers (ROs) in all the 10 regions.

According to Prof. Miranda Greenstreet, Co-chair of CODEO, CODEO will also deploy its observers to all the 275 Constituency Collation Centers as well as the National Results Collation Center (NRCC) in Accra to observe and report on results collation, tabulation, and declaration as well as the polling station and process set-up, voting and counting procedures, and also file reports on any incidents they observe throughout the day.

The pre-election press conference was also used to officially open the CODEO National Information Center located at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center (KAIPTC) in Accra from where CODEO will be issuing regular statements on the election process.

The Coalition made some appeal to key stakeholders outlined below:

- To the political parties - contesting political leaders and their supporters to do all in their power to help maintain the peace in our country.
- To the Electoral Commission - be firm and apply the electoral rules in an impartial and objective manner.
- To the Election Security Task Force- approach your duties on polling day with maximum professionalism and utmost respect for the Constitution of Ghana.
- To the media - be professional and circumspect in its coverage and reportage of the elections.
- To other local and international observers - support the polling exercise in an impartial and objective manner so as to ensure peaceful and successful elections.

- To all Ghanaians (especially voters) - actively participate in the elections by coming out to vote. And follow the laid down rules and procedures.

CODEO, a coalition dedicated to promoting free, fair, transparent and credible elections through non-partisan election observation, is made up of 42 circular and faith-based civil society organisations and has been independently observing elections in Ghana since 2000. CODEO acknowledges the generous support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for making it possible for CODEO to deploy approximately 8000 of its observers on Election Day, tomorrow, December 7, 2016.

Signed jointly by:



Professor Miranda Greenstreet
(Co-Chair)



Justice VCRAC Crabbe
(Co-Chair)

Dated: Tuesday, December 6, 2016