



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA

PRESS RELEASE

ON THE AYAWASO WEST WUOGON CONSTITUENCY BYE – ELECTION

1st FEBRUARY, 2019

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press. We are pleased to welcome you to the Electoral Commission this afternoon. The purpose of our meeting this afternoon is to brief you on the just ended Ayawaso West Wuogon Constituency Bye-Election.

On the 27th of November the Electoral Commission received notification from the Clerk of Parliament informing us of the passing away of the Member of Parliament for the Ayawaso West Wuogon Constituency Honourable Emmanuel Kyeremanteng Agyarko.

Thereafter, the Electoral Commission called an emergency IPAC meeting, to deliberate on the date for the Bye – Election. The meeting which was attended by the representatives of all Political Parties agreed to the Electoral Commissions proposal to hold the Bye – Election on the 31ST of January 2019. An agreement to the effect was signed by all the Political Parties.

The Electoral Commission made available to all Political Parties at that meeting a time table of activities leading to the Bye – Election on the 31ST January 2019.

ACTIVITIES LEADING TO THE CONDUCT OF BYE - ELECTION

Following this the Electoral Commission, set to make arrangements for the conduct of the Bye – Election.

TRAINING

The Electoral Commission appointed a total number of 564 Electoral Officials for the conduct of the Bye-Election. A number of training programs were organised for Election Officials, spanning a period of 10 days, which is from 20th January to 29th January 2019.

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The training provided, included grassroots training and trainer of trainers. Training was undertaken to provide Election Officials with the requisite skills and techniques for the conduct of polls. They were also taken through the Electoral Laws.

RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS

As required by Law, the Electoral Commission scheduled the period for filing nominations from 10th January to 12th January 2019. In all, four Political Party Candidates filed their nomination at the end of the period. They are the New Patriotic Party, The National Democratic Congress, the Progressive People's Party and the Liberal Party of Ghana.

PRINTING OF BALLOTS

The Electoral Commission informed all the Political Parties to the election about the period and location for the printing of the Ballot papers. The Police and BNI were also informed. This was done in writing. Two of the Political Parties, namely the NDC and the NPP supervised the printing of the ballots throughout the process. The candidate of the PPP visited intermittently. The transportation of the ballots to the Legon Police Station was also supervised by the Political Parties. In all 93,535 ballots were printed.

PUBLICITY

The Greater Accra Regional Office of the Electoral Commission engaged in a number of publicity activities. Vehicles numbering 10 roamed the streets of the Constituency drawing the residents attention to the date of the Polls and the importance of casting their votes. We also employed street announcers to visit crowded places and market areas to share information about the Bye – Election.

PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS

The Commission procured a number of materials ahead of the polls. This entailed mainly printing services covering flyers, ballots, notice of poll, statement of poll and the declaration of results forms.

ACCREDITATION

The Commission provided accreditation to observers, political parties and media as listed below

OBSERVERS

1. CODEO	-	30
2. FREE & FAIR Org.	-	50
3. Human Security Research Centre (GH)	-	<u>27</u>
		<u>100</u>

POLITICAL PARTIES

NATIONAL, REGIONAL & CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVES

1. NDC	400
2. NPP	400
3. LPG	60
4. PPP	<u>16</u>
	<u>876</u>

MEDIA

Media	-	400
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ELECTION DAY ACTIVITIES

Election Day activities started on time in all **137** Polling Stations across the Constituency by 6.40am. All 137 polling stations had set up in readiness for the Polls.

The Electoral Commission appointed a total number of 564 as Electoral Officials for the conduct of the polls. These Officials include Presiding Officers, Name Reference List Officers, Verification Officers and Ballot Issuers. The Electoral Commission had four (4) Election Officials at each Polling Station.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Materials distributed to all Polling Stations included ballots, indelible ink, thumb print pads. Each Polling Station had two Biometric Verification Devices (BVD). Our Field Officers and Regional Directorate have confirmed that by 6: 40 am Polling Stations had been set up in readiness for poll.

SECURITY

The Electoral Commission put in place adequate security to maintain law and order at all Polling Stations. A formal letter was written to the Regional Police Command and discussions held with them about the locations of all Polling Stations. The Electoral Commission did not identify flash point areas for this Bye – Election.

CLOSE OF POLLS

At the close of polls at 5pm, a total number of 17,589 Voters had cast their votes. Of the 17,589 votes cast, 88 ballots were rejected.

THE RESULTS DECLARED AT THE COLLATION CENTRE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CANDIDATES	PARTY	VOTES OBTAINED	VOTES (%)	RANK
DELALI KWASI BREMPONG	NDC	5,341	30.52%	2
WILLIAM KOFI DOWOKPO	PPP	102	0.58%	3
CLEMENT BOADI	LPG	17	0.10%	4
LYDIA SEYRAM ALHASSAN	NPP	12,041	68.8%	
Total valid votes		17,501		
Total Rejected votes		88		
Total votes cast		17,589		
Total registered voters		88,710		
Total percentage turn-out		19.83%		
Total Polling stations		137		

At the end of the Bye-Election in the Ayawaso West Wuogon Constituency. The Electoral Commission is pleased to announce that the Conduct of the Polls in all the 137 Polling Stations was peaceful and orderly. The Electoral Commission Staff as well as the Security Agencies at the Polling Stations conducted themselves in an orderly and professional manner.

All our BVDs deployed to the field worked efficiently and our materials were not in short supply. All in all, the Commission is pleased with the outcome of the Election conducted at the Polling Stations.

We wish to congratulate our Election Officials, the Staff of the Ayawaso District Office and last but not the least the Staff of our Greater Accra Regional Directorate.

Thank you for your time.