

National Commission for Civic Education

Third Annual Report 1996

COMMISSION MEMBERS



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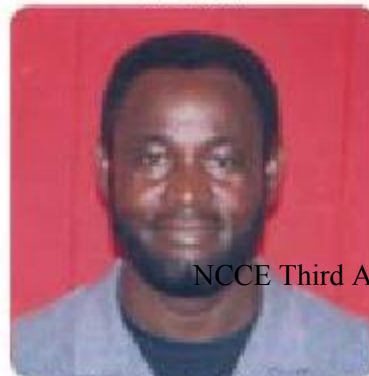
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Preface

This is the National Commission for Civic Education's third Annual Report since its establishment in July 1993. The Report covers the period January 1, 1996 to December 31, 1996.

The period was particularly hectic for the NCCE because it was an election year in which an incumbent President had completed his first term under any of our republican constitutions and was seeking re-election. Furthermore, the opposition parties, having boycotted the parliamentary elections that led to the creation of the first Parliament of the Fourth Republic, had declared their intention to contest both the Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

The NCCE planned and executed several activities designed to encourage the citizens to fully exercise their civic responsibility of voting peacefully in their numbers.

The Commission also carried out its normal functions of educating the public on topical issues. In spite of very limited resources and the desperate lack of accommodation the staff of the Commission assiduously carried out the functions of the Commission as contained in the Constitution and the law.

We believe that the success of constitutional democracy greatly depends on the enhanced performance of democratic institutions such as the NCCE. In this respect the resourcing of the NCCE for effective discharge of its functions is important.

We hope the coming year will bring the NCCE brighter prospects.



Doris Ocansey
(Deputy Chairman)
for: Chairman
Chris Hesse

Introduction

The National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) is a constitutional body mandated to create and sustain awareness of constitutional democracy for the achievement of political, economic and social stability.

The Commission has, in the last three years, since its establishment, endeavoured to meet its constitutional obligations through the development and the implementation of appropriate programmes. The report documents how the Commission has sought to meet its obligations. The report is presented in three sections:

- activities undertaken by the programmes division
- activities of the Finance and Administration division and
- conclusion, which focuses on the problems facing the Commission and its vision.

SECTION A

Programmes

The programme report is presented in two parts: (1) Public Education activities and (2) Research activities.

A1 Public Education Activities

The Commission planned 17 different civic education activities for the year under consideration. These were:

- (i) Civic Education on Directive Principles of State Policy.
- (ii) Civic Education on Intestate Succession Law (PNIJC Law 111).
- (iii) Civic Education on Functions of Some State Institutions i.e. the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary, CHRAJ, EC, Council of State.
- (iv) Civic Education on Environmental Protection and Sanitation.
- (v) Civic Education on Social Issues such as Drug Abuse, Teenage Pregnancy etc.
- (vi) Civic Education On Local Government Structures below District Assemblies.
- (vii) Seminar with Chiefs and Queenmothers.
- (viii) Civic Education on rights and responsibilities of Citizens.
- (ix) Seminar with Ghana Police Service.
- (x) Establishment of NCCE National Consultative Body.
- (xi) Civic Education on Political Tolerance.
- (xii) Workshop for the teaching of the Constitution in first and second cycle schools.
- (xiii) Formation of Civic Education Clubs in schools and communities.
- (xiv) Civic Education on *Ghana: Vision 2020*.
- (xv) Civic Education on the Exhibition of the Voters' Register.
- (xvi) Civic Education Elections.

Out of the 17 activities only eight were undertaken, due largely to lack of finance. The eight activities which were undertaken were:

- (i) Establishment of NCCE National Consultative Body.
- (ii) Civic Education on Political Tolerance.
- (iii) Workshop for the teaching of the Constitution in first and second cycle schools.

- (iv) Formation of Civic Education Clubs in schools and communities.
- (v) Civic Education on *Ghana: Vision 2020*.
- (vi) Civic Education on the Voters' Registration and Exhibition of Voters' Register.
- (vii) Civic Education on the Elections.

A1.1 Establishment of National Consultative Body (NCB)

Following the National Conference on Civic Education held in March 1995, another Conference was held on the same theme in April 1996 at the Novotel Hotel in Accra. The main purpose of this conference was the formation of a National Consultative Body (NCB) recommended by the last conference. The rationale for creating the NCB was to make it act as external advisory body to the Commission and also as a liaison between the Commission and civil society organisations. The body was thus conceived to serve as an effective forum for consultation and harmonization of various approaches and methodologies for enhancing civic education.

Major-General Dan Addo, a Member of the Council of State, addressed the inaugural meeting of the National Consultative Body. The Rev. Dr. Dan Antwi, Principal of the Trinity College, Legon, delivered a paper on the Conference theme *Enhancing Civic Education through Consultation*. He identified the goal of civic education as the creation of a civil society in which citizens assume moral responsibility for democratic culture and therefore called for the empowerment of our people to move from passive players to active ones through an effective educational process.

The inauguration of the NCB was done by Mr. Chris Hesse, Chairman of the NCCE. The body is composed of persons selected from among the five Subject Matter Committees that had been formed in March 1995 when representatives of 69 identifiable groups met to deliberate on ways to assist the NCCE in carrying out its constitutional mandate.

As a strategy to get as many people as possible involved in the realisation of the Commission's objectives, encouragement was given to the formation of Consultative Bodies, on lines of the NCB, at Regional and District levels. By the end of the year, more than a third of the districts and all the 10 regional offices had established consultative bodies.

A1.1.1 Maiden Meeting of NCB

The maiden meeting of the National Consultative Body (NCB) was held on Thursday, May 30, 1996 at the NCCE Conference Hall. Its agenda included the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman, Presentation of Reports on first meeting of five Subject-Matter Committees, Development of Agenda for NCB and the Discussion of the Communiqué issued at the Consultative Conference.

Mr. Justice Kingsley-Nyinah was elected its Chairman with Mrs. Justice Ivy Ashong as the Vice-Chairman. In his inaugural speech, Mr. Justice Kingsley-Nyinah called for the promotion and inculcation of civic responsibility in our citizens to make them fully conscious of their rights and obligations as a free people.

In their reports, the Chairmen of the five Subject Matter Committees outlined ways to achieve the objectives of their Committees. The Chairman of the Socio-Cultural and Environment Committee, Dr. Narh Naartey, identified in his report issues of tribal and religious conflicts, chieftaincy disputes and political intolerance as the principal areas of social friction. Their recommendations for the minimisation of these frictions included civic/public education through the use of the electronic media, churches, mosques, youth and civic clubs.

The Special Groups Committee headed by Rev. Fr. Anthony Kornu identified vulnerable groups in society as expounded in Articles 22(3), 27, 28, 29, 30 and 36 of chapter 6 of the Constitution. They recommended intensive education for all Ghanaians to erase prejudices, change attitudes and strengthen people's responsiveness to their social obligations.

The Economic Committee headed by Togbe Dagadu VII, in its report, argued that issues of the economy were technical. The Committee also requested copies of *Ghana: Vision 2020*, the Directive Principles of State Policy and other documents to study. There was also a call for the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) to interact with the Committee on *Ghana: Vision 2020* to help them appreciate the issues better.

The Law and Order Committee, headed by Mrs. Justice Ivy Ashong, guided by their terms of reference established the need for law and order in society. It also examined how law and order can be maintained as well as the role of the institutions, bodies and individuals involved in the maintenance of law and order in Ghana. The Committee identified national interests as against personal freedoms/rights and the need for peace and stability in society. The Committee recommended civic education on planned sustainable basis for law enforcement / implementing agencies and the general public in laws and regulations in order to enhance compliance.

It also called for the study of law (and order) in Teacher Training institutions, the dissemination of basic laws of the land in serialised simplified language by the media as well as the adoption of an audio-visual approach viz. Drama and TV sketches to deepen our appreciation of law and order in society.

The Committee on the Teaching of the Constitution in Ghana's Educational System was headed by Mr. Justice Kingsley-Nyinah. In its report, the Committee said there was a real need for civic education on the general provisions of the 1992 Constitution, and that the teaching should start from the nursery stages of the education ladder, through the JSS, SSS, teacher training colleges and tertiary institutions. Parents and guardians, the Committee stated, had important roles to play in inculcating in our children the concept and practice of Human Rights, Democracy and Equality before the law.

A1.1.2 Second General Meeting of the NCB

The second General Meeting of the NCB was held on August 3, 1996. The main business on the agenda was a proposed Declaration by Political Parties for Peaceful Elections. This, according to the Chairman, Mr. Justice Kingsley-Nyinah, was very necessary because there were enough signs of political violence in the society. Violence and intimidation, he argued, were not conducive to free and fair elections. The declaration was therefore one of the strategies to obtain the commitment of

party leaders and their followers to peace, understanding and reasonableness. The idea of getting the Political Parties to sign the declaration could not see the light of day because the Political Parties did not show commitment to it. As a result the declaration was turned into a statement which was issued in the wake of the December 1996 elections (Appendix C).

A1.2 Civic Education on Political Tolerance

The year's civic education revolved around the topical and recurrent issues of political tolerance.

A1.2.1 Organisation of Nation-wide Essay Competition

As a first step for sensitising the general public to the need for tolerance most especially among the youth before, during and after the 1996 general election, the Commission, in conjunction with the Ghana Education Service (GES), organised a nationwide essay competition for JSS and SSS students. The topic for the essay was, *Political Tolerance is the Key to Stability in Ghana*. Winners of the essay competition were awarded prizes by His Excellency the President, Flt.-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, during the 39th Anniversary celebrations of Ghana's Independence on March 6, 1996 in Accra. Similar competitions were organised at the Regional and District Levels and winners awarded prizes.

A1.2.2 Use of Drama/Sketches

A number of schools and communities were encouraged to stage plays on Political Tolerance. Thus in the Central Region such plays were performed at Apam, Gomoa Breyofedur and Essam. The impact of the messages the plays conveyed were moving and it helped in no small way to spread the message of Peace and Tolerance.

A1.2.3 Seminars and Durbars

The various forms of strategies used to spread the message on tolerance namely durbars, seminars, lectures, workshops, addressed a common concern; viz:

- (i) that Ghanaians have a common culture
- (ii) that we have different traits
- (iii) that the Constitution recognises the divergence of ideas and opinions
- (iv) that anyone who holds an opinion different from yours is not your enemy
- (v) that flourishing of different ideas can be for the growth of the society.

