

PRESS RELEASE

December 5, 2024.

COALITION OF WEST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS DEPLOYS DELEGATION TO OBSERVE 2024 GHANA ELECTIONS

A joint civil society delegation from the West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network (WADEMOS) and the West Africa Election Observation Network (WAEON) will embark on an Election Solidarity Mission to Ghana from Friday, December 6, to Monday, December 9, 2024, as the country goes to the polls on December 7.

In October 2024, [the two institutions undertook a Pre-Election Mission](#) to Ghana to assess the processes, while in Ghana, the Mission engaged with key election stakeholders including the Electoral Commission of Ghana, the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), the National Peace Council (NPC), the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO), the Institute of Democratic Governance; the Civic Forum Initiative (CFI), the West Africa Network on Peacebuilding (WANEP), the NPP, the NDC, the media, and national CSOs; to strengthen solidarity among pro-democracy actors; and contribute to improving the quality and credibility of elections in West Africa. The delegation released a pre-election report following their assessment and conclusion of the solidarity mission.

The election mission to Ghana follows similar missions to Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Liberia in their respective elections in 2023 and Senegal in its 2024 elections.

The delegation, as part of the mission, will visit some polling stations to have first-hand experience of the electoral processes on election day, visit situation rooms of the Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO) and other observer groups, and explore learning and exchange opportunities with elections stakeholders to inform regional support for post-election engagement and advocacy.

Led by Rev. James Lahai, the Chairperson of WAEON and National Coordinator of the National Elections Watch in Sierra Leone, and Dr. Dauda Garuba, the Co-chair of WADEMOS and Executive Director of CDD-West Africa in Nigeria, the delegation includes CSO representatives from Citoyens pour la Paix et Justice (CPJ-Guinea), Coalition for Citizen Election Observation in Mali (COCEM-Mali), Center for Democratic Governance (Burkina Faso), African Institute for Leadership and Development (IDEAL-Africa, Niger), and Gambia Participates (The Gambia).

WADEMOS and WAEON wish Ghana a peaceful, free, fair, inclusive, credible, and transparent election and hope for an outcome that reinforces Ghana as the beacon of democracy in West Africa and the world. We call on the Electoral Commission of Ghana to demonstrate leadership and supervise a transparent and open process, which guarantees the integrity of the elections.



WAEON West Africa Election
Observers Network

WADEMOS
West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network

Finally, we entreat citizens to cooperate with all electoral stakeholders, desist from sharing unverified information, respect the electoral laws, and play their part in ensuring a peaceful and successful conduct of the elections, the ninth consecutive election in Ghana's Fourth Republic.

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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.

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