

National Commission for Civic Education

Eighth Annual Report 2001

COMMISSION MEMBERS



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From the Chairman

The Commission hereby presents to Parliament its Eighth Report since its establishment. It covers the period January–December 2001 which marked the first year in office of the administration under His Excellency President John Agyekum Kufuor.

The NCCE remains the primary state institution mandated to inculcate in citizens constitutional and civic knowledge, skills and virtues. The Commission also educates the citizenry on their civic rights and responsibilities so as to make them active participants in the governance of the nation.

The year 2001 marked a watershed in the annals of the Commission. It commenced the celebration of the ‘Constitution Week’ considered as the flagship of the Commission’s activities. The Constitution Week seeks to sharpen the consciousness of Ghanaians about the ownership of the Fourth Republican Constitution and to further promote in them a sense of commitment in defending the Constitution at all times. The broad theme for the maiden week was *The Constitution and You*. This week was celebrated at the national, regional and district levels with press briefings, symposia, durbars and educational tours that focused on the Constitution.

The Commission carried out an impact assessment and established that the week was successful in terms of raising awareness of Ghanaians about the Constitution and general challenges of Constitutional rule. The Commission would not have been able to celebrate the Constitution Week on such a scale without the support of the US based Ford Foundation.

In spite of the fact that the Commission’s activities are expected to be financed from the Consolidated Fund, only three hundred and two million, five hundred and sixty-two thousand cedis (¢302,562,000) or 37 per cent of the already low service budget of eight hundred and ten million, sixty-one thousand and six hundred and seventy-nine (¢810,061,679) was released. Unfortunately, the amount was released very late – the first instalment in November.

For the successful actualization of its mandate, the NCCE needs the right amount of funding and resources and at the right time, especially from the state. Unfortunately there was not that much of this in the year 2001. The problems of office accommodation and vehicles that have perennially beset the Commission were also unresolved.

Despite the limitations, the Commission carried out a number of activities with some degree of success at the national, regional and district levels.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the Government, our development partners and friends of the Commission who have been supportive of our efforts.



Laary Bimi
CHAIRMAN

Executive Summary

The focal activity of the Commission for the year was the celebration of the Constitution Week. The Constitution Week seeks to sharpen the consciousness of Ghanaians about the Fourth Republican Constitution and further promote, among others, a sense of ownership and commitment. The week was celebrated with press briefings, symposia, durbars, debates and quiz programmes.

Public education programmes included long running radio programmes on the Directive Principles of State Policy, the launch and distribution to senior secondary schools of the Ghana Constitution Game which effectively adds entertainment value to the study of the Constitution and the printing and distribution of 2,000 of the 1992 Constitution to strategic institutions such as the Ghana Library Board, District Assemblies, Security Agencies and Media Houses.

In the area of research, the Commission conducted a major survey to assess the performance of Parliament/Parliamentarians. A team of researchers from the Institute of Adult Education was also contracted to do an Impact Assessment Study of the first Constitution Week. The Commission also continued collaborative work with the Chieftaincy Secretariat and the National House of Chiefs to codify customary laws relating to enstoolment/enskinment of chiefs in Ghana.

As in previous years, funding levels from Government of Ghana were abysmally low. Out of an approved service (Activities) budget of ₵810,061,679, only ₵302,562,000) or 37 per cent was released. The investment budget was no better. Out of the an investment budget of ₵1,341,124,948 only ₵191, 920,000 or 13 per cent was released.

As a result of the drastic cut in the investment budget, the expectation of the Commission to start putting up buildings for its headquarters was dashed. Securing funds from the Consolidated Fund for the Commission's activities has been very stressful for Management. It is, therefore, the commission's expectation that this report will generate a discussion of the Commission's budget by Parliament with the view to finding pragmatic solutions to them.

On the basis of these and prospects, the Commission recommends:

- The security agencies, especially the Ghana Armed Forces, have shown a strong desire to support constitutional rule. Serious and continuous efforts should be made to provide permanent avenues for the security personnel to express their opinions on major events/policies and further more to seek and receive clarification on issues that may agitate their minds.

