



ELECTION 2016

BRIEFING FOR OBSERVERS

**Presentation by Mrs. Charlotte Osei
Chairperson, Electoral Commission**



TODAY'S ROADMAP

TODAY'S ROADMAP



for the people

- ❁ Election 2016 in numbers
- ❁ Where are we now?
- ❁ The Election Process
- ❁ Key Changes in the Law
- ❁ What You Should Expect on E-Day
- ❁ The Role of Agents
- ❁ Reducing Rejected Ballots
- ❁ The Results
- ❁ Voter Education
- ❁ Security on Election Day





ELECTION 2016 IN NUMBERS

ELECTION 2016 IN NUMBERS



for the people

- ❁ Voting population – **15,712,499**
- ❁ **28,992** Polling Stations
- ❁ **275** Constituency Collation Centres
- ❁ **1** National Collation Centre
- ❁ **7** Presidential candidates (1 Female)
- ❁ **1,158** Parliamentary candidates (136 Females)



ELECTION 2016 IN NUMBERS



for the people

- ❁ **148,000** election officials deployed
- ❁ **64,000** security personnel
- ❁ **70,709** BVDs
- ❁ Over **400** Foreign Observers
- ❁ Over **12,000** Local Observers





WHERE ARE WE NOW?

WHERE ARE WE NOW



for the people

- ❁ All the 95 out of the 97 items required for each Polling Station have been distributed to all 216 districts of the country.
- ❁ Voters Register, Supplementary Lists and Polling Station Lists have all been given to the parties and candidates.
- ❁ Polling Station list and locations have been shared with security agencies and observers.
- ❁ All Officers required on Election Day have been recruited, trained and assigned to all the 28,992 polling stations.



WHERE ARE WE NOW



for the people

- ❁ Electronic Results Transmission System was demonstrated to the stakeholders and observers on Saturday 26th November, 2016.
- ❁ Special Voting Took place yesterday in 275 Constituencies of the country.
- ❁ Special voting will continue on December 4 due to challenges associated with the exercise yesterday
- ❁ Journalists' accreditation completed on 30.11.16



WHERE ARE WE NOW



for the people

- ❁ The NCC and the 275 CCCs are being set up.
- ❁ The Media Centre is also being set up.
- ❁ Toll free line for our technical staff, linked to the national operations room is ready.
- ❁ The shortcode **#6363** for the public to contact us speedily on E-Day is activated.