Through the organisation of events such as essay writing and seminars in the districts and the regions, political tolerance became the clarion call and the central point of all statements or messages sent around during that period.

A1.3 Seminars for Ghana Armed Forces

In the 1995 Annual Report mention was made of seminars for the Ghana Armed Forces. The programme was suspended before it could run its full course. The programme was however continued and concluded within the year in the remaining garrisons in the Southern and Northern Zones.

The Seminars started off at the Jungle Warfare School, Achiase, on February 29, 1996 and continued at the Airforce Base, Takoradi; Fourth Battalion of Infantry,

Uaddara Barracks, Kumasi; and ended at the Third Battalion, Liberation Barracks, Sunyani, on the March 12, 1996. The Tamale programme had to be postponed at the instance of the Military.

The programme, during the second phase, was almost the same as that of the first phase. As part of the opening programme, the Chairman of the NCCE, Mr. Chris Hesse, made brief introductory remarks. The Chairman's remarks were followed by presentation of two papers. Two more papers were presented the following day. A lecture normally lasted an hour. This was followed by an average of forty-five minutes of incisive questioning, frank discussion of issues and contribution sessions.

The four lectures delivered were:

- *Contents of the Constitution — Specific Aspects* delivered by Ms. Doris Ocansey, Deputy Chairman (Programmes);
- *Political Tolerance — The Basis/or Constitutional Stability* delivered by Mr. E.K.T. Addo, Commission member;
- *Human Rights and Civic Duties* delivered by Mr. Benjamin Kumbour, a Lawyer and Director of Operations at the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice; and
- *Defending the Constitution The Role of the Armed Forces* delivered by Colonel A.B. Donkor, Judge Advocate-General of the Ghana Armed Forces. He was ably supported by Colonel D.K. Tettey and Lt.-Col. Festus Aboagye,

The attendance and quality of discussions and the often-relevant questions that characterised the lectures at all centres were ample demonstration that the lectures were well understood and appreciated by the Military participants at the seminars.

At all the centres one thing that became obvious was the overwhelming enthusiasm of military participants at the seminars to seek answers to various national, political and/or socio-economic issues that bothered them. Participation was in many places so intense and discussions so lively that it became evident that the period permitted for such interaction was inadequate. The programme on the whole was very successful and the general view expressed by the various participating garrisons was that similar lectures should be organised for the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary.

A1.4 Workshop on the Teaching of the Constitution in 1st and 2nd Cycle Schools

The teaching of the Constitution in the Primary and Junior Secondary Schools is one of the major programmes of the Commission. A programme for the teaching of the Constitution in schools had been accepted by the GES long before the establishment of the NCCE. In 1994 therefore the NCCE as a follow-up to the earlier efforts by the National Commission for Democracy (NCD), organised a national workshop for selected teachers in the discipline of Life Skills, Cultural Studies and Social Studies as the first phase of the programme to build capacity towards the teaching of the Constitution in schools. The trained teachers of the workshop were to train their colleagues to enable the testing of the programme on a pilot basis in the classroom. Unfortunately, the constraint on logistics aborted the continuation of the programme.

During the year under review the Commission managed to mobilize some finds

which enabled the organization of a 10-day residential workshop for 120 teachers from three selected districts in the Central Region. The districts were Awutu-Efutu-Senya, Gomoa and Agona districts. The workshop was held on the theme *Sowing Seeds of Constitutionalism and Democracy Within the School System in Ghana* at the Winneba Sports College, Winneba, from September 7 to 12, 1996.

The workshop was aimed at using the schools in the three districts as pilot centres in the teaching programme. The workshop was intended to give the requisite training in the use of a Teacher's Guide that was prepared in 1994 by the Ghana Education Service (GES) for the Teaching of the Constitution in schools. In collaboration with the GES, the three-year pilot scheme was put into action immediately after the workshop. The Commission and the GES were to monitor this programme. Lecturers from the University of Cape Coast and the University College of Education, Winneba, were to evaluate the programme. It was expected that the results would greatly influence the GES and the Ministry of Education in deciding whether or not to incorporate the teaching of the Constitution into the curricula of first and second cycle schools.

A1.5 Formation of Civic Education Clubs

The idea of sustaining education through groups and associations was given a boost at the March 1996 National Consultative Conference on Civic Education organised by the Commission. The Conference participants in their final communiqué resolved that *Civic Education Clubs, as voluntary study groups of the Constitution, should be encouraged in schools, workplaces and communities*. These Civic Education Club (CECs), the Conference outlined, will be non-partisan and open to all Ghanaians, both young and old, and who are prepared to help work towards the realization of the basic principles of the Constitution as contained in its preamble.

Soon after the March 1996 Conference, the Commission put in place the needed mechanism for the formation of the CECs. The Commission worked on general guidelines for the CECs. (Refer to Appendix A).

The formal launching of Civic Education Clubs throughout the country took place at the Accra Academy on March 1, 1996 on the theme *Sustaining the Democratic Process through Civic Awareness*. Five schools from the Greater Accra Region were present for the inauguration. They were Accra Academy, Achimota School, Accra High, Ebenezer Secondary and PRESEC, Legon.

The Formation of CECs has provided avenues to shape the views of the youth on the Constitution and help develop in members an awareness of the principles and objectives of the 1992 Constitution as the fundamental law of the land. The CECs do these through the organisation of civic education fora, symposia, durbars, conferences, seminars, colloquia, workshops, and meetings for all strata of the population on topical national issues. Many clubs have also visited Parliament to acquaint themselves with the workings of the Legislature. Some clubs have organised educational tours to other important landmarks such as Akosombo Dam and Kakum National Park. For others the emphasis has been on environmental education, clean-ups, debates, quizzes and reading activities.

A1.5.1 Eastern Region

A grand inauguration of Civic Education Clubs within the Kwahu District took place at St Peter's Secondary School, Nkwatia. Executive Officers of 14 second cycle schools were present for the inauguration. The Deputy Chairman (Programmes) inaugurated the clubs.

A1.5.2 Greater Accra Region

The Chairman of the NCCE, Mr. Chris Hesse, inaugurated the Achimota Civic Club on May 10, 1996. The ceremony was attended by the Headmistress, Mrs. Charlotte Brew-Graves, teachers, the 100 members of the Club and other students. On June 27, 1996 Civic Education Clubs of 10 selected schools of the Dangme East District were inaugurated at Ada Foah.

A1.5.3 Central Region

The region also took up seriously the formation of Civic Education Clubs. Mr. Chris Hesse, Chairman of the NCCE, inaugurated the Civic Education Clubs of selected second cycle schools in Cape Coast on June 29, 1996 at the Centre for National Culture. Mr. E.K.T. Addo, Commission member in-charge of Central and Western regions, also addressed the students. The Chairman for the function was the Central Regional Director of the GES.

The Regional Office organised a series of quiz competitions for CECs in junior secondary schools in Cape Coast from February 2 to March 21, 1997. The schools were zoned into three. The competition for schools in Zone One was held at the St. Monica's School Assembly Hall, Zone Two at Pedu M/A Junior Secondary School whilst that of Zone Three was at the Cape Coast Town Hall.

Civic Education Club Members of Holy Child School, Adisadel College and Wesley High Girls School also undertook educational tours to Accra where they visited Parliament, the Supreme Court, the Castle and other places of interest.

A1.6 Civic Education on Ghana: Vision 2020

The Commission during the year under review assisted the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) in its educational/publicity work on *Ghana: Vision 2020*. As a follow-up to the official launching of Public Education and Information on *Ghana Vision 2020, the First Step 1996-2000* all district offices of the Commission were asked to commence public education on the theme.

The following educational materials were provided to the district offices as a useful guide in the education and activities.

- i. Ghana Vision 2020- the First Step 1996-2000
- ii. Synopsis of Vision 2020
- iii Brief Profile of NDPC
- iv. NDPC Brochures on inspirational messages used during the launching of PEI programme on Vision 2020.

The NCCE in the educational work collaborated with representatives of the National Development Planning Commission and District Planning Officers.

A1.7 Registration Exercise and Exhibition of Voters' Register

From October 1 to 15, 1996 the Electoral Commission began an exercise to register eligible voters to ensure that the mass of Ghanaians turned out to register. The Commission, prior to the beginning of the exercise, launched its activities to educate the populace on the exercise. The Commission produced a theme song titled *Voters Registration Exercise* which became very popular with many citizens.

The NCCE with sponsorship from the Hanns Seidel Foundation produced five posters and two car stickers for distribution throughout the country.

The posters carried the following messages:

- You Can Vote only if you are a Registered Voter.
- Do You Want a Better Ghana? Then Register Now!
- Don't be an Onlooker! Join the Democratic Train.
- Participate in the Political Process. Register as a Voter.
- Rush! Let Your Name Appear in the Voters' Register.

The car stickers carried the following messages

- Your Registration Gives You Power to Participate in Every Election.
- You Can Vote Only if You are a Registered Voter.

Officers of the Commission also toured the country organising seminars, educational durbars and symposia to sensitise eligible Ghanaians to register. In the monitoring function of the NCCE, Commission Members and Headquarters staff with the support of regional and district staff, toured registration centres and lapses identified were reported to the local Electoral Commission officers for prompt action.

Later in the year, when the Voters' Register was exhibited, the Commission again in its educational activities urged registered voters to check that their names were on the register and that their names were correctly recorded.

A1.8 Parliamentary and Presidential Elections

The Commission, in 1996, ran a series of activities aimed at sensitising the citizens to fully participate in the Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

A1.8.1 Organisation of Zonal Seminars

During the first quarter of the year, the NCCE received financial support from the UNDP and the Royal Netherlands Embassy which enabled the Commission to organise three zonal workshops on the theme: *Towards, the 1996 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections—Sensitising the Citizenry' on their Civic Rights, Responsibilities and Political Tolerance' in Multi-Party Democracy.*

The workshop had the following objectives:

- To sensitise the participants to their civic rights and responsibilities and on the need for political tolerance in a multi-party democracy;
- To solicit the views of participants on the realities and challenges posed by the democratisation process and the need for political tolerance; and

- To solicit the views of participants on how to make the Constitution an effective living document for National Development and on how to maintain law and order not only in an election year but always.

