



## **JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

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### **ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS CONGRATULATE GHANA FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2024 GENERAL ELECTIONS**

The civil society election observation missions from East and West Africa congratulate the people of Ghana on the generally successful conduct of the presidential and legislative elections that took place on December 7, 2024.

At a time in the region when elections and political transitions have been a major source of instability and tension, Ghana's election provides a significant landmark for democracy on the continent.

The regional delegations, which comprise the West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network (WADEMOS), the West Africa Election Observers Network (WAEON), East and HORN of Africa (E-HORN) Observers Network, Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD-West Africa), and Yiaga Africa (Nigeria), commend all stakeholders particularly the Electoral Commission, political parties, the media and other democratic institutions including civil society and the Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO), in particular, for their professional conduct and contribution to the successful conduct of the entire electoral process despite the few reported incidents especially during the results collation.

The missions acknowledge and commend the statesmanship demonstrated by the presidential candidate of the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP), Dr. Alhaji Mahamudu Bawumia for gracefully conceding to former president John Mahama, the presidential candidate of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) on the basis of results collated by the party even before the announcement of results by the Electoral Commission.

As pro-democracy networks, committed to the regional and continental aspirations of democracy and good governance, Ghana's exemplary democratic leadership, and recent electoral gains in Senegal and Liberia provide a renewed hope for addressing democratic recession in Africa, particularly West Africa.

As the mission awaits the official declaration of results by the Electoral Commission, all stakeholders are urged to remain peaceful and allow for a smooth transition process. The mission remains committed to the sustenance of democracy, prosperity and stability across Africa and continues to express solidarity with the people of Ghana.

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## About WADEMOS

WADEMOS is an independent and non-partisan network of diverse national and transnational civil society organizations and civic groups working to promote and defend democracy, good governance, and inclusive development in the West Africa region. WADEMOS mobilizes, coordinates, and leverages the collective voice and power of civil society and other pro-democracy actors, resources, and opportunities within the West Africa region to advance its mission. The current membership of WADEMOS stands at 47 spread across West Africa. The WADEMOS Secretariat is based in Accra, Ghana.

## About WAEON

The West Africa Election Observers Network (WAEON) is an independent, non-partisan and non-religious organization that aims at strengthening and supporting Citizens' Election Observation Groups (CEOGs) in the sub-region. WAEON comprises independent and non-partisan CEOGs in West Africa that subscribe to the Declaration of Global Principles for Non-partisan Election Observation and Monitoring by Citizen Organizations. Established in 2010, the network seeks to strengthen the technical capacities and provide moral support to member organizations to conduct non-partisan citizen election observation, champion electoral reform and advocacy to promote credible elections in their respective countries.

The joint West Africa mission from WADEMOS and WAEON includes; Ghana Center for Democratic Development, Ghana; National Elections Watch (NEW), Sierra Leone; Center for Democracy and Development (CDD-West Africa), Nigeria; Cityonnes pour La Paix et le Justice (CPJ Guinée), Guinea; Gambia Participates, Gambia; Institut Africain pour le Developpment et le Leadership, Niger; Coalition pour l'observation Citoyenne des Elections au Mali, Mali; and the Centre for Democratic Governance of Burkina Faso; Burkina Faso.

## About E-HORN

The East and Horn of Africa Election Observation Network (E-HORN) is a regional network of 18 election observation organizations from eight countries, dedicated to promoting democratic governance through impartial election observation whose vision is to achieve genuine, peaceful, and credible elections across the region. For the 2024 Ghana elections, E-HORN network is represented by the following member organizations: Center for Constitutional Governance (CGD-Uganda), Uganda National NGO Forum (Uganda), Elections Observation Group (ELOG-Kenya), Tanzania Bora Initiative (TBI-Tanzania), South Sudanese Network for Democracy and Elections - SSuNDE (South Sudan) and Coalition of Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations for Elections (CECOE).



## About Yiaga

Yiaga Africa is a civic organization that promotes democracy, elections and citizens participation in Africa. Yiaga Africa operates as a citizens' movement working to transform electoral governance and enhance electoral integrity in Africa through citizen election observation, electoral reforms and technology. Learn more about Yiaga Africa's work [www.yiaga.org](http://www.yiaga.org).

## About CDD-West Africa (Nigeria)

The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) was established in the United Kingdom in 1997 and subsequently registered in Lagos – Nigeria in 1999 as an independent, not-for-profit, research, training, advocacy and capacity building organization. The Centre was established to mobilize global opinion and resources for democratic development and provide an independent space to reflect critically on the challenges posed to the democratization and development processes in West Africa, and also to provide alternatives and best practices to the sustenance of democracy and development in the region.

CDD envisions a West Africa that is democratically governed, economically integrated – promoting human security and people-centered development. The mission of the center is to be the prime catalyst and facilitator for strategic analysis and capacity building for sustainable democracy and development in the West African sub-region.

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