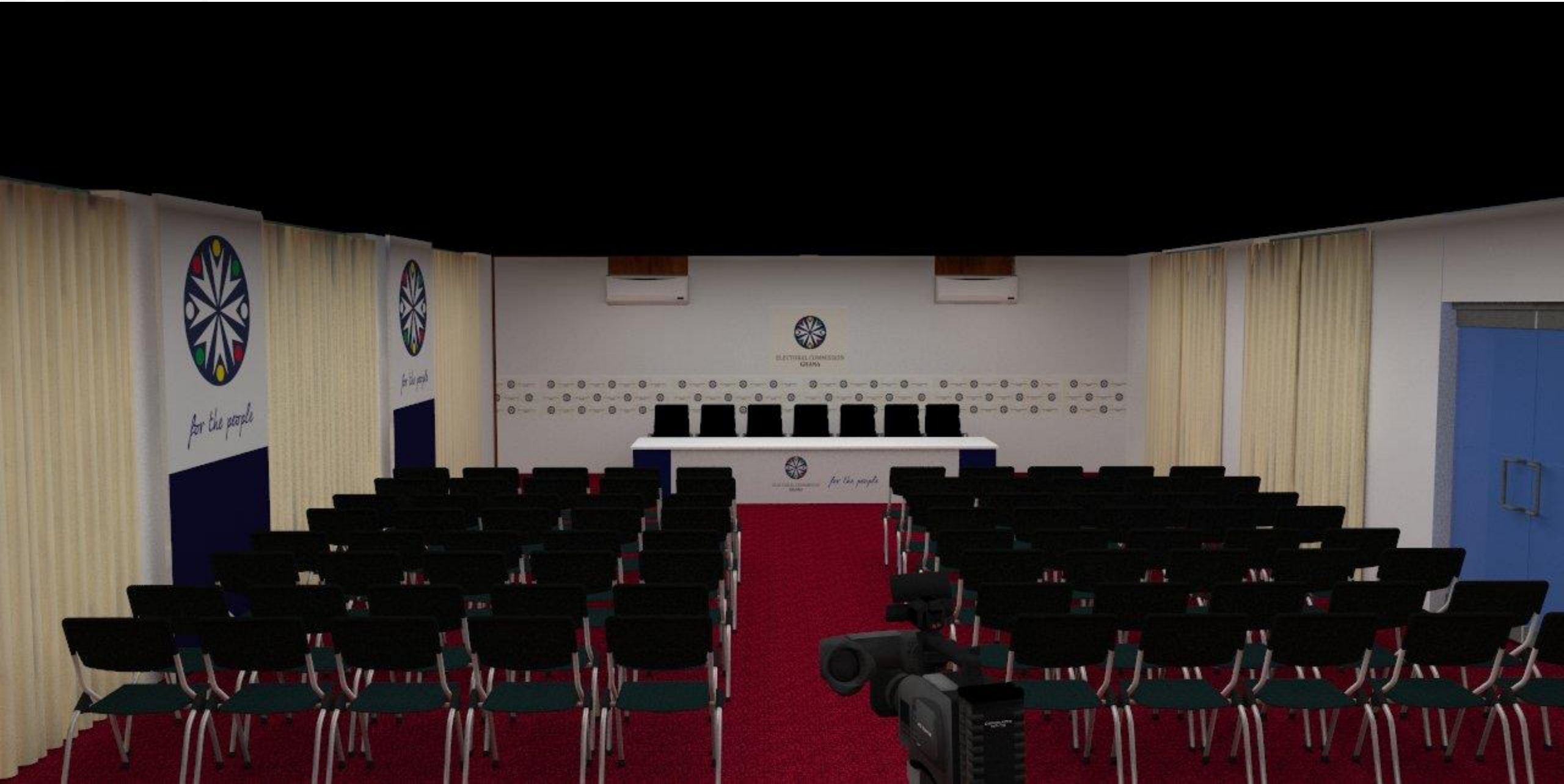
NATIONAL COLLATION CENTRE (NCC)



NATIONAL COLLATION CENTRE



MEDIA CENTRE



MEDIA CENTRE



MEDIA CENTRE



THE ELECTION PROCESS



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ Our electoral system is stronger and more transparent than most electoral systems globally. Here is why:
 - ❁ Our voters' register is fully biometric.
 - ❁ Each voter also has a unique bar code.
 - ❁ Printing of our ballot paper, results declaration forms and collation sheets is monitored by all political parties, security agencies and EC officials.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ Movement of electoral materials is monitored by all political parties and managed by security agencies.
- ❁ On election day, our ballot box is fully transparent.
- ❁ Every voter is biometrically or manually verified before they vote.
- ❁ Where manual verification, Presiding Officer must fill a form signed by the PO and the voter, and endorsed by agents at the polling station.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ The ballot paper given to the voter is validated by a stamp at the polling station.
- ❁ The voter's bar code is deactivated after verification finger marked by indelible ink to prevent double voting.
- ❁ Every register is unique to the Polling Station and a voter only appears on one register. This prevents double voting at different polling stations.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ Tactile ballot jackets are provided for visually impaired voters to enable them vote independently and protect the secrecy of their ballot.
- ❁ Polls are conducted in open public places and counting and declaration are done in the open as well.
- ❁ At the end of the polls, officials and agents check to ensure that the number of people ticked on the register tallies with the number of voters biometrically and manually verified.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ The entire process is closely observed by political party agents, candidate's agents, observers, journalists and members of the public.
- ❁ At the end of the polls, the sorting of the ballot is done in the full glare of the public.
- ❁ Counting will take place in public.
- ❁ The declaration is done in public.
- ❁ The recording of the results declared is done publicly.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ Agents are given copies of the results declared at the PS, CCC and NCC.
- ❁ Transportation of the declared polling station results and ballot papers to the CCC is monitored by agents and security personnel.
- ❁ At the CCC, before the collation begins, agents from the polling stations first confirm that the results being collated are exactly the same results declared at the polling station.