Participants in the workshops included Political Parties. Chiefs, the Clergy, Ministry of Education, the Security Agencies (Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, Customs, Excise and Preventive Service (CEPS), Immigration Service, Fire Service, Prisons), District Assemblies. Public/Civil Servants, Women's Organisations, Traders, the Media, Ghana Private Road Transport Union (GPRTU), National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS), Youth Organisations, the Judiciary, other professional bodies made up of Ghana Bar Association (GBA), Ghana National Association of Teachers (GNAT). Bankers, Engineers, Nurses Associations, and the NCCE among others.

The workshops were held at the VRA Club House in Tamale, on October 11, 1996 for participants from the Upper West, Upper East and Northern Regions; City Hotel in Kumasi, on October 15, 1996 for participants from the Eastern, Brong-Ahafo and Ashanti regions; and the Teachers' Hall in Accra, for participants from the Volta, Western, Central and Greater Accra regions on October 22, 1996. A total of 302 persons registered and took part in the deliberations of the three zonal workshops. The breakdown was as follows: Zone One, 94 participants, Zone Two, 107 participants and Zone Three, 101 participants. The zonal workshops followed a common pattern.

There was the opening ceremony during which the Regional Directors of the NCCE delivered their welcome address. These were followed by the keynote address of the Chairman of the NCCE and remarks by the UNDP Resident Representative. Resource persons then delivered papers on specific issues. Each paper was followed by open forum interactions. Syndicated groups later discussed the papers and presented their reports.

The NCCE Chairman, Mr. Chris Hesse, in his keynote address reviewed the work of the NCCE in the last three years and projected its programmes into the future, all in the direction of ensuring that the Ghanaian society grows and develops in peace, through civic awareness and tolerance for one another's views.

The paper also touched on the Directive Principles of State Policy, as contained in the Fourth Republican Constitution, describing it as the ideology of the state. He examined the duties of the citizen within the context of those principles. The chairman ended his paper by emphasising the role that politically conscious citizens can play in the promotion and sustenance of democracy in society. Democracy, he stressed, could only be sustained on the premise of "awareness of rights and responsibilities among citizens". He emphasised that such a condition was very basic and critical to the economic, social, cultural and political well being of any nation's development.

The UNDP's paper was delivered by two officials: Emmanuel Anyidoho, an Economist, in Tamale and Kumasi, and Mr. Sidik, in Accra. The UNDP stated that its collaboration with bodies like the NCCE was aimed at promoting rapid development of human resources through co-operation and focusing on national and international energies in solving essential problems.

Five papers were delivered during the workshops. The resource persons and topics they dealt with were:

Zone 1 and 2 (Tamale and Kumasi)

- *Aspects of the Fourth Republican Constitution: The Civilian Viewpoint* by Mr. Napoleon Agboada, Deputy Director (Public Education), NCCE.
- *Aspects of the Fourth Republican Constitution: The Military Viewpoint*, by Col. A.B. Donkor, Judge Advocate General, Ghana Armed Forces (GAR).
- *Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy* by Rev. Dr. Dan Antwi, Principal of Trinity College, Legon.

Zone 3 (Accra)

- *Aspects of the Fourth Republican Constitution: The Civilian Viewpoint* by Mr. Augustus Tannah, a Business Executive and a former Diplomat.
- *Aspects of the Fourth Republican Constitution: Military Viewpoint* by Lt.-Col. Festus Aboagye, Ghana Armed Forces.
- *Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy* by Rev. Dr. Dan Antwi, Principal of Trinity College, Legon.

Participants on the whole were appreciative of the impact and efforts of the NCCE, UNDP and the Royal Netherlands Government in exposing them to new ideas. Many participants however expressed the view that the workshop could have been organised at the district level to bring opportunity and benefits of the education closer to the people on the ground.

A1.8.2 Educational Materials

The NCCE designed and printed four posters, two car stickers and a handbill for distribution throughout the country. The materials on the whole emphasised the importance of voting as one aspect of democracy.

The posters carried the messages:

- (i) Elections Without Violence Guarantee Development
- (ii) Make Elections '96 Free, Fair and Peaceful
- (iii) Respect Different Political Views— This Ensures Clean Politics
- (iv) Your Political Opponent is not Your Enemy

The car stickers carried the message:

- (i) Make Elections '96 Free, Fair and Peaceful: and
- (ii) Elections without Violence Strengthen Ghana's Democracy.

The handbill carried the message: On Election Day—Vote Early. Vote Wisely
Your Vote is Your POWER!

The Commission, with financial support from the Japanese Government, also produced a brochure on the '96 *Presidential and Parliamentary Elections. The Right to vote and Political Tolerance*. The Brochure, among others, dealt with issues such as:

- What benefit(s) and Power(s) accrue to you as a Voter?
- Why should you vote? · What is Political Tolerance?
- Why is Political Tolerance necessary and vital for Ghana?
- Political intolerance —Lessons to be learnt from other Experiences.

The 1996 Calendar of the Commission also focused on the need for free and fair elections and political tolerance.

A1.8.3 Other Educational Activities

Nation-wide educational activities were undertaken to bring home to Ghanaians, especially eligible voters, the need to participate in the election as a means of expressing their democratic rights.

Ahead of the 1996 elections, the Commission, in collaboration with the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), produced tit-bits on the elections for GTV. Three of these catchy tit-bits conveyed the following information:

With the Coming Elections...

- All Political Parties have actively participated in laying a firm foundation for the country's electoral process.
- Voters are now very anxious to know their candidates.
- Voters are also eager to know the programmes of the Political Parties and how the parties propose to achieve them.
- This is the time for *Political Parties* and the *Candidates* to employ persuasive and political marketing skills.
- It is the wish of all Ghanaians who support democracy that *issues* will be *debated* in a peaceful and cordial atmosphere. Your programme should also be realistic.

ISSUED BY NCCE

Why You Must Vote On December 7, 1996

- To express your views on national issues and help determine the direction of your country's development.
- To elect the President of the Republic and Members of Parliament who shall act on your behalf in the governance of the country for the next four (4) years.
- To usher in the new term of the Fourth Republic which begins from January 7, 1997.
- To influence decisions that affect your life.
- The opportunity to vote in General Election comes only once in four (4) years. You need not miss it.

- Voting is your Constitutional Right and Civic Duty. You must exercise it without fear.
- It is only through the exercise of voting that democracy has a real meaning.
- Every single vote is as valid as the other and counts in this election.
- It is the first time in the last 30 years that the full tenure of a government in Ghana is being marked constitutionally. You must be part of the historic event.

ISSUED BY NCCE

The Competitive Spirit in a Democracy

- After voters make their final decision on December 7, 1996, there will be *Winners and Losers*.
- All contestants should take the outcome of the elections in good faith. Both winners and losers should pledge to work together in harmony for the good of this country.
- Our political differences should not deny our dear nation, the use of its human resources.
- Together we can then take a confident and democratic stride into the 21st Century.

ISSUED BY NCCE

Let us all make sure the 1996 Elections are peaceful. Our country can only develop in an atmosphere of peace.

- We should put across our views freely and peacefully. With patience and tolerance we can together help our infant democracy to take firm roots.
- Political parties aim at the same goal using different methods. Our Political opponents are therefore *not* our enemies.
- It would be more useful to debate how we can solve the problems of ignorance, disease and poverty instead of spending our time and energy insulting each other.
- As we continue to practice democracy, we should all help to create a free-market for positive ideas to flourish. We can do this at the family, the community and national levels.
- We should always remember that in whatever we do we should put Ghana first.

ISSUED BY NCCE

The Commission also produced messages on peace and tolerance as well as the encouragement of registered voters to exercise their franchise.

Furthermore, the Commission, in collaboration with GTV, produced special Adult Education Programmes to appeal for calm and peace during and after the election. The Chief Imam, representatives of the Christian Council of Ghana and the National Catholic Secretariat, Commission Members and Officers of the NCCE speaking in various languages appealed to Ghanaians to ensure peaceful elections.

The National Consultative Body (NCB) in conjunction with the NCCE came out with a joint statement calling on all Ghanaians, especially leaders of political parties and their followers, to ensure free, fair and peaceful elections (Refer to Appendix D).

During the election campaigns, when there were incidents of violence in some parts of the country. E.g. Tamale, Kibi and Zebilla, the NCCE came out with a statement deploring the violence and called for calm.(Refer to Appendix E).

A1.9 Regional Activities

The Regional offices ensured that the district offices faithfully carried out all the activities drawn by the National Headquarters. Aside the eight national activities the regional and district offices also carried out some specific activities to address peculiar needs of their region and districts.

A1.9.1 Northern Region

Following from work done the previous year, the Commission in its educational activities called for caution and restraint. People were urged not to revisit the causes of the conflict in the political contest, especially in Tamale and Yendi where the political parties were very vibrant.

The NCCE also undertook other forms of peace work:

- 5) Anytime there were clashes between party followers especially of the Great Alliance and the Progressive Alliance, the Commission, to prevent it from escalating, quickly called the parties to meetings.
- ii) In Yendi the District Director became a social icon and people came to him to resolve tense situations. He ensured that the key political players remained calm and through that maintained peace and calm in the district.

The Regional Office ensured that Peace Pacts that had been signed by warring parties became the main document in its educational activities on the need for peace in the region. This the office did to ensure that the mass of the people knew about the contents of the Peace Pacts.

One such document was the *Kumasi Accord on Peace and Reconciliation Between the Various Ethnic Groups in the Northern Region* which was signed on March 28 1996 by Dagombas, Konkombas, Basares, Nawuris and Nanumbas; Gonjas and Nchumurus.

The Northern Regional office also organised a seminar for 60 field officers drawn from the 13 districts offices and regional office at the Tamale Workers College, Tamale, from February 5 to 9, 1996. The seminar's objectives were:

- to equip field officers with skills to carry out their work; and
- to afford field officers from the various districts the opportunity to interact and share ideas and experiences.