- That Parliament should prevail upon the Executive to make adequate resources available to the Commission for the Constitution Week celebration so as not to continue to rely solely on donor support.
- That the Ministry of Education and the Ghana Education Service (GES) take firm steps towards the introduction of teaching of **Civics for Democracy** as an examinable subject in first and second cycle schools as part of a wider strategy for improved political socialization of the Ghanaian youth.
- The Divestiture Implementation Committee, the Ministry of Works and Housing and other related bodies should be prevailed upon to allocate to the Commission some properties (buildings) that could be refurbished quickly for office accommodation. This is to help solve the problem of office accommodation, especially in Accra. As a long term alternative, the Lands Commission and similar bodies are equally to be prevailed upon to allocate plots of land in Accra and the regional/district capitals to the Commission for the development of offices.

Introduction

The Constitution mandates the NCCE to create and sustain awareness of constitutional democracy for the achievement of political, economic and social stability through civic education. (See Article 233 of the 1992 Constitution and the NCCE Establishment Act of 1993, Act 452 (Refer Appendix A and B).

Underlining the legal mandate as a framework for its activities is its mission statement which states: *'The NCCE is a constitutional body mandated to create and sustain awareness of constitution democracy for the achievement of political, economic and social stability through civic education.'*

The Commission is entrenched in the Constitution as an independent body. In the performance of its duties it is subject only to the Constitution and laws that are not inconsistent with the Constitution. The security arising from this legal arrangement puts the NCCE in good stead to carry out its mandate of doing civic education.

To ensure effective discharge of its functions, the Commission has at its apex, a board made up of seven members; a Chairman, two Deputy Chairmen and four other members who are appointed by the President of the Republic on the advice of the Council of State. Members enjoy permanent tenure of office. Working to the Commission are five main departments, namely: Public Education, Research, Public Affairs, Literature and Materials Development and Finance and Administration. The Commission is also present in all the regions and districts of Ghana.

The NCCE has the potential to contribute enormously to citizens' participation in government/governance for a variety of reasons: First, nationwide presence makes the Commission familiar with, and knowledgeable about, the country. Second, it has very experienced communicators who have impressive track records with regard to mobilization. In order to build the necessary bridges and promote transparency in its work, the Commission has opened up to civil society organisations (CSOs).

This report is presented in two main parts to cover activities undertaken by the Programmes Division made up of the following departments: Public Education, Research, Literature and Material Development and Public Affairs and the Finance and Administration Division made up of Finance and Administration Departments. Under Conclusion and Recommendations we try to provide a brief appraisal and reflection of the issues that pose challenges to both the Commission in its work and the consolidation of constitutional democracy in the country.

SECTION A

Programmes

This segment, under Programmes, covers activities undertaken by the Public Education, Research, Literature and Materials Development departments with the support of the Public Affairs Department and the guidance of the Commission.

A1 Public Education

A1.1 Launching of Annual National Constitution Week

The year witnessed the launch of the Commission's most outstanding programme to date, the commemoration of the Annual National Constitution Week.

The institution of the Week, the first in the nation's political history, came from the realization that in spite of nine years of Constitutional rule, many Ghanaians were not only ignorant of the principles and objectives of the 1992 Constitution but also

- Were oblivious of the fact that the Constitution is the best guarantee for their individual and collective freedom;
- betrayed a dearth of knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution and its under-pinning philosophy;
- exhibited a lack of appreciation of the obligation to defend the Constitution;
- perceived the observation of constitutional principles, especially Human Rights, as the sole responsibility of the government in power;
- believed that it is the Executive arm of government alone that ought to adhere to constitutional principles and that only the Executive violates human rights in a society.

This state of affairs is a result of a number of factors. They include:

- The generally high level of illiteracy;
- Widespread ignorance and apathy;
- A low level of participation in the democratic process as a result of decades of political instability; and
- Minimum access to the 1992 Constitution due to either its price or unavailability.

To address this state of affairs the NCCE canvassed for the institution of a National Constitution Week with the immediate goal of exciting all key stakeholders in the democratic dispensation to discuss and evaluate how the 1992 Constitution relates to them, how they can sustain and protect the constitutional order and how they can observe the principles of the Constitution. The Week was also to contribute to developing in Ghanaians the spirit of constitutionalism and eventually make the Constitution not only a living document but also part and parcel of the daily life-style of all citizens of Ghana.

In the long run the National Constitution Week is expected to contribute to increased and sustained interest and participation of all Ghanaians in the new democratic and constitutional dispensation for the achievement of good governance, social and political stability and, above all, national unity and development.

