

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE TIME TO REFLECT ON GHANA'S POST-ELECTION TRANSITION IS NOW**

Ghana's standing as a beacon of democracy was reaffirmed with the inauguration of a new President and Parliament following the December 2024 General Elections. It demonstrated the maturity of Ghana's political system and its ability to uphold stability and unity, even in the face of potential challenges.

The early concession of defeat by Dr Mahamadu Bawumia, the New Patriotic Party's presidential candidate, helped prevent tensions and violence. Similarly, President John Dramani Mahama's call on NDC supporters to halt attacks on public installations, and the general peaceful transition reaffirmed the commitment of the leaders to the country's democratic progress.

Despite the goodwill shown by leaders of the two major political parties, and the peaceful handover of power to a new government, the time has come for us to reflect, and correct major negative incidents that nearly disrupted the peace of our nation. Prominent among these have been incidents of post-election violence such as organised hooliganism, raids, arson of state property, and other disruptive acts by party loyalists that have marred the Election Transition phase.

Additionally, the tense and disruptive re-collation of parliamentary results in nine constituencies, including the unresolved situation at Ablekuma North, highlight the urgent need for targeted interventions to resolve disputes related to the collation and declaration of parliamentary election results. These acts of lawlessness, if left unaddressed could pose serious risks to the nation's political stability and security in the future.

#### **In light of the above, we call on:**

- Law enforcement agencies, particularly the Attorney General's Department and the Ghana Police Service, to ensure that the perpetrators are arrested and due process is

followed through to its conclusive end, to serve as a deterrent for potential future offenders.

- Political Parties to cooperate with the Electoral Commission to ensure that the tensions and delays associated with collation do not re-occur in future elections.
- Stakeholders such as Political Party leaders, Civil Society Organisations, Media, Traditional and Religious leaders to educate the citizenry on the transitional arrangements to ensure peaceful conduct in the post-election period.

These targeted interventions will ensure that there are peaceful transitional processes in future elections. IDEG-CFI will commit to collaborating with other stakeholders such as the political parties and Civil Society Organisations to deepen dialogue, enhance civic education, and secure transformational reforms for national unity and stability.

**SIGNED**



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