Six lectures were delivered during the seminar:

- (i) Overview of the work of NCCE in the Northern Region in 1995 by Issah Abudullai Nasagri;
- (ii) The Constitution in practice by Dajiah J. Iddrisu, Regional Director of CHRAJ;
- (iii) Communication as an effective tool for programme delivery by Lamptey Lawson, Regional Manager of GNA;
- (iv) Report writing, monitoring and evaluation by Evans Oheneba-Mensah. Principal Research Officer-NCCE HQ;
- (v) Research Methodology by Mrs. Gertrude Zakariah-Ali, Director of Research:
and
- (vi) Programmes and Methodological approach to work by Dr. Imranah, NORRIP, Tamale.

The seminar on the whole was successful and the participants hoped regular programmes could be organised for them.

A1.9.2 Central Region

During the year under review, a total of 25 seminars; two symposia, 1072 durbars, talks, two peace marches and 74 inauguration of civic education clubs were held. It is worth noting that such fora were held after working hours and on Saturdays and Sundays. This had to be done in order not to take people away from the offices and thereby reduce productivity.

Educational programmes organised by the region centered on the creation of civic awareness among the citizenry on environmental issues and the knowledge of the civic rights and responsibilities. Among the topics focused on were: Duties of a Citizen; Rights and Freedoms Under the 1992 Constitution; Citizens and their Tax Obligations; Code of Conduct for Public Officers; Political Tolerance and Directive Principles of State Policy.

A1.9.3 Ashanti Region

During the year under review the region organized, among others, seminars, durbars, lectures to educate the public on various topical issues. Issues dealt with were:

- Principles and Objectives of the Constitution
- Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms
- The Rights of Women and Children Under the 1992 Constitution
- The Intestate Succession Law.

The Commission through its educational work contributed its quota to educating the citizens in the region on the Constitution and other civic issues.

A1.9.4 Eastern Region

The Region's public education activities were centered on the following topics from the 1992 Constitution:

- a) Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms; with special emphasis on Women's and Children's Rights;
- b) The Directive Principles of State Policy;
- c) The Intestate Succession Law;
- d) The Family Head Accountability Law;
- e) The Wills Act (1971), Act 360;
- f) Child Care and Family Planning;
- g) Environmental and Other Related Issues.

As a strategy to effectively educate the public on these issues linkages were established with some institutions in the Judicial Service, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ministry of Local Government. Where appropriate, resource persons from these organisations joined NCCE personnel to address various gatherings.

A1.10 Radio Programmes

The Commission, recognising the importance of the radio in the dissemination of information, endeavoured to get spots on local FM stations. The experience at various regions is presented below:

A1.10.1 National Headquarters

Within the year, Civic Agenda, a civic education spot on *Radio 2*, focussed on Civic Education Clubs as focal points for learning and sharing of civic skills and culture among the youth in particular. Information on guidelines for their formation was also shared to enable prospective clubs to educate themselves correctly.

The Research Department's survey on public attitudes towards the Voters' Registration exercise came up with very important findings. The radio programme highlighted the major findings over a number of weeks. Within the year some principal provisions of the Constitution like Citizenship, Rights and Freedoms of Citizens, Duties and Responsibilities of the Citizen, Maintenance of State Property and the Freedom of the Media/Press Freedom were discussed, analysed and disseminated.

This being an election year, the issue of Political Tolerance became a central theme that ran through most of the programmes until the end of the year.

A1.10.2 Ashanti Region

The Ashanti Regional Office introduced two civic education spots on *Garden City Radio* in Kumasi within the year. *Civic Forum* in English and *Omanbapa* in Twi, both discussions/call-in programmes entered the Ashanti Region's airwaves on May 23, 1996 and July 15, 1996 to strengthen the NCCE's strategies of deepening and expanding citizens' knowledge about the provisions of the 1992 Constitution as well all issues of democracy.

Topics handled between the two programmes during the period under review included:

- NCCE and its functions
- The 1992 Constitution
 - Fundamental Human Rights
- Directive Principles of State Policy
- Waking up to our civic responsibility
- Political Tolerance
- National Integration
- Presidential/Parliamentary Elections
- Electoral Concerns
- Political Campaigning
- Preparing for Elections
- Peace -(non-violence)
- Protecting the Constitution
- Electoral Procedure
- Role of Opposition and Ruling Party in enhancing multi-party democracy.

The resource persons included the director and selected staff of the regional office and representatives of other institutions such as the Electoral Commission, the Ghana Armed Forces, Ghana Police Service, Ghana National Fire Service, Environmental Protection Agency and Attorney-General's Department.

A2 Research Activities

The Research Department at the National Headquarters, during the period under review, undertook with the help of regional and district offices a nationwide survey on *Public Attitude Towards the Voters Registration Exercise*, a Public Opinion Poll on the *Functioning of Political Parties* and Collection of Baseline Data.

A2.1 Survey on Public Attitudes Towards the Voters Registration Exercise

The survey on *Public Attitudes Towards the Voters Registration Exercise* was carried out in July 1996. It was the second survey to be undertaken in two years by the Research Department of the Commission. The survey was sponsored by the Canadian High Commission to Ghana and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The major objective of the study was to make it possible for the NCCE, on the basis of a scientific enquiry, to collate opinions and identify various problems/ concerns that people had with the Voters Register.

In terms of focus, the survey attempted to find answers to the following questions:

- what problems did people face during the registration and exhibition exercises?
- How credible do people find the register?
- Do people trust that the register does not contain names of otherwise disqualified persons like minors, aliens etc.?
- Do people think that free and fair elections can be held based on the register? and
- Do people think there can be manipulation of the electoral system in spite of the voters register?

Having collated information on the problems and issues, the NCCE hoped it would be in a position to structure its educational campaign on the presidential and parliamentary elections to address the concerns of voters so as to build their confidence and trust in the Voters Register and the whole electoral process.

Armed with the findings, the Commission hoped to be in a position to disabuse the voter's mind of any suspicions that might arise out of the belief that the whole process might have favoured one party or the other and thus prevent situations similar to that of the boycotting of the 1992 Parliamentary election and effectively help stem the tide of violence that might arise out of distrust for the electoral system and a feeling by some section of voters that the electoral system was manipulated by one party or the other.

The sample frame for the survey was the national total of 200 Constituencies located within the 10 regions of the country. Ten thousand questionnaires were administered in the 100 sampled constituencies. One hundred questionnaires were administered in each selected constituency. The ten thousand questionnaires represented 0.11 per cent of the 9,190,811 registered voters, and 0.08 per cent of the 12,205,574 population of Ghana.

To ensure that interviewers' understanding of the questions was uniform, the Commission undertook to train the research assistants. The training programme for the research assistants, who were all staff of the Commission, was organized at the 10 regional capitals between June 22 and 29, 1996. Each research assistant took and administered between 33 and 34 questionnaires within one week. Reports from the field indicated that on the average the questionnaires were administered at the rate of five respondents a day.

The Report documents what happened during the voters registration exercise by collating information on the problems that people faced during the registration and exhibition exercises. It provides views on the general organisation of the exercise, especially in the face of new procedures introduced by the EC and presents information on the attitude of the electorate towards the new register. Finally it provides information on the general public's understanding of the concept of *free and fair* elections.

The key findings of the survey are:

On Problems Faced During Registration Exercise

From the survey, it became clear that media impressions that the whole registration exercise was bedevilled with problems was in fact the view of only a section of society that had access to the media. This survey indicates that problems were not widespread. The data indicate that out of 10,000 respondents, as many as 8,609 representing 86.1 per cent of respondents said they did not face any problem during the registration exercise. Two Hundred and fifty-three out of the total number of respondents could not say whether they faced problems or not.

Of the 1,224 respondents who indicated that they faced problems, the bulk, numbering 654 or 53 per cent, said their problem had to do with registration materials. Three hundred and forty-eight said their problem was with long queues at the registration centres, while 119 respondents said their problem had to do with harassment by party agents.

Those who mentioned registration materials as their problem said their specific type of problem in this area had to do with shortage of registration forms (266 or 40 per cent), shortage of films (197 or 30 per cent) and lack of indelible ink at registration centres (50 or 7.0 per cent). The majority of those who complained that they faced problems were men.

On Problems Faced During the Exhibition Exercise

The survey indicates that many people took pains to check their names on the provisional voters register. The high turn-out during the exhibition exercise and for that matter the registration exercise as a whole is without doubt due to the extensive public/civic education work undertaken by the media and the NCCE.

In comparative terms, fewer Ghanaians faced problems during the exhibition exercise as compared to the registration exercise. The exhibition exercise was devoid of major problems and consequently could be said to have been more successful than the voters' registration exercise. Among the major problems faced by the respondents during the exhibition exercise were wrong spelling of names

and other personal data, and the loss of voter ID cards.

Out of the 885 respondents who faced problems during the exhibition exercise, 565 or 63.8 per cent said they had problems with wrong capture of personal data by the registration officials. Thirty-two respondents representing 0.3 per cent said they had by the time of the exhibition exercise misplaced their voter ID cards.

The majority of those who had problems with the wrong capture of data in the register were Traders/Artisans/Drivers. Out of the 565 respondents who had problems with wrong capture of the personal data. 128 or 22.7 per cent of the respondents to this question were from this occupational group.

Voter ID Cards

Contrary to media reports that the EC had failed to issue voter ID cards as promised to constituencies which were entitled to them, the survey indicates that most of those entitled to photo ID cards had by the time of this survey received them. Nine out of every 10 respondents who qualified for photo ID cards said they had received their photo ID cards. In Eastern and Brong Ahafo regions all the respondents had been served with their photo ID cards.

For many of those who could not be served with their photo ID cards, they went to centres on specified dates given them by the EC but cameramen of the Commission were not present. Two hundred and eighteen respondents, representing 63 per cent of those with reasons why they did not get a photo ID card responded in that way. Interestingly, 23 or 6.6 per cent of respondents said they did not know where to go and take their pictures.

The issue of limiting the photo ID cards to only the regional capitals and the 10 selected constituencies came up for criticism. Many respondents were of the view that in order to ensure fairness and in line with democratic principles every eligible voter should be given photo embossed ID card. This suggestion featured most prominently in suggestions made by respondents on ways to improve future registration exercises. A total of 2,022 or 20.2 per cent respondents mentioned this.