To achieve the goals of the week, the NCCE set up the National Organizing Committee made up of representatives of key stakeholders in the Ghanaian society — the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary, the Media, District Assemblies, Security Agencies, Political Parties, Traditional Authorities, Professional and Workers Associations and the Civil Society Organizations—to plan, manage, and provide policy guidelines for the National Constitution Week.

The Committee, after several deliberations, decided that the Week starts on April 28 each year, to commemorate the day, April 28, 1992, when the nation adopted, through a referendum, the 1992 Constitution as the fundamental law of the land.

A1.1.1 Media Briefing

A press briefing held by the NCCE Chairman, Laary Bimi, on April 19, 2001 had three objectives

- To explain the concept behind the Annual Constitution Week
- To highlight the various activities lined up for the Week
- To sensitize the media adequately in order to give the event the required publicity

Major media houses that attended the briefing included *GNA, GBC (Radio and TV), TV3, Metro TV, Disptach, Daily Graphic, Ghanaian Times, Evening News, Statesman, Radio Gold, Choice FM, Peace FM, GAR, VIBE FM and Joy FM.*

A1.1.1 Official Opening

The ceremony to officially launch the Week took place on Saturday, April 28, 2001 at the Accra International Conference Centre. The 1,500 capacity auditorium of the centre was packed to capacity with people from all walks of life- politicians, professionals, farmers, fishermen, market mummies, traders, students and the unemployed.

The Chairman for the opening ceremony was Oyeeman Wereko Ampem II, Amanokromhene, Gyasehene of Akuapem and Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon. The NCCE Chairman, Laary Bimi, in his welcome address pointed out that the Commission had institutionalized the National Constitution Week to create an increased awareness among citizens for the achievement of good governance, social and political stability, national integration and development. He said it is also the desire of the NCCE to produce a society in which the Constitution is supreme, the rule of law the norm, and every citizen develops the character to be fair to himself, his neighbour and the State. His expectation was that with the mass of people coming to identify with the Constitution, elections will become the only means for changing governments in the country. The theme for the Week, *The Constitution and You*, was chosen to lay emphasis on the central role of the citizen in the consolidation of constitutional democracy. Mr. Bimi concluded by thanking the Ford Foundation, the principal sponsors of the National Constitution Week, and other donors for coming to the assistance of the NCCE.

The inaugural address was delivered by Nana Akufo-Addo, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice. He commended the NCCE for the idea of the National Constitution Week. He paid glowing tribute to the flag bearers of the struggle for independence and democracy in the country. He denounced military interventions in the country's politics saying they had weakened our institutions and deprived the nation of the chance of economic emancipation and development. He commended all individuals and groups that embarked on a national crusade for the entrenchment of constitutional democracy. He concluded his speech by urging all Ghanaians to participate in the discussion, debates and other activities organised in connection with the Week to ensure that the 1992 Constitution becomes a living document embodied in the minds and hearts of the citizens for the attainment of democracy and good governance in Ghana.

As part of the ceremonial activities, Nana Akufo-Addo, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, presented awards to three second cycle schools that excelled in a Ghana Constitution Game competition. Accra Academy, which won the maiden competition, received ₵500,000.00, a plaque and a dustbin; the first runner-up, Presbyterian Secondary School, was given ₵400,000.00; and three schools, Accra High, Accra Girls and Achimota who tied for the second runner-up position, had ₵200,000.00 each.

A1.1.2 Keynote Address

As part of the opening ceremony Kwesi Prempeh, a Ghanaian legal Consultant based in the United States of America, delivered the keynote address on the topic *Eight Years of Constitutional Rule in Ghana, 1993–2001: Challenges and Prospects*. In his opinion the National Constitution Week can well be termed as a

celebration of the Fourth Republic, as the 1992 Constitution is the Constitution of the Fourth Republic, the other Constitutions having all been consigned to the dustbin of history.

Kwasi Prempeh pointed out that to sustain the constitutional order there was the need for a legal order that liberal-democratic constitutions generally seek to achieve. This entailed the existence of well-functioning institutions that have the capacity and authority to enforce accountability in government, check the abuse of power and promote the rule of law. These institutions must also provide the avenues for achieving both horizontal and vertical accountability.

The 1992 Constitution, he said, provides the basic framework for Constitutionalism in Ghana, but various institutions established under the Constitution need to be strengthened or supported to countervail the power of the Executive.

