

For Immediate Release

PRESS STATEMENT

Date: 7th January 2026

“National Consensus Driven Constitutional Reforms Imperative for Ghana’s Democratic Future”

Today, 7th January 2026 marks Ghana’s 34th consecutive year as a stable democracy. It also marks one year since President John Dramani Mahama was sworn-in and launched the “Reset Agenda.” Over the past year, the government has made notable progress in stabilizing the macroeconomic environment, rebuilding investor confidence, and initiating measures to strengthen governance systems. These developments reflect a deliberate effort to rebuild national trust, enhance institutional accountability, and promote civic inclusion.

Constitution Review and Ghana’s Democratic Future

Despite the stability under the Fourth Republic, Ghana’s constitutional review process has remained protracted and inconclusive for over a decade. Four government cycles (2012-2025) have not been able to implement constitutional reforms, largely due to weak national consensus and the absence of a permanent and independent institutional framework to fully implement the reforms.

This is occurring amid democratic regression in West Africa, declining confidence in multiparty democracy, rising support for military rule, and growing youth disenchantment over the perceived unresponsiveness of democratic governance, collectively threatening Ghana’s democratic consolidation and its role as a democratic anchor in the sub-region.

Against this backdrop, the submission of the Constitution Review Committee’s report presents a critical opportunity to reset Ghana’s governance architecture. IDEG commends both the Committee for its work and President Mahama’s leadership in ensuring its immediate public release.

The Way Forward: Collective Action for Constitutional Reform

As we commemorate Constitution Day 2026, it is imperative that the lessons from previous constitutional reform efforts inform a renewed commitment to building broad national consensus and thereby implementing long-overdue reforms that are needed to safeguard Ghana’s democratic future.

The true defense of Ghana’s democracy lies in collective commitment to good governance, inclusion, justice, and rejecting the politics of division while embracing the patriotism of nation-building. As President Mahama stated in his New Year address, *“governments do not build nations alone; they do that with their citizenry ... and the challenges we face are too urgent, and the opportunities before us are too precious, for us to waste time and energy on needless conflict.”*

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