On Opinion on the Registration Exercise

Though newspaper reports indicated that there were many problems with the registration exercise. in the opinion of a lot of Ghanaians the Electoral Commission did its best during the registration exercise. To 90 per cent of respondents, the performance of the Electoral Commission during the exercise can be ranked as satisfactory. Indeed out of 10,000 respondents. 9,139 or 91.4 per cent said the organisation of the exercise was either good or very good. Out of this 4,367 or 43.7 per cent said the exercise was very well organised. whilst 4,772 or 47.2 per cent said the exercise was well organised. Only 611 or 6.1 per cent of total respondents said the exercise was not well organised. A total of 249 respondents either refused to express an opinion or did not have anything to say.

Of those who said the exercise was not well organised, 245 or 40 per cent came from Greater Accra. Three constituencies in Greater Accra (Dade Kotopon. Ledzokuku and Ashaiman) came tops in giving poor marks to the EC. Respondents who said the exercise was poorly organised in the three constituencies constitute 15 per cent of the 611 who said the exercise was poorly organised nationwide.

Provision of Register to Political Parties

The survey revealed that many Ghanaians were in favour of giving the provisional final register to the political parties. Among the reasons given for supporting the idea was that it will reduce the spate of electoral malpractices, enhance parties' knowledge of registered population and ensure free and fair election.

Out of the total of 10,000 respondents who gave one form of answer or the other 2,529 or 25.2 per cent gave the removal of malpractices as the reason for wanting the political parties to have the register. To 2,218 or 22.2 per cent of respondents it would enhance the political parties' knowledge of registered population, while to 142 or 14.2 per cent of respondents it would ensure free and fair elections. Other responses given by respondents were that it would ensure the authenticity of the register (mentioned by 983 or 9.8 per cent of respondents) and facilitate easy identification of voters (also stated by 549 or 5.5 per cent of respondents).

Credibility of New Register

The new registration procedures introduced by the EC, which included static registration centres, unique ID card and centre numbers and stationing of trained party agents at registration centres, are most welcome developments in the voter registration processes of the country.

Many respondents have great confidence that the new procedures will help eliminate the problems of multiple registration, ghost names, names of minors and aliens that bedevilled the old register. A total of 8,743 or 87.5 per cent of respondents said the problem of ghost names *could be either eliminated to a large extent or to some extent* while only 641 or 6.4 per cent said the contrary. Of those who think the new register could eliminate names of aliens, 4,272 or 42.7 per cent said so, while only 947 or 9.5 per cent said it will not eliminate them at all.

On multiple registration, 8,256 or 82.5 per cent of the 10,000 respondents to this question said it would eliminate them either to a large extent or to some extent, with 825 or 8.3 per cent saying it would eliminate it only minimally. A total of 848 or 8.5 per cent of respondents said it would not eliminate them at all. On names of minors on the register, 7,600 respondents said it would eliminate them either to a large extent or some extent with 825 saying it will eliminate them to a little extent. Only 1,024 or 10.2 per cent said it would not eliminate them at all.

Attitudes Towards the Final Voters Register

The survey sought to scientifically examine attitude of Ghanaians to the final voters register. The data indicated that to the majority of Ghanaians the register was (very) acceptable. Out of the total 10,000 respondents, 4,733 or 47.7 per cent said the register was very acceptable while another 4,768 representing 47.7 per cent said the register was acceptable.

The regional breakdown on responses show that Ashanti ranked highest in terms of those who said the register was either very acceptable or just acceptable. Nkwanta, Asutifi North, Avenor, Navrongo Central had the highest ranking for acceptability of register. In each of these constituencies over 76 per cent of respondents said the register was either very acceptable or acceptable.

From the findings as stated above, the Commission concluded that considering the high confidence people had in the registration procedure and the role of the voters register, the country can anticipate a peaceful as well as free and fair election.

A2.2 Opinion Poll on the Functioning of Political Parties

The opinion poll was conducted in September 1996. The questionnaires for this study were administered during the delegates' congress of three political parties namely the National Democratic Congress (NDC), People's National Convention (PNC) and the Ghana Consolidated Popular Party (GCPP) held in Sunyani, Accra and Cape Coast respectively. Specifically, the study sought to find out:

- a) whether the political parties have constitutions and manifestos.
- b) how these documents were adopted.
- c) how the parties chose their parliamentary candidates, and
- d) how the parties' activities at the constituency level are funded.

Among major findings from the opinion poll were:

a) The delegates polled believed that their parties had constitutions and manifestoes. There were however different views among respondents as to how the two documents were adopted. A total of 56 per cent, NDC supporters, 51.2 per cent PNC supporters and 21.4 per cent GCPP supporters indicated that the constitution was adopted by acclamation. Of those who said it was adopted by referendum, 6.0 per cent were from the NDC, 12.2 per cent from the PNC and 33.3 per cent from the GCPP.

b) All the delegates polled said that their party political activities were funded through fundraising activities and payment of dues. Seventy per cent of the respondents belonging to the NDC, 47.6 per cent of the respondents from the PNC and five GCPP members said funding for work came from fundraising activities. Another 23.6 per cent supporters of the NDC, 36.6 per cent of the respondents in the PNC and five per cent GCPP said it was through payment of dues.

c) All the political parties saw the election of their presidential and parliamentary candidates as having been done democratically.

e) All the political parties said they had committees in charge of conflict resolution. A total of 98.8 per cent of NDC delegates, 90.2 per cent of PNC delegates and 92.8 per cent of GCPP delegates gave such an opinion.

On gender participation in the work of the political parties, it came out clearly from the poll that there was a low level of female participation at the decision making level of all the three parties. This was also revealed by the delegates who were available for interviewing. Out of the NDC supporters interviewed 72.4 per cent were male whilst 27.6 per cent were female. It was the same for the PNC and GCPP.

A2.3 Maintenance of State Property

The NCCE planned civic education programmes to sensitise the citizenry to the need for proper use and maintenance of state property.

To enable the Commission to prepare civic education materials, the Research Department designed questionnaires to solicit information from certain ministries on their policies and regulations regarding the use and maintenance of state property. The ministries contacted were Transport and Communications, Works and Housing, Roads and Highways.

Below is an overview of some responses from the ministries contacted.

Ministry of Works and Housing

The ministry in its response indicated that the country had a stock of 11,012 government buildings. The breakdown was as follows: 4,349 bungalows and 6,663 junior staff quarters.

The ministry also expatiated on the types of damage that affect government property as well as some of the types of maintenance carried out and the constraints that are being faced.

Damage was described as willful damage, disaster related or due to wear and tear as a result of constant usage. Constraints faced included: (a) Inadequate funding (h) Inadequate Workforce (c) inadequate logistics (d) lack of service training.

Ministry of Roads and Highways

Information collected from the Ministry of Roads and Highways indicated that that ministry is responsible for formulating policies for the development and maintenance of urban, trunk and feeder roads, bridges, culverts and other allied structures in the country.

Information acquired outlined factors that led to road deterioration and what constituted abuse of roads.

Ministry of Transport and Communication

The Ministry of Transport and Communication is responsible for policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to ensure the various transport and communication services are provided at acceptable standards and at competitive prices.

Information acquired from the minister revealed that the ministry had no policy on the use of official vehicles. The minister, however, stated that what they had was categorisation of official vehicles. Vehicles were classified into pool vehicles and assigned vehicles. Attempts were made to explain what each classification meant. The ministry also provided information on the causes of vehicle breakdown and their maintenance.

All this information collected was effectively used by the Commission to mount educational activities to ensure that there is proper maintenance of all state property.

A2.4 Research Activity in the Regions and Districts

During the period under review a number of regional and district offices of the Commission undertook various research projects alongside the research directed from the National Headquarters. A regional breakdown of some of the projects undertaken is presented below.

A2.4.1 Ashanti Region

The region undertook a survey on *voters Perception on the voting Procedure*. The study was carried out in all the 18 districts of the region. The main instrument used was a two—page questionnaire containing 15 questions. In all a total of 670 questionnaires were administered in the 18 districts covered. Each district received 35 questionnaires with the exception of Kumasi which had 75.

The main objective of the study was to gather at first hand information from voters of how they found the 1996 voting procedure (put in place by the Electoral Commission) in terms of effectiveness and efficiency as well as its contribution to free, fair and peaceful elections. Among the specific questions asked were:

- i. Did you face any problem during the voting exercise?
- ii. How long did it take you to cast your vote?
- iii. How effective was the voting procedure?
- iv. How do you compare the voting procedure of the 1992 elections with that of 1996?
- v. Do you think the voting procedure can guarantee free, fair and peaceful elections?

The aim of the study was to furnish the NCCE with facts that will enable it to structure its education campaign to address the concerns of voters so as to build their confidence and trust in the voting procedure in particular and the democratic process as a whole.

Findings

- (i) That the voting procedure did not to a very large extent pose problems for voters. Out of the 668 respondents, as many as 569 or 85.2 per cent stated that they did not face any problems during the voting.
- (ii) The majority of respondents were satisfied with the procedure for voting on December 7, 1997. Of the total respondents, 515 or 77.1 per cent ranked the procedure as very effective, while only four respondents representing 0.6 per cent felt the procedure was not effective.
- (iii) The majority of respondents were satisfied with the security arrangements at the polling centres. Of the 668 respondents, 521 or 78 per cent were very satisfied with the maintenance of law and order at their stations. Only 15 or 2.2 per cent of total respondents said they were not impressed.
- (iv) The majority of respondents were of the opinion that the procedure put in place by the Electoral Commission could contribute to free, fair and peaceful elections. Even those who faced problems during the voting exercise were of the opinion that the procedures were good enough to ensure free and fair elections. As many as 96 per cent of the 98 respondents who faced problems were of the same opinion. The remaining two were indifferent.
- (v) Respondents who said they faced problems at voting centres mentioned long queues, ignorance of the electoral procedure, delays in supply of voting materials at polling stations.

SECTION B

Finance and Administration

B1 Administration

B1.1 Introduction

The main focus of the Administration Section for the year was the restructuring of operations at the Accounts, Stores, Transport, Personnel and General Administration sections started in the previous year.

B1.2 Restructuring of the Finance and Administration Departments

The External Auditors in their 1993/94 report called for the restructuring of the Finance and Administration department to ensure effective financial administration, adequate internal controls and sufficient checks and balances.

In pursuance of the restructuring programme a three-day accounting seminar was organised at the Winneba Sports College, Winneba, from January 28 to 30, 1996. Participants were accounting staff of the National Headquarters, and the Regional offices and the Internal Audit Staff. Also in attendance were Regional Directors who manage financial and other resources at the regional level.