He lauded the role of the people in checking governmental abuses, especially as done in “phone-calls” on local FM stations etc., but he stressed that the citizenry must be law abiding and that the airwaves must not be used to undermine constitutionalism. Constitutionalism, he emphasised, means that law must regulate the power and conduct not only of government but also of the governed.

Turning to the Media, he lauded its role in the last December 2000 elections. He said the challenge now was for the media to enhance their role by being more responsible by abiding by the ethics of the profession. He called for the repeal of the Criminal Libel Law and the passage of the Freedom of Information Act to further enhance the work of the media.

On Parliament, he pointed out, that as the one major body for promoting constitutionalism, it must use its institutional power to check the Executive. To make Parliament the bulwark of people’s rights he called for a number of measures to be taken: first, Parliament must be granted ‘limited’ budgetary autonomy to enable it to be well resourced; second, there is the need to look at Article 78 of the Constitution that stipulates that two-thirds of ministers must come from Parliament and finally there must be a re-examination of Parliamentary Standing Orders to empower committees, caucuses and members to initiate timely hearing into matters of public concern.

On the Judiciary, he stressed that it has a very prominent role to play in a culture of constitutionalism, but its ability to do that will depend on the willingness of the Judges to protect the ideas enshrined in the Constitution. He called for re-examination of Article 128(1) that does not put a limit on the membership of the Supreme Court. To avoid the situation where it may be said that the Chief Justice empanels the Supreme Court to favour a ruling government he called for all judges of the court to act on constitutional cases.

On the Council of State, his view was either we have a Council of State that is constituted and designed to act as a true second chamber or we simply do away with it to save the country the expense.

Turning to Constitutional bodies like Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE)

Electoral Commission of Ghana (EC), Auditor-General, Governor of Bank of Ghana, etc. It was his view that though the Constitution gives the heads of these bodies sacrosanct tenure, to balance independence with accountability, he advocated for “limited terms for such executives” or a provision that a super-majority ie. 2/3 of members of Parliament could remove any of those officials for stated causes.

Kwesi Prempeh concluded his paper by calling for a look at Article 290 which deals with the manner in which an entrenched provision in the Constitution could be amended. He said to have a national referendum each time an entrenched provision was to be amended was not only costly and obstructionist but would make an amendment to an entrenched clause of the Constitution almost impossible to achieve.

A1.1.3 Critique of Keynote Address

As a way of elucidating key points in the keynote address, two discussants presented critiques of the paper focusing on various issues raised by the principal speaker. The first was Mrs. Betty Mould-Iddrisu, Chief State Attorney, while the second discussant was Dr. Benjamin Kunbour, M.P. for Lawra-Nandom. While agreeing with various issues raised by Prempeh, Mrs. Betty Mould-Iddrisu regretted the issue of gender as being totally neglected in the lead paper. She addressed a number of problems left hanging by the Constitution. One of these, she pointed out, was the vexed question of the property right of a spouse upon the dissolution of marriage. Though Article 22 of the 1992 Constitution states specifically that Parliament shall enact laws to regulate such rights, she lamented that eight years into constitutional rule, the legislation is yet to be enacted.

In critiquing Kwasi Prempeh’s paper, Dr. Kunbour said it was important to look at the 1992 Constitution and the issue of Constitutionalism from the background of core values around which the Constitution was fashioned. He pointed out that the Preamble and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Chapter 6 of the Constitution can be said to encapsulate those values. To Dr. Kunbour what is important to look at in the eight years of constitutional rule is how far those Directive Principles have been observed by the state. Dr. Kunbour examined the vertical and horizontal accountability concept propounded by Prempeh and said what is more important is to discern the vested interests which render government unaccountable. In conclusion, Dr. Kunbour said that a very important way to sustain constitutionalism in the country is good governance and that the government must always seek to promote the welfare of the people.

A1.1.4 Other Major Activities of the Week.