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ The collation is done in front of parliamentary candidates, their agents, spouses, journalists, observers, and security personnel.
- ❁ At the end of the collation, the constituency results are declared in the presence of all.
- ❁ At the NCC, candidates' agents will first confirm the figures before the Commission commences collation.
- ❁ This year, additional integrity mechanisms have been introduced:



THE PROCESS



for the people

- ❁ Electronic Results Transmission – all collated results will be captured into an electronic system projected at the CCC for confirmation by agents and transmitted to the NCC.
- ❁ All Polling Station results will also be scanned and electronically transmitted to the NCC.





KEY LEGAL CHANGES

KEY LEGAL CHANGES



for the people

- ❁ Election Officials & Party Agents have taken oaths before a Magistrate or Judicial officer instead of an officer of the Commission.
- ❁ Clear provisions in C.I. 94 regarding adjournment of polling in the event of a disruption caused by nature or human activity.
- ❁ Serially numbered Statement of Polls and Declaration of the results sheets.



KEY LEGAL CHANGES



for the people

- ❁ Sanctions in the law for election officials who negligently perform their work.
- ❁ Manual verification introduced in addition to biometric verification.
- ❁ Returning Officers will issue copies of collation sheets to Candidates/Agents.
- ❁ We have expanded the list of special voters to include (accredited media personnel, security personnel and staff of the Electoral Commission.)





WHAT TO EXPECT

WHAT TO EXPECT



for the people

- ❁ Barring any unforeseen circumstances, expect materials to arrive at all polling stations on time.
- ❁ Expect all the 28,992 polling stations to open from 7:00am and close at 5:00pm or after the last voter in the queue at 5:00pm votes.





VOTING STEPS

VOTING STEPS

VOTING STEPS

Names Reference Table (Desk 1)

Purpose

To quickly identify voter in Voters Register (VR)

Process

1. Examine finger for traces of electoral stain.
2. Search for name using alphabetical order (ID Card extremely important for search)



for the people

VOTING STEPS

3. Search first in name in Name Reference Lists (NRL) then in *other Lists* (exception, multiple & absent voters lists).

4. Inform Desk 2 (Verification officer) the page number and column in the VR and other lists where the voter's details can be found.



for the people

VOTING STEPS

Verification Table (Desk 2)

Purpose

To Verify voter in Register

Process

1. Locates Voter in **VR** using information from Desk 1.
2. Scans barcode of voter in **VR** using Biometric Voter Device (BVD)
3. Voter requested to put finger on scanner of BVD. Process repeated for all fingers if any fails.

for the people



VOTING STEPS

Verification Table (Desk 2)

4. BVD shows a green light and a voice message “**Verified**” if finger matches, If there is no match, a red light will be shown with a voice message “**rejected**”.
5. Destroy barcode in VR and apply indelible ink to little left finger.



for the people

VOTING STEPS

Verification Table (Desk 2) Contd.

Manual Verification

Purpose

To Verify voter in case BVD fails to verify all 10 fingers.

Process

1. Inform agents of all political parties present at the polling station
2. Fill a manual verification form as provided in C.I. 94
3. Destroy barcode in VR and apply indelible ink to little left finger.

for the people



VOTING STEPS

Ballot table (Desk 3)

Purpose

To issue ballot to voter.

Process

1. Ballot paper is detached from booklet and validated
2. Instruction on how to fold the ballot paper vertically first, and then horizontally
3. Voter is directed to voting screen and the ballot box for both election.



for the people



NEW INTEGRITY MECHANISMS

INTEGRITY MECHANISMS



for the people

- ❁ Ballot issuers to hold up each ballot paper issued for scrutiny of all to ensure it is a single ballot paper and has been stamped before handing over to the voter.
- ❁ Standardized Polling Station set up to minimize security threats and protect the secrecy of the ballot.
- ❁ All Presiding Officers will be issued with gloves which must be worn before sorting of ballots and counting.



