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COALITION OF MUSLIM ORGANIZATIONS, GHANA

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East, Oti, Western North,
Savannah, Northern,
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**COMOG CALLS FOR DIALOGUE AMONG THE STAKEHOLDERS AHEAD OF
ELECTION 2020**

In the name of Allah, most Gracious, the most Merciful

The Coalition of Muslim Organizations in Ghana (COMOG), considers it as eminent and necessary to add its voice to the current impasse between the Electoral Commission and other political interest stakeholders.

Ghana's presidential and parliamentary elections are six months away but the political environment in the country is filled with mild tension with main stakeholders divided on the process to compile a New Biometric Voter Register by the Electoral Commission (EC).

Although the Electoral Commission is constitutionally mandated to manage all political elections in the country which includes activities such as; compiling of credible voter's register, procuring electoral materials, giving notices, dialogues with political parties and other stakeholders for consensus building on electoral process and opening and accepting nominees for various political positions among others, yet, there seems to be 'impediment or genuine concerns' in the way of the EC regarding the compilation of a new voter's register as it has planned.

Already the main opposition party, National Democratic Congress (NDC) in the country has taken the electoral commission to the apex court to get the Electoral Commission to include the existing valid voter's card and the birth certificate as elements of proof of nationality) to be accepted for the impending compilation of new voter's register.

In past months, COMOG has witnessed heightening tension and actions by other nonpolitical interest groups voicing out their concerns on the standoff among the EC, NIA, NDC, the ruling party (NPP) and the IPRAN (Inter-Party Coalition Against New Voter's Register) which is not healthy for Ghana's enviable growing democracy.

COMOG has also heard the two former presidents of Ghana (President J. J. Rawlings and President J. A. Kuffour), legal experts, political scientists and CSOs adding their voices calling for adequate dialogue and consensus building among the main stakeholders and the EC to arrive at an accepted process and cooperation towards the election 2020.

It is on this note that, COMOG is adding its voice as a national discourse on critical issues and policies to call on all political interest parties and the EC to ensure not only adequate dialogue and consensus building but also a credible process towards election 2020 and beyond.

إن الله لا يغير ما بقوم حتى يغيروا ما بأنفسهم

... verily Allah will not change the condition of a people as long as they do not change their state themselves...

It will be in the best interest of all citizens of Ghana and the international community for the impending election 2020 in Ghana to come out as peaceful, free and fair to ensure that Ghana will continue to be recognized as the beacon of democracy on the African continent and in the world.

It is the fervent hope of COMOG to see the EC, the NDC and other stakeholders resolve their differences amicably to restore hope and confidence in the electoral system of Ghana.

.....sgd.....

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For, Hajj Abdel-Manan Abdel-Rahman
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