The immediate result of the seminar was the introduction of Cash Receipt and Payment Books, aimed at facilitating the submissions of raw financial data by the District and the regional to the National Headquarters. The result was that financial returns from the regions to the National Headquarters improved considerably.

At the Headquarters, General Ledger and Assets Registers were introduced. The General Ledger, which contained various accounts, made it possible to effect posting of expenditure into the appropriate expenditure ledgers. As part of the process of building up the Assets Register various assets were embossed with identification marks.

Another project implemented as part of the External Auditors' report was the streamlining of activities in the Transport section. The Commission has a fleet of 46 cars/ cross-country vehicles distributed as follows: Eight (8) executive official vehicles, Seven (7) vehicles at the National Headquarters and 32 vehicles in the regions.

B1.3 Transport Unit

As part of the restructuring of the Transport Unit, Log Books were introduced to ensure effective control of movement of vehicles and fuel consumption. Each vehicle was allocated one vehicle History Book, in which were recorded all the specifications of that vehicle, such as:

- (a) Type of Vehicle,
- (b) Registration Number,
- (c) Date of Purchase, and
- (d) The Cost of Purchase

The Vehicle History Book also ensured the recording of all repairs carried out on each vehicle and all supplies i.e. tyres, batteries, etc. provided the vehicle. This book made it easier to have expenditure trends on each vehicle and also served as mini assets register for the vehicles. The introduction of Log Books and Vehicle History Book brought down fuel and repair costs of vehicles considerably.

B1.4 Personnel Matters

At the beginning of the year under review the staff strength stood at 1,432 made up of 350 senior and 1,082 junior staff. By December 31, 1996 the number rose to 1,437. During that period, two officers gained admission into tertiary institutions to do further courses to enhance their civic education capacity.

B1.5 Training

B1.5.1 New Year School

Fourteen Officers of the Commission attended the 47th Annual New Year School which was held at the University of Ghana, Legon, from December 27, 1995 to January 2, 1996.. Due to the inability of the organisers to get students of the Commonwealth Hall to vacate their rooms, participants in the New Year School had to be accommodated at venues outside the university campus.

The official opening ceremony of the school was performed by Prof. George Benneh, Vice Chancellor, University of Ghana, Legon. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. F.K. Drah, Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Ghana, Legon, who spoke on *Transition to Democratic Rule in Africa*. There were also three open lectures, a panel discussion and two symposia.

Seminar groups examined the papers presented. The 14 officers divided themselves among the seminar groups. Three officers of the Commission were elected rapporteurs of their seminar groups. At the end of seminar groups' meetings some recommendations were made, some of which are of interest to the NCCE.

Seminar Group 1 in discussing the topic: 'Towards Free and Fair Elections in 1996', suggested that.

- The NCCE must be encouraged to be, and be seen as, non-partisan.
- The Government should ensure that the NCCE has adequate funding and logistics to function effectively.

- Personnel of the NCCE should be given further training to enhance their efficiency.
- That the District Assemblies should help the NCCE in carrying out its work. The Electoral Commission, the NCCE and the Security Agencies should ensure that people do not resort to violence as a means of resolving political differences.

Seminar Group 2 in discussing the topic: 'The Mass Media, Political Education and Mobilisation' recommended, among others, that:

- The NCCE should be provided with decent and adequate office accommodation and the conditions of staff of the NCCE should be improved to make them perform effectively.
- Members of staff of the NCCE should strive to maintain the non-partisan posture of the Commission.
- As a way of ensuring this non-partisan stance the NCCE should draw up and enforce a code of conduct for the staff to ensure its neutrality.
- The NCCE should encourage all community leaders, particularly chiefs, to be non-partisan in the exercise of their leadership roles".

Seminar Group 3 in discussing the topic: 'Human Rights under the Fourth Republic' recommended, among others, that:

- The NCCE must perform creditably in a very objective manner, in order to remove any doubts in the public perception of the Commission. Their independence guaranteed at the Constitution must find expression without inhibition.

On the whole it can be said that the New Year School was a very informative event. It provided officers a lot of information on current events. It also provided officers the opportunity to show the kind of personnel that work within the Commission. Through the effort of the officers the hostile attitude towards the NCCE had abated. Many participants also appreciated better the problems of the Commission. The great influence that officers exerted on reports of the seminar groups and recommendations emanating from there shows that it was worthwhile sponsoring officers to the school. It is therefore hoped that sponsoring would be sustained, and in future many more officers may be sponsored to the New Year School.

B2 Finance

B2.1 Opening Balance

The Commission maintained four Accounts. Three of these were at the Bank of Ghana and the other one at the Ghana Commercial Bank, High Street, Accra. The balances in those accounts at the end of the year were as follows:

Bank of Ghana

Main Subvention Account	¢453,471,720.30	
Car Loan Account	2,253,348.38	
Programmes	1,975,825.42	457,700,984.10
Main Commercial Bank (Miscellaneous Accounts)	—	2,975,825.47
Total		¢460,676,719.57

B2.2 Subvention for 1996

During the year, the approved budget estimates for the NCCE amounted to ¢4,308,000.00. This was made up of ¢3,060,400,000 for Personnel Emoluments (PE), ¢747,500,000.00 for Items 2-5 ¢500, 100,000.00 for Capital Expenditure.

Breakdown of Main Subvention Accounts

Main Subvention Accounts		¢453,471,720.30
	332,031,062.90	
Less Unpresented Cheques for salaries (December '95)		
SSF	102,017,280.25	
Income Tax	13,600,906.12	447,649,249.27
Uncommitted Bank Balance		5,822,471.03
Add Car Loan Account	2,253,348.38	7,204,999.27
Programmes	1,975,825.42	
GCB Miscellaneous A/C	2,975,825.47	
Unutilised Bank Balances as at January 1, 1996		13,027,470.30

It could be realised that out of the total bank balance of ¢460, 676, 7 19.57, brought forward from 1995, there was outstanding committed expenditure of ¢447,649,249.27 which left an uncommitted bank balance of ¢ 13,027,470.30.

B2.3 Supplementary Budget

In the course of the year, in order to meet the exigencies of the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections, an amount of ¢1,962,743,517.00 was approved and released by the Ministry of Finance for both capital and recurrent expenses. The

breakdown of the money released by the Ministry of Finance is as follows:

(a)	Capital Items (purchases of motor bikes and megaphones)	¢531,032,956.00
(b)	Electioneering materials: posters car stickers, handbills	¢250,000,000
(c)	30 per cent of salary increase for January — September 1996	¢610,182,583.33
(d)	Recurrent expenses	¢132,212,995.33
(e)	20 per cent of honorarium arrears January-December, 1995	¢439,314,980.28
		¢1,962,743,517.00

B2.4 Total Subvention

At the end of the year, total subvention came to ¢6,270,743,517.00 made up of:

Recurrent Expenditure	¢5,239,610,561 .00
Capital Expenditure	¢1, 03 1,132,956.00
Total	¢6,270,743.517.00

B2.5 Overall Income and Expenditure

The overall income and expenditure for 1996 stood as follows:

Item	Release/ Income (¢)	Expenditure (¢)	Over/Under Expenditure (¢)
Personnel Emolument	4,242,110,895.00	4242,110.895.00	—
T&T	210,000,000.00	236.944.000.00	(26,944,000.00)
General Expenditure	167,600,000.00	150.794.000.00	16,806,000.00
Maintenance, Repairs & Renewals	19,899,666.00	22.534.666.00	(2,635,000.00)
Other	350,000,000.00	338.711,000.00	11,289.000.00
Recurrent Expenditure	250,000,000.00	250,000,000.00	—
Printing of Electioneering Materials			
Total	5,239,610,561.00	5,241,094,561.00	(1,484,000.00)

The analysis shows that releases for current expenditure (i.e. Personal Emoluments and Items 2—5 amounted to ¢5.239.610.561.00 whilst expenditure totaled ¢5, 241, 095, 56 1.00. The Commission expenditure therefore, exceeded its subvention for the year by ¢1,484.000.00.

B2.6 Capital Expenditure

Total releases made towards capital acquisition amounted to ¢1,031,132,956.00 during the year.

Items purchased are as follows:

	¢
10 Lada Niva (4WD)	¢255,750,00000
28 Rajodoot Motobikes	¢98,000.00000
102 Honda Motorbikes	¢501,469,022.02
158 Bicycles	¢23,730,977.98
10 Public Address Systems	¢5,000,000.00
85 Megaphones	¢12,500,000.00
Furniture & Equipment	¢83,626,276.00
Rehabilitation of Building (Regions)	¢17,036,680.00
Add cost of 4 ICL Computers purchased at US \$21,000 (US\$1=1,620)	¢34,020,000.00
Total	¢1,031,132,956.00

Note:

It is important also to mention that four computers were delivered by International Computers Limited (ICL) in October 1995, but the payment was approved by the Ministry of Finance (MOF) in 1996. Apart from five megaphones, four motorbikes, four computers, and office furniture and equipment allocated to the Head office, all other items procured were sent to the regions and the districts.

B2.7 Donor Funding

During the year under review the Commission benefited from funding by donors for various programmes. Listed below are the donor funds enjoyed during the year.

Date	Donor	Programme	Value (¢)
February 1996	Aluworks Ghana Limited, Accra	Essay Writing Competition	¢100,000.00
June 1996	CIDA	Research Project (Voters' Registration Exercise)	¢19,936,848.00
October 1996	UNDP	Political Tolerance and Civic Rights (Workshops in Kumasi & Tamale)	¢22,737,450.00

October 1996	UNDP	Workshop Materials paid to Printers directly. a) Seminar Materials (¢2,262,550) b) Vernacular Versions (¢15,000,000)	¢17,262,550.01
October 1996	Royal Dutch Embassy	English Version of the Abridged Constitution	¢15,000,000.00
1996	Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF)	Lectures for the Military Venue: (a) Achiase (b) Takoradi (c) Kumasi (d) Sunyani (e) Tamale	¢2,798,740.00 ¢2,656,609.00 ¢3,055,788.00 ¢2,423,124.00 ¢3,810,440.00 ¢14,744,701.00*
1996	Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF)	Teaching of the Constitution in 1st Cycle Schools (Workshop)	¢13,581,780.00
April 1996	Hanns Seidel Foundation	Inauguration of National Consultative Body (NC B) at Novotel Hotel in Accra	

¢

Note: The activities with asterisks * were paid for directly by the Donor Agencies. The cost of the programmes was often not made public.