INTEGRITY MECHANISMS



for the people

- ❁ Results Collation Sheets (RSC) are serialized and personalized to each Polling Station.
- ❁ Replacement sheets in the event of damage to RCS are also serially numbered and differentiated.
- ❁ We are deploying 2 BVDs per polling station with additional spares at every District Office.



STATEMENT OF POLLS



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA

STATEMENT OF POLL FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT EL 21B & 22B



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA

STATEMENT OF POLLS



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA

Statement of Poll for the Office of President

CHAAN PRIM SCH

POLLING STATION CODE K042204

12498

POLLING STATION NAME _____

A. BALLOT INFORMATION (To be filled in at START of poll)

1. What is the total number of Ballots issued to this polling station? A1

2. What is the range of serial numbers of the ballot papers issued to the polling station? A2

RANGE OF 100 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 50 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 25 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 10 BOOKLETS
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B. INFORMATION ABOUT THE REGISTER AND OTHER LISTS AT THE POLLING STATION

1. What is the number of voters on the polling station register? B1

2. What is the number of voters on the Proxy Voters List? B2

3. What is the number of voters on the Absentee Voters List? B3

4. What is the number of voters on the Transfer Voters List? B4

5. What is the serial number of the BVD What is the serial number of the 2nd BVD Validating Stamp No.

C. BALLOT ACCOUNTING (To be filled in at the END of the poll before counting commences)

1. What is the number of ballots issued to voters on the polling station register? C1

2. What is the number of ballots issued to voters on the Proxy Voters List? C2

3. What is the Total number of SPOILT ballots? C3

4. What is the Total number of UNUSED ballots? C4

5. Sum up (C1+C2+C3+C4) (This number should equal A1 above) C5

6. What is the total number of people verified to vote (press F2 on the BVD) No. of Persons Manually Verified

D. REJECTED BALLOT REPORT (To be filled at the END of poll after the counting is completed)

1. What is the TOTAL number of Rejected Ballots? D

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION - POLLING STATION RESULTS FORM

EL 218

POLLING STATION NAME _____

POLLING STATION CODE _____

S/NO.	NAME OF CANDIDATE (In the order in which they appear on the Ballot Paper)	PARTY INITIALS	VOTES OBTAINED (IN FIGURES)	VOTES OBTAINED (IN WORDS)
1.	IVOR KOBINA GREENSTREET	CPP		
2.	NANA KONADU AGYEMAN-RAWLINGS	NDP		
3.	JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA	NDC		
4.	PAPA KWESI NDUOM	PPP		
5.	NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO	NPP		
6.	EDWARD NASIGRIE MAHAMA	PNC		
7.	JACOB OSEI YEBOAH	IND		
A.	Total Valid Votes			
B.	Total Rejected Votes			
C.	Total Votes in Ballot Box (A+B)			

DECLARATION

We, the undersigned, do hereby declare that the results shown above are a true and accurate account of the ballots in this Polling Station

Name of Presiding Officer _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Time _____

S/NO.	NAME OF POLLING AGENT	NAME OF PARTY OR CANDIDATE	SIGNATURE	REASON, IF REFUSED TO SIGN
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				

EL 228



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA

Statement of Poll for the Office of Member of Parliament

POLLING STATION NAME D/C JHS ABURA GYABANKROM POLLING STATION CODE B032701 23710

A. BALLOT INFORMATION (To be filled in at START of poll)

1. What is the total number of Ballots issued to this polling station? A1
2. What is the range of serial numbers of the ballot papers issued to the polling station?

A2	RANGE OF 100 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 50 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 25 BOOKLETS	RANGE OF 10 BOOKLETS

B. INFORMATION ABOUT THE REGISTER AND OTHER LISTS AT THE POLLING STATION

1. What is the number of voters on the polling station register? B1
2. What is the number of voters on the Proxy Voters List? B2
3. What is the number of voters on the Absentee Voters List? B3
4. What is the number of voters on the Transfer Voters List? B4
5. What is the serial number of the BVD What is the serial number of the 2nd BVD Validating Stamp No.