A number of activities with special foci were organised to examine critical issues such as:

- Performance of Organs of Government
- The Media in a Democracy
- Women’s Participation in Decision Making
- Electoral Problems in Ghana’s Democracy

A1.1.4.1 Performance of Organs of Government

One of the issues dealt with was in relation to the Judiciary. Speaking on the topic *Judicial Review as a Tool for Constitutional Amendment*, Justice G.K. Acquah, Justice of the Supreme Court, said Judicial Review connotes the power of the courts to review statutes and governmental actions to determine their constitutionality and pointed out that it is only a fearless judiciary that can uphold rights of citizens. It was the consensus at the end of discussions that though aspects of the constitution call for amendment Ghanaians must hasten slowly in demanding Constitutional amendment. In respect of the 1992 Constitution he said all the cases decided have gone to strengthen the principle. Justice Acquah pointed out that although some cases were controversial and created a bitter confrontation between the Judiciary and the Executive, they nevertheless exhibited the genuine philosophical differences among the Organs of State and sometimes within the Judiciary itself.

He concluded by saying that on the whole the power of Judicial Review exercised by the Court has helped to safeguard our constitutional democracy. He called for consistency in decisions by the Supreme Court to give meaning and content to the aspirations of the people, which are unambiguously expressed in the Constitution. The Commission thus provided a platform for jurists, academia and civil society to discuss the perception that an upright and knowledgeable judiciary is critical for public confidence in constitutional rule as the interpretation of our laws in an impartial and authoritative manner minimizes the craving for constitutional amendment at the least occurrence of an apparent constitutional difficulty. The Acting Chief Justice, Justice E.K. Wiredu, was the Guest of Honour at the function, which was held at the Conference Room of the Ghana Centre for Democracy and Development.

A1.1.4.2 Forum on the Media

Chapter Twelve of the 1992 Constitution guarantees the freedom and independence of the media. In recognition of the pivotal role that the media can play in promoting transparency and accountability in governance, a very important segment of the National Constitution Week activities was a seminar for media practitioners held at the Bediako Hall of the Ghana National Association of Teachers (GNAT) on April 30, 2001 on the topic *Freedom of Expression – Limitations and Latitudes*. Two media practitioners, Mrs. Gifty Afenyi-Dadzie, president of the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA), and Joe Baidoe-Ansah, MP for Effia-Kwesimintsim Constituency, who both spoke on the topic, stressed that freedom of expression is important for promoting democracy. They also expressed concern about excesses on the part of the media, especially as they affect the rights and dignity of individuals. They agreed that although the 1992 Constitution recognises the freedom of expression, there still remained laws in our statute books which are inconsistent with the Constitution even after eight years of practising democracy and liberal constitutionalism and called for a Freedom of Information Act.

The Speaker of Parliament, Peter Ala Adjetey, who was the Guest Speaker, in his remarks identified various bits of legislation, which are inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, particularly in the area of promoting Freedom of Expression. He was however of the opinion that in spite of their shortcomings, it is legal and logical to defend them until such laws are legally and constitutionally amended.

Tim Acquah Hayford, a former Chairman of the National Media Commission, who was the chairman for the function, said matters of freedom of expression are dear to the country and called for the enactment of the Freedom of Information Act.

A1.1.4.3 Consolidating Ghana's Democracy

A roundtable discussion on *Consolidating Ghana's Democracy – The Way Forward* enabled the resource persons, Rt. Rev. Charles Palmer-Buckle, Catholic Bishop of Koforidua Diocese, and Maulvi A. Wahab Adam, Ameer and Missionary-in-charge, Ahmaddiyya Muslim Mission in Ghana, to share their views on ways to consolidate our democracy.

In his presentation, Rt. Rev. Charles Palmer-Buckle took the audience through the concept of democracy and what it means to have a constitution and building a culture of democracy. He said past and current experience of Western democracies attest to the fact that democracy has yet to be perfected as a system of government anywhere in the world. The individual, he said, was important in building all democracies anywhere and emphasised that democracy and the Constitution are but just two of the many means to achieve good governance. In his paper, Maulvi A. Wahab Adam, Ameer and Missionary-in-Charge of Ahmadiyya Mission in Ghana, said morality and ethics should be seen as the basic underlying factors, which can move forward any society. To him the Directive Principles of State Policy underscored the need to promote the welfare of all in society. Maulvi Adam urged all Ghanaians to take up arms against poverty, stressing that poverty is the greatest threat to consolidating democracy in the country. He cautioned that there are too many poor people around, and that a poverty-stricken society cannot be a place for the consolidation of democracy.