SECTION C

Conclusion

The survival of constitutional democracy in Ghana will largely depend on the effective functioning of the NCCE, and other national institutions whose duties are to nurture, promote and sustain democracy. The NCCE is ill-equipped in terms of office accommodation, office equipment and logistics for work. The problem generally affected almost all the regions and districts.

In the area of office accommodation, the National Headquarters continues to be faced with serious problems of places to operate from. Even though we have succeeded in hiring places for our offices we now are faced with problems of rampant increases in rents.

The Commission also lacks photocopier machines or cyclostyling machines, computers and desktop publishers. These facilities would greatly assist in the development and production of educational materials on a regular basis. The non-availability of public address systems and megaphones also constrains our effort to reach many people with our messages.

The availability of vehicles, motorbikes and bicycles would greatly facilitate the movement of staff to very remote areas with difficult terrain for civic education, and the vehicles mounted with public address systems would greatly assist in multiplying public education messages over wide geographical areas to the non-literate segments of the population.

Irrespective of the stated shortcomings, the Commission during the year under review endeavour to meet its constitutional expectations creditably. From our regular contacts with the non-literate segments of the population, it was observed that some of the modern concepts of democracy do not have easily discernible equivalents in our local languages.

The NCCE intends to constitute a team of experts in linguistics, culture, languages and constitutional law to find the appropriate local terminologies to enable our people to comprehend and conceptualise the modern notions of democracy.

The NCCE also intends to intensify its efforts with the electronic and print media in the coming year to enhance its civic education activities.

APPENDIX A

National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) Guidelines for the Formation and Functioning of Civic Education Clubs

Preamble

The People of Ghana adopted the 1992 Constitution as the Fundamental Law of the land in a referendum in 1991 thereby ushering in the Fourth Republic which was formally inaugurated on January 7, 1992.

Realizing the need to create awareness among the citizenry through Civic Education and alerting and empowering the populace to protect and defend the Constitution at all times, the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) was institutionalised under Articles 321-239 of the 1992 Constitution and further by Parliamentary Act of 1993, Act 452.

Noting that civic education is an ongoing process covering a wide range of subjects and aware that this great task can only effectively be performed by bringing the Constitution to the door-step of every Ghanaian in simple language.

Recognizing that the citizens' understanding of the Constitution and their identification with it is the only guarantee to the protection and defense of the Constitution. The NCCE therefore encourages the formation of Civic Education Clubs in the society to enhance constitutionalism in Ghana.

Name and Character of the Club

The Club shall be known as the Civic Education Club (CEC) referred to in these guidelines as the Club.

The Club is a non-partisan voluntary organization that shall engage mainly in the study and discussion of the Constitution as the fundamental law of Ghana as well as analysis of all Constitution-related matters that emerge out of practice under the Constitution.

Aims and Objectives

- i. To study, analyse and discuss the contents/provisions of the Constitution.
- ii. To facilitate the development of Ghana as a civil society by encouraging its members to observe the rules and culture of good citizenship and by that provide fine examples of good leadership and citizenship in their communities.
- iii. To develop among members practical commitment to social justice, democracy and equality of all without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, education etc.
- iv. To instill in members, the spirit to defend and preserve the Constitution.
- v. To stimulate discussions on all matters of national importance.
- vi. To promote cultural, social, religious and political tolerance among members and all Ghanaians in general.
- vii. To fight against all negative trends, attitudes, manners and acts that are inimical to the unity and growth of the nation.

- viii. To co-operate with government bodies, non-governmental organisations, political parties, religious bodies with similar objectives elsewhere.
- ix. To ensure that public property is properly maintained and safeguarded at all times.
- x. To respect the dignity of labour.
- xi. To help sharpen citizens' level of awareness of the need to act in a manner that will enhance sustainability of our environment.

Membership

Membership is open to all citizens of Ghana, young and old, literate and non-literate.

Methods for the Realization of the Aims and Objectives

- i To engage in debates, quizzes, reading activities, mock Parliaments and District Assemblies, etc. all aimed at improving members' understanding of the Constitution.
- ii. To organise cultural and entertainment activities with themes centred around fundamental Constitutional issues such as national integration, human rights, rule

Methods for the Realization of the Aims and Objectives

- i To engage in debates, quizzes, reading activities, mock Parliaments and District Assemblies, etc. all aimed at improving members' understanding of the Constitution.
- ii. To organize cultural and entertainment activities with themes centred around fundamental Constitutional issues such as national integration, human rights, rule of law, accountability, probity, political tolerance etc.
- iii. Any other activity that may deepen their civic awareness and advance the aims and objectives of the Club.

Organisational Structure/Forming a Club

- i. Any group of Ghanaians of any number but preferably not less than ten (10) people can form a Civic Education Club.
- ii. Clubs may be setup in schools, workplaces, churches, mosques and communities/wards in villages, towns and cities throughout the country.
- iii. A Civic Education Club shall work within the framework of the 1992 Constitution as embodied in the aims and objectives of these guidelines.
- iv. A Club shall elect from its members an executive made up of at least a Chairman, Secretary/Organiser and a Treasurer to supervise and co-ordinate the branch activities for as long as they enjoy the confidence of their members.
- v. A Club at its general meeting may, by simple majority, vote out, remove, suspend or discipline an ordinary member for misconduct or proven breach of discipline.
- vi. Any group of people wishing to form a club shall inform the District Office of the NCCE for the purpose of documentation.

Patrons

Patrons may be appointed by the club from within the institution or community that it operates in.

Duties of the Executives

The duties of each executive position shall be as follows:

Chairman - Shall convene and preside over all meetings of the club.

Secretary - Shall take all minutes of the meeting and records of the day-to-day activities of the club.

Organiser - Shall be responsible for membership drive and implementation of the approved programmes of the club.

Treasurer - Shall be responsible for keeping accounts of the Club.

APPENDIX B

A Statement by the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) calling on all Ghanaians, especially Political Parties to Ensure Free, Fair and Peaceful Elections in December 1996

1. GHANA, our beloved country, is richly endowed with abundant human and material resources whose judicious and prudent use, under-pinned by hard work, can make our nation truly great and strong.
2. We, as Ghanaians, owe it to GOD, ourselves, and our country-Ghana to always seek and strive diligently for peace and unity; noting that the cause of peace is one not only of government but of all the people, particularly, political parties, identifiable bodies and other interest groups in the society.
3. The NCCE, therefore, calls on all Ghanaians to create a healthy climate for dialogue and debate on all political issues in the period before, during and after the December 7, 1996 presidential and parliamentary elections which we consider critically vital for the growth of democracy in Ghana.
4. As a nation, we stand proud and noble if we successfully use the ballot box to determine the nation's political leadership through elections that are transparent, fair and substantially free of violence and intimidation, force, threats and frauds; so that the results shall stand universally acceptable, without bitterness, rancour, and animosity
5. The NCCE, conscious of its role as builders of civic conscience in the society, reminds all Ghanaians, that ensuring law and order, peace and stability within the country must be the joint responsibility of both the rulers and the ruled.
6. Unity, brotherliness, tolerance and peace are the prerequisites for the sustenance of Ghana's young democratic experiment. We therefore call on all Ghanaians to strive faithfully, to develop, support and sustain that culture which honours, respects human rights, and personal dignity and which prefers the rule of law and equality to disorder, injustice, indiscipline and discrimination.
7. We acknowledge that divergence of opinion is an essential part of our human relations. We therefore urge an improvement and expansion of political contacts with all people of different political persuasions in an atmosphere of mutual trust, respect, flexibility and tolerance.
8. We further urge all Ghanaians, especially Political Parties and their activists to be civil in their discourses, debates and arguments and refrain from the use of indecorous and abusive language against political opponents in the period before, during and after the elections.
9. Given the measures adopted by the Electoral Commission to ensure free, fair and transparent elections and the vigilant roles that are expected of political parties, their agents and indeed all Ghanaians, it is our fervent hope that the people's decision on December 7, 1996 will be accepted and respected by all.
10. It is the NCCE's firm belief that the forces of peace, reason and progress will triumph, consolidating our nascent constitutional democratic process and making it irreversible.

11. Finally, we count on the goodwill of all Ghanaians to be committed to the objectives and concept of this statement which offers us all a tangible and promising opportunity for our nation's peaceful growth and future.



Chris Hesse
Chairman (NCCE)

Justice Kinsley-Nyinah
Chairman (NCB) July 22, 1996

APPENDIX C

Statement Issued by the NCCE on the Reported Incidence of Violence in Our Political Campaigns

The National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) has learnt with utter dismay the reported incidents of violence in certain parts of the country. These classes which involved supporters of different political parties in Tamale, Zebilla and Kyebi have the potential of creating bad blood in the nation's body politic and which can easily endanger the young democracy we are straggling to build if not smothered immediately.

The incidence of violence, coming within the period when the campaign for tolerance, accommodation, peace and respect for one another's views, is at its apex sadly contradicts the commitment that political leaders and opinion leaders express openly, and publicly at forums organised by the NCCE on their own platforms.

Indeed, over the past months, the NCCE has, as required by 'the Constitution, striven to promote harmony among citizens by bringing together representatives of all the identifiable political, economic, cultural and religious bodies and opinion leaders to sit together to discuss the political challenges ahead of us as a nation. Through the National Consultative Body whose membership includes all the registered political parties and Civic Education Clubs established in schools and the communities, the NCCE has sought to make all citizens aware of their civic rights and responsibilities and their role in the promotion of good governance, peace and stability.

We believe we have made considerable gains towards the establishment of the general framework as well as specific mechanism for the effective prevention and resolution of violence within our society.

The NCCE will like to repeat the message that it has sought to carry to the mass of our people through those platforms it has created; peace, unity and stability and development are prerequisites for this country's development. We must acknowledge that citizen's divergent political positions in a multi-party political system would definitely create differences in perception and perspectives among the citizens. What we need now is the culture of tolerance, peace and respect for divergent opinions and view particularly during politician campaigns in the run-up to the elections and after.

Against this background, we want to reiterate the roles that all of us as Ghanaians should play; firstly citizens, whose general and collective welfare is a function of stability and peace of the nation; secondly as groups and bodies whose interests and aspirations can only actualise within the framework of the Constitution and finally as political players whose aspirations, hopes and expectations should necessarily coincide with the goals of the nation.

The NCCE condemns and acts of vandalism and unwarranted violence against political opponents as part of our democratic experiment and calls on all citizens of Ghana to shun any such acts that have a potential of disrupting our nation's development.

In specific reference, the NCCE reminds all citizens and especially political leaders and their party members, supporters and adherents to observe the principles that underlie the game of multi-party politics in a democracy.

We would therefore caution citizens against all acts such as the removal and/or defacing of opponents' posters, flags and banners; imposition of own on opponents posters; the throwing of stones at opponents; use of guns, bows, arrows and other harmful weapons to settle political scores; the smacking of vehicles and all acts that are harmful to life and

property. Physical harassment, insults and dirty language are indeed assaults on the dignity of the person.

While the NCCE discourages the use of such tactics as political tools, it strongly recommends to all and sundry that the best form of politicking is the one that addresses issues through dispassionate, critical and objective analysis of facts and figures and which draws its strength from good reasoning and appeal to the senses and not from emotions, intimidation and pressure.

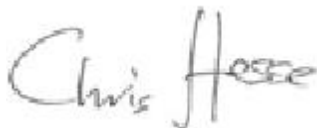
The NCCE consequently urges the various Regional and District Security Councils, the lawful security agencies, religious leaders, opinion leaders and the leaders of the political parties to take the lead in securing peace for the country and assist the NCCE to advance the cause of peace in their areas, especially in this critical period of our political history.

Our position remains that conflict prevention is always better than conflict resolution and management.

In conclusion, the NCCE would like to believe that the few reported instances of politically motivated violence are truly isolated and unintended and shall not be repeated anywhere in the country.

We also believe that the majority of Ghanaians are law abiding, peaceful and peace loving and will continue to exercise their constitutional democratic rights in an orderly, civil, respectable and tolerant manner.

We all have a duty to ensure that peace prevails in this country today, tomorrow and forever.



Chris Hesse
(Chairman)
November 4, 1996



Mr. Joe Osei-Wusu, Ashanti Regional Secretary of the Ghana Bar Association, delivering a lecture at the NCCE Regional Consultative Conference held at the Prempeh Hall in April, 1996. Inset-Mrs. Aikins, Senior State Attorney, who also delivered a lecture at Conference.



Mr. Osei -Kyei Mensah-Bonsu, a representative of the NPP, making a contribution during the open forum.



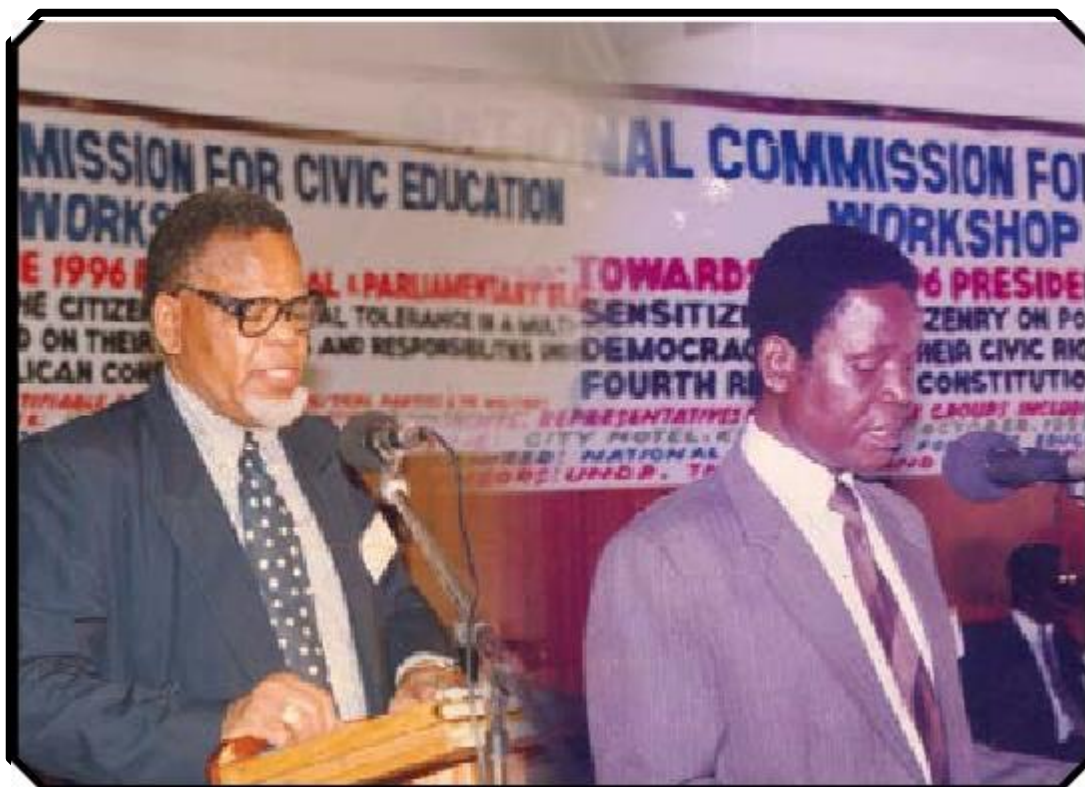
A cross-section of the audience listening to the address.



Mr. Joe Osei-Wusu, Ashanti Regional Secretary of the Ghana Bar Association,, interacting with some NCCE officials after the forum.



October 15, 1996: Nana Aboagye Agyei II, Omanhene of Ejisu Traditional Area, giving his address as chairman of the function at the UNDP Sponsored workshop for Identifiable Groups and Political Parties on Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy.



Mr. Chris Hesse, Chairman of the NCCE and Mr. Napoleon Agboada, Deputy Director of Public Education, taking turns to address the audience at the UNDP Sponsored workshop for Identifiable Groups and Political Parties on Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy.



A cross-section of participants at the the function at the UNDP Sponsored workshop for Identifiable Groups and Political Parties on Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy. Seated in front in cloth is Oseyrafo Oseedeyo Nana Agyemang-Badu, Omanhene of Dormaa Traditional Area.



A cross-section of participants at the function at the UNDP Sponsored workshop for Identifiable Groups and Political Parties on Political Tolerance in a Multi-Party Democracy.



Mr. Joe D. Issaka, Ashanti Regional Co-ordinating Director, delivering an address at the Ashanti District Directors Conference held at Freeman College, Kumasi, in September, 1996.



A cross-section of District Directors and other officers of the NCCE listening attentively to the address.



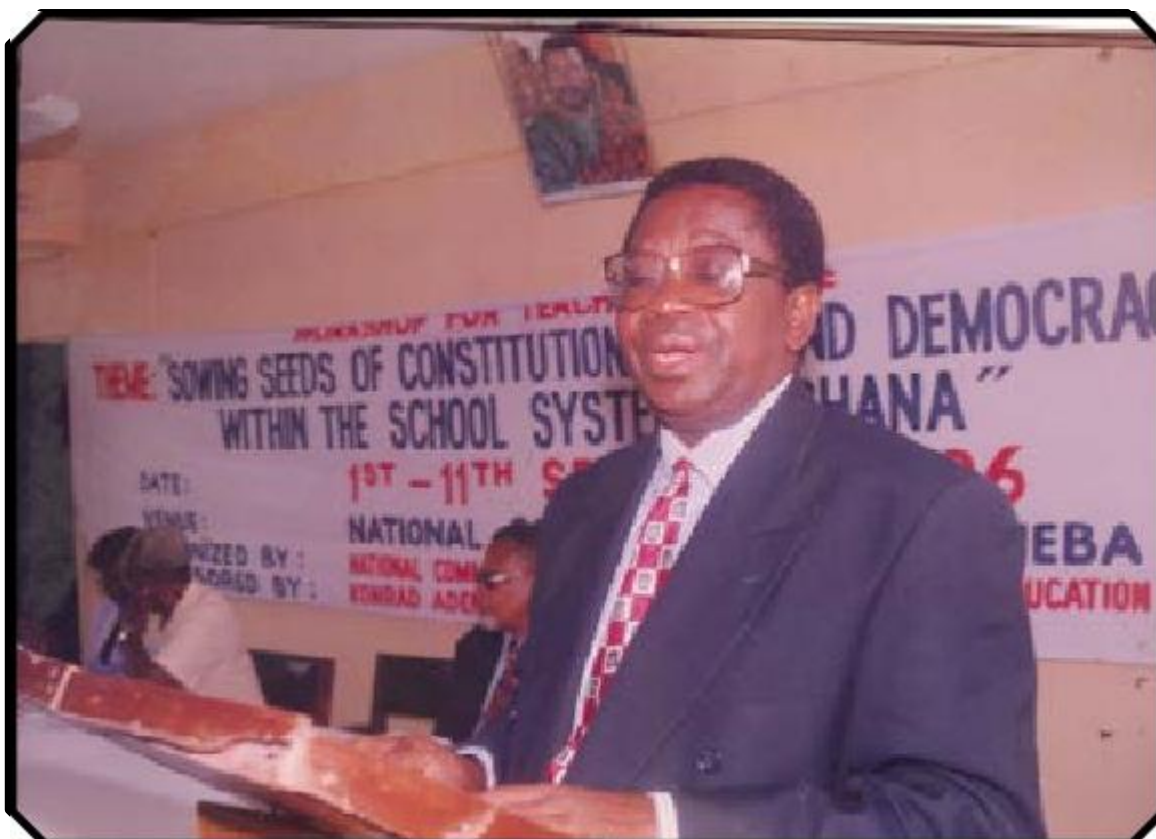
A group discussion during the Ashanti District Directors Conference held at Freeman College, Kumasi, in September, 1996.



A group picture of participants who attended the Ashanti District Directors Conference held at Freeman College, Kumasi, in September, 1996.



Mr. Justice Kinsley-Nyinah, Chairman of the National Consultative Body of the NCCE, addressing a workshop for teachers held at Winneba.



Mr. Kyere, Deputy Minister of Education addressing the workshop.