C. BALLOT ACCOUNTING (To be filled in at the END of the poll before counting commences)

1. What is the number of ballots issued to voters on the polling station register? C1
2. What is the number of ballots issued to voters on the Proxy Voters List? C2
3. What is the Total number of SPOILT ballots? C3
4. What is the Total number of UNUSED ballots? C4
5. Sum up (C1+C2+C3+C4) (This number should equal A1 above) C5
6. What is the total number of people verified to vote (press F2 on the BVD) No. of Persons Manually Verified

D. REJECTED BALLOT REPORT (To be filled at the END of poll after the counting is completed)

1. What is the TOTAL number of Rejected Ballots? D

EL 21A

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION - POLLING STATION RESULTS FORM

POLLING STATION NAME _____ POLLING STATION CODE _____

S/NO.	NAME OF CANDIDATE (In the order in which they appear on the Ballot Paper)	PARTY INITIALS	VOTES OBTAINED (IN FIGURES)	VOTES OBTAINED (IN WORDS)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
A.	Total Valid Votes			
B.	Total Rejected Votes			
C.	Total Votes in Ballot Box (A+B)			

DECLARATION

We, the undersigned, do hereby declare that the results shown above are a true and accurate account of the ballots in this Polling Station

Name of Presiding Officer

Signature

Date

Time

/NO.	NAME OF POLLING AGENT	NAME OF PARTY OR CANDIDATE	SIGNATURE	REASON, IF REFUSED TO SIGN
1.				

STATEMENT OF POLLS



STATEMENT OF POLLS FOR THE OFFICE OF MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

SECTION A: POLLING STATION NAME

SECTION B: POLLING STATION OFFICER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

SECTION C: POLLING STATION OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SECTION D: RECEIVED-BALLET REPORT

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION - POLLING STATION RESULTS FORM

SERIALS	NAME OF CANDIDATE <small>(As the name of candidate appears on the ballot paper)</small>	PARTY SYMBOL	POLLING STATION CODE	
			VOTES UNFOUNDED (ENCLOSURE)	VOTES OBTAINED ON MEMOS
1				
2				
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100				
		Total Valid Votes		
		Total Invalid Votes		
		Total Votes (Valid + Invalid)		

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that the results shown above are a true and accurate account of the votes cast at this polling station.

Name of Presiding Officer		Signature		Date	Time
S/N/O	NAME OF POLLING AGENT	NAME OF PARTY OR CANDIDATE	REASON FOR	REASON, IF REFUSED TO MARK	
1					
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NEW INTEGRITY MECHANISMS



for the people

- ❁ Colour of the indelible ink will be different from the ink on the thumbprint pad. This is to help reduce the number of rejected ballots.
- ❁ The ERTS is encrypted, making it impossible for anyone to decrypt and manipulate the results.





THE ROLE OF AGENTS

THE ROLE OF AGENTS



for the people



Agent Must:



Respect the right of voters at all times.



Position himself/herself in a way that allows him/her to clearly see or hear whatever is going on and move freely at the polling station at all times.



Call the attention of the Presiding Officer to anything that he/she considers to be irregular and if possible, fill an irregularity form or give a written account of irregularity to the Presiding Officer.






THE ROLE OF AGENTS



for the people

The Agent must:

-  Assist the Presiding Officer at his/her request to establish the true identity of a prospective voter whose identity is in doubt.
-  Pay close attention to the ballots that are rejected.
-  Closely observe the counting of the votes, making sure that each ballot is counted in favour of the candidate for whom it was cast.



THE ROLE OF AGENTS



for the people

- ❁ **The Agent should:**
 - ❁ Ask for a recount if he genuinely thinks that the votes have not been counted correctly.
 - ❁ Sign the Declaration of Results Form, making sure that the total number of votes obtained by the candidates have been recorded properly and obtain a copy of the declaration form.
 - ❁ May refuse to sign the declaration form but must provide in writing, the reasons for such refusal.