A1.1.4.4 Electoral Problems

Given the importance of elections in a constitutional democracy, the Commission during the Week provided a platform for election administrators, political parties, parliamentarians and civil society organisations to brainstorm on electoral problems. The main discussant for the day was David Adeenze Kangah, Deputy Chairman of the Electoral Commission of Ghana, who spoke on *Problems of an Election Administrator in Transitional Democracies*. Participants acknowledged the progress made in election administration in Ghana but stressed the need for greater transparency.

A1.1.4.5 Forum on Women

The Directive Principles of State Policy stresses the importance of the inclusion of all segments of society in the policy process. Different reasons have been assigned for the low representation of women. One factor that has been commonly accepted by researchers is the hindrances emanating from traditional and cultural practices. The Commission thus brought together women leaders and gender activists to brainstorm on how best to strengthen women's participation in decision making. The special women's forum was held at the Conference Hall of the YWCA in Accra on Thursday May 3, 2001. Three Speakers spoke on various topics at the forum. The chairman for the function was Nana Addo Dankwa III, Okuapehene. The Guest of Honour for the occasion was Mrs. Gladys Asmah, Minister for Women and Children's Affairs.

Mrs. Florence Ali, president of the Ghanaian Association for Women's Welfare, spoke on *Relevance of Women Genital Mutilation in the 21st Century*. She pointed to the fact that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), sometimes known as female circumcision, is a practice of grave concern. She gave very horrifying figures as to the extent of the practice in Ghana. She called for action on all fronts to deal with the issue. Among activities she outlined were promotion of girl-child education, incorporation of FGM issues in women's reproductive health programmes, mass education on the practice and tougher legislation against the practice. Another speaker at the women's forum was Mrs. Esi Sutherland-Addy, Research Fellow, University of Ghana, Legon. She spoke on *Strengthening Women's Participation in Decision Making Through Cultural and Traditional Values, Systems and Practices*.

A1.1.4.6 Fora With Security Agencies

Given the important role of Security Services in the Constitutional process, especially against the backdrop of their not-so-impressive record in safeguarding of constitutional rule, they were targeted for brainstorming sessions as to their perception on "The Role of the Security Services in Consolidating Democracy in Ghana". The series of lectures was held on Friday May 4, 2001 and was attended by officers and men of the various services. Each of the lectures was chaired by the respective head of the institution.

The speaker at the Prisons Headquarters was Prof. S.A. Osei, National President of the University Teachers Association of Ghana. He stressed that the security services have to support the Constitution by performing their primary responsibility of ensuring safety, peace and the well-being of the country and the people. Prof. Kwesi Yankah of the University of Ghana, Legon, was the speaker at the headquarters of the Ghana Immigration Service.. The function was chaired by Mr. W.K. Aboah, Director of the Immigration Service. He gave a brief political history of the country and pointed to the alternation of civil-military regimes. He cited various examples to buttress the fact that the new constitutional dispensation did not come that easily and urged all and sundry to safeguard the new found freedom.

In his presentation at the Ghana *Fire Service Headquarters*, Dr. Bashiru I. Koray, Representative of the Ghana Federation of the Disabled, charged the firemen and women to be abreast with the Constitution by reading it. The last in series of the lectures was held for officers of the Customs, Excise and Preventive Service. The speaker was Rev. Dr. Robert Aboagye-Mensah, General-Secretary of the Christian Council of Ghana. He asked CEPS personnel to be conscientious in their duties and sustain the democratic order by working hard in bring the necessary revenue to the state .

The lecture for the Ghana Armed Forces could not be held during the Constitution Week because of certain problems. It was subsequently held a week later and the lecturer, Leslie Bofo, Programme Officer, African Security Dialogue and Research (ASDR), spoke on "Consolidating Democracy- Insights and References on Civilian-Military Relations"

A1.1.4.7 Regional/District Activities

All regional/district programmes were organised on the national theme. The activities organised by the Regional and District Offices took varied forms. The common activities were distribution of civic circulars, launching lectures/symposia, route marches and processions, football matches/fun games, radio programmes, visitations, clean-up campaign, bicycle races, tree-planting exercises.

A1.2 Launching of the Ghana Constitution Game

As part of its long term objective of creating constitutional awareness among the citizens, especially the youth, and making the teaching of the Ghanaian Constitution more exciting to the general citizenry, the NCCE commissioned Benson Games Limited to design and produce a game based on the 1992 Constitution of Ghana. The game was formally introduced on February 28, 2001.

