



8th December, 2020

For Immediate Release

GUARD GHANA'S PEACE, ESCHEW VIOLENCE - NCCE

The National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), has observed the general peaceful conduct of the polls and commends the Electoral Management Body, the media, the election stakeholders and the Ghanaian public for the calm nature they went about the polls.

Notwithstanding the general peaceful nature, the NCCE notes pockets of violence, disturbances and commotion that if care is not taken may escalate and mar the beauty of the hitherto peaceful elections during the opening of polls, mid-polls and closing of polls.

The Commission is particularly concerned about the isolated reports of violence trickling in after the polls ended yesterday. These incidents include the:

- Alleged shooting incident at the Step to Christ Polling Centre in the Awutu Senya-East Constituency, where a journalist was injured.
- Alleged shooting of a journalist at Ablekuma Central Constituency
- Alleged shooting of a ballot box snatcher at Obrachire in the Awutu Senya West Constituency.
- Death of two and injuring of one person after an alleged shooting incident at the Modak Hotel, Korley Wokon in the Odododiodio Constituency. Gun shots at the City Engineers cluster of Polling stations also in the Odododiodio Constituency.
- Burning down of the Electoral Commission office in the Fomena Constituency.

These incidents among others are worrying, especially after so much has been committed to educating the public on the need to eschew violence and vote peacefully.

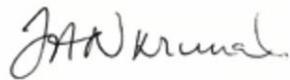
We are also concerned about disagreements regarding counting and collation of results by political parties stalling the conclusion of the process of elections. We urge all relevant actors to cooperate with each other to ensure the smooth conclusion of collation results culminating in the lawfully declaration of results by the Electoral Commission. We are equally concerned by the premature declaration of results by the two dominant parties ahead of the Electoral Commission. The Electoral Commission of Ghana is the only party mandated by law to declare election results. Political parties but be mindful of their pronouncements ahead of the official declaration by the Electoral Management Body.

The Commission also urges the media to be circumspect and use their platforms to preach peaceful cohesion ahead of the final declaration.

The NCCE commends the Security Services for the efforts of maintaining law and order before, during and after the close of polls. The NCCE further calls on the Election Security Taskforce to step up efforts to protect and preserve our national peace in order to maintain and jealously guard the gains made in our democratic journey.

The Commission entreats all political parties and the general public to be measured in their utterances and actions as well as exercise restraint and allow the Electoral Commission to perform its constitutional mandate of declaring the election results.

God bless our homeland Ghana and make our nation great and strong.



JOSEPHINE NKURUMAH (MS.)
CHAIRMAN