THE ROLE OF AGENTS



for the people

- ❁ **What The Agent Must Not Do:**
 - ❁ No party or candidate colours or identification at the polling station
 - ❁ Must not interfere with election administration such as counting of the votes after the polls have closed.
 - ❁ Cannot inspect the ID cards of voters in the queue.
 - ❁ Cannot directly confront any person in the polling station.








THE ROLE OF AGENTS



for the people

What The Agent Must Not Do:

-  Cannot assist a voter who needs help to vote.
-  Must not give orders to the election staff or in anyway interfere with or disrupt their work.
-  Cannot try to find out how someone is going to vote or has voted.
-  Cannot handle any election material without the permission of the Presiding Officer.
-  Must not try to supervise the work of the polling staff.





REDUCING REJECTED BALLOTS

REDUCING REJECTED BALLOTS



for the people

- ❁ 2012 Rejected Ballots - **251,720**
- ❁ Measures to reduce rejected ballots:
 - ❁ We have tweaked the ballot paper design - the boxes are larger and the separating lines are now thicker than before.
 - ❁ Different ink colour for indelible ink and thumb print pad.
 - ❁ Social media education: flyers and videos on how to vote.





ELECTORAL COMMISSION, GHANA
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 2016
REGION:

H:

CANDIDATE

SYMBOL

THUMB PRINT IN
ONE BOX BELOW
↓



IVOR KOBINA
GREENSTREET



NANA KONADU
AGYEMAN-RAWLINGS



OUR NATION, OUR FUTURE



JOHN DRAMANI
MAHAMA



PAPA KWESI NDUOM



NANA ADDO
DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO



EDWARD
NASIGRIE MAHAMA



JACOB
OSEI YEBOAH





EDUCATING THE VOTERS

VOTERS EDUCATED



for the people

- ❁ **#AsktheEC:** first-ever weekly interactive voter education TV show produced by the Commission.
- ❁ It has been on air for 12 weeks now.
- ❁ An episode aired last night at 8:30pm on GTV and Uniiq Fm with playback on TV3, Metro TV and UTV.
- ❁ Closer collaboration with Security agencies and NCCE/NMC/GJA and Media Foundation for West Africa.



VOTERS EDUCATED



for the people

- ❁ Special engagements for women groups, traditional authority, faith based organisations and their leadership, first time voters and PWDs
- ❁ **Special arrangements for PWDs:**
 - ❁ Tactile jackets for ballot papers.
 - ❁ Educational materials in braille.
- ❁ Many fora created for voter education, identifying and addressing needs of voters with disabilities.









VOTERS EDUCATED



for the people

Publicity:

-  Millions of educational flyers distributed
-  Billboards
-  Posters
-  TV/radio promos
-  Video commercials
-  Docu-dramas





THE RESULTS

THE RESULTS



for the people

- ❁ Manual Results Transmission
- ❁ Electronic Results Transmission as another layer of integrity.
- ❁ Publication of Presidential results on polling station basis.
- ❁ Real-time public access to the results through the EC Mobile Application (ThumbsApp) and the EC's website.



**THE
RESULTS**



for the people



ThumbsApp



ELECTORAL COMMISSION
GHANA



ELECTION SECURITY

ELECTION SECURITY ISSUES



for the people

- ❁ The probability of election related violence is of great of concern to all Ghanaians.
- ❁ 23 incidents of violence during the Limited Voter Registration exercise.
- ❁ Our offices vandalized and staff injured during transfer of votes exercise.

ELECTION SECURITY ISSUES



for the people

- ❁ We have identified at least 81 constituencies as hotspots with the probability of election related violence.
- ❁ The police has also identified over 5,000 polling stations as hotspots.
- ❁ We have dialogued with leaders of political parties to hold their supporters in-check and use dialogue to resolve any issues they may have about any part of the process.





Pre-Election Survey and Perceptions

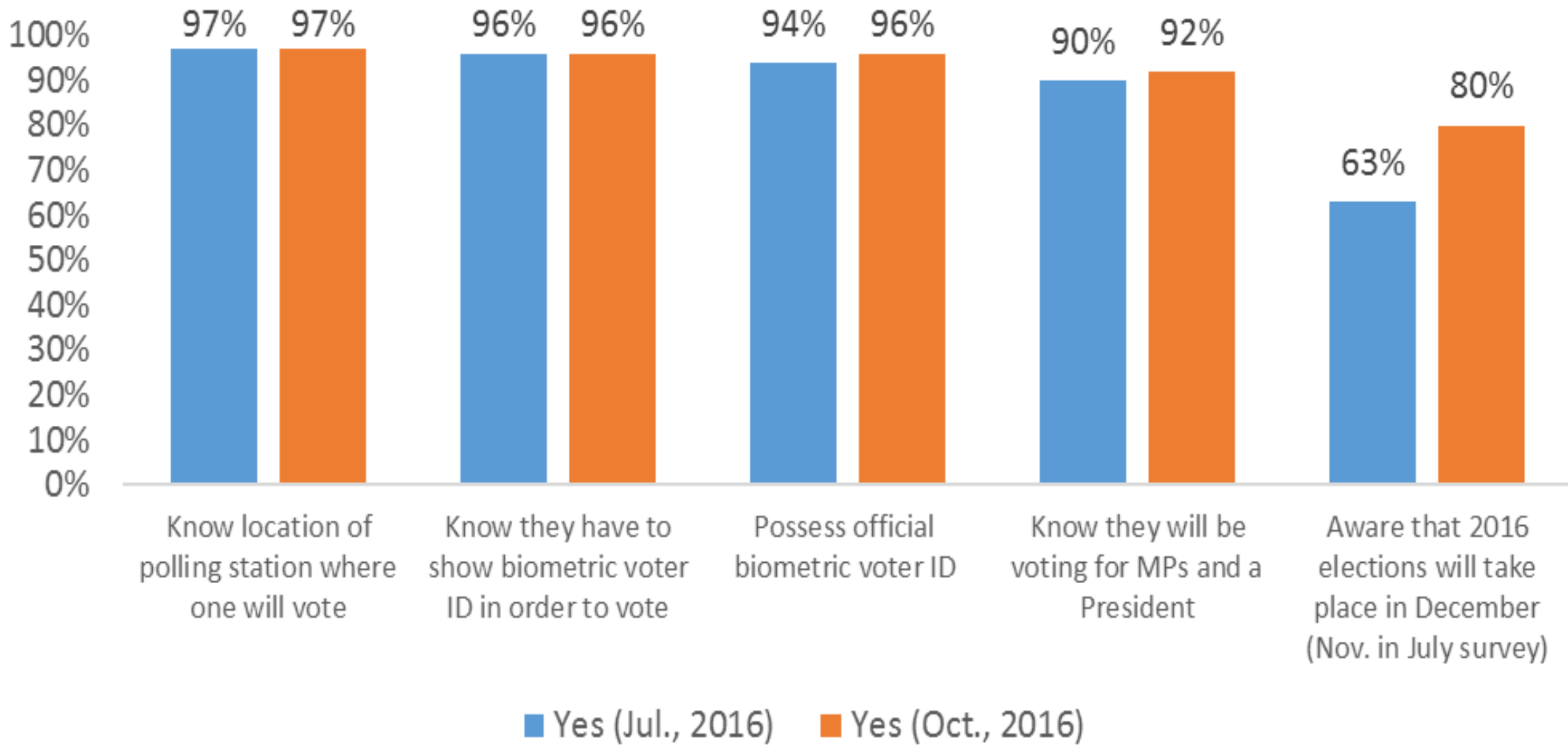
Pre Election Survey



for the people

- 97% of voters are aware of location of Polling stations
- 96% of voters are aware of voting procedures
- 92% of voters are aware of the two elections (Presidential and Parliamentary)
- 80% of voters are clear on the election date





Pre Election Survey



for the people

- 73% of voters believe the EC is prepared and competent
- 70% of voters believe that their vote count
- 60% of voters trust the credibility of the voters' register
- 65% of voters approve or strongly approve of the performance of the Chairperson



Pre Election Survey



for the people

- 64% of voters support the EC's decision on applying manual and electronic verification.
- 83% of voters are confident in the EC and believe the election will be free and fair





for the people



Thank **you!**