Six senior secondary schools were selected as pilot schools for the introduction of the Game. They were St. Mary's Secondary School, Accra Academy, Presbyterian Boys Secondary School, Achimota College, Accra Girls Secondary School and Accra High Secondary School. Mrs. Doris Archampong, Deputy Greater Accra Regional Director, and Samuel Akuamoah, Civic Education Officer at the Headquarters, took up the task of teaching the students how to play the games.

After the pilot programme, a trainer-of-trainers seminar was held for staff from the regional offices. Teams from the regional offices went round various schools to introduce members of Civic Education Clubs to the Ghana Constitution Game.

A1.3 Distribution of the Constitution Among Institutions

The Commission also popularized the 1992 Ghanaian Constitution by distributing nearly 2000 copies procured during the celebration of the First Constitution Week among public institutions, opinion leaders, schools, NGOs, religious groups etc throughout the country. Beneficiary institutions included the Ghana Library Board (62 copies for all public libraries in Ghana), 110 District Assemblies, Ghana Armed Forces, Christian Council and the Catholic Secretariat, Parliament, Judiciary, Presidency, Ghana Police Force, Ghana Immigration Service, Ghana Fire Service, Ghana Prisons Service, Trades Union Congress, Ghana National Association of Teachers, Political Parties, National House of Chiefs.

All the regional and district offices were given copies of the Constitution and these were distributed to identifiable groups and individuals, including political parties and ministers of state and religious leaders.

A1.4 Civic Education Clubs (CECs)

During the year under review the Commission continued to use Civic Education Clubs as a strategy to reach out to the mass of the people, especially the youth. It is important to note that the euphoria generated following the inauguration of the first CEC at Accra Academy in March 1996 had gradually died down.

The reasons for dwindling enthusiasm are varied but fundamental. They include:

- Financial and logistical problems facing the Commission itself which made it difficult for staff to pay regular visits to the clubs.
- Unco-operative attitude of some school authorities.
- The notion/perception held by some CECs that the provision of funds for their programmes and activities is the responsibility of the NCCE.
- The fluid membership of school CECs due to their transitory nature.

In spite of these problems, the Commission tried hard to sustain interest in Civic Education Clubs in some regions.

Below are some activities organised by CECs in the Regions

A1.4.1 Western Region

There was a general reactivation of Civic Education Clubs in the region. The effort led to the inauguration of the Takoradi Polytechnic Civic Education Club on June 6, 2001. In his inaugural address, Napoloen K. Agboada, Director, Public Education, encouraged members of the Clubs to deepen their knowledge about the Constitution. As part of NCCE's efforts at encouraging Club members to gain first hand knowledge and get a feeling of democracy in action 60 members of the T'Poly and 50 students of Ghana Secondary Technical School, Takoradi visited Parliament House within the year.

A1.4.2 Greater Accra Region

The CEC of Accra Polytechnic in June 2001 organised a student forum at the school on the topic "*The Constitution and the Youth: Steps into the Future*". A Tema-based legal practitioner and a traditional ruler, Nana Omane, was the speaker. The talk brought to the fore the important role the youth should play in the democratic process and enlist their understanding and interest on issues affecting the constitutional and democratic practice in this country in an informed and responsible manner. It was chaired by the Vice- Principal of the polytechnic.

Two separate award ceremonies were held for Accra Girls and Presbyterian Boys' Secondary School at which the CECs received certificates and other items of appreciation. The Accra High School CEC on their part organised a Mock Parliament at which five schools participated

A1.4.3 Ashanti Region

The Regional Directorate adopted the strategy of civic classes as a way of reviving interest in civic issues in the schools. As a result topics discussed included: The role of the Legislature, the Arms of Government; How the 1992 Constitution came into being and The Role of the Police. Students were also encouraged to have first hand knowledge and get a feeling of democracy through visits to the relevant places. Thus 60 members of CECs of Anglican Secondary School, Kumasi, together with two of their patrons on December 6, 2001 visited Parliament to observe and learn at first hand the workings of the Legislature. The excursion which also took them

to other important and historic places in Accra ended at the NCCE Headquarters where they were addressed by the chairman of the NCCE, Laary Bimi.

A1.4.4 Upper East Region

The Region organized quiz competitions in the schools and workplaces' Civic Education Clubs on the provisions of the Constitution. For civic classes, selected schools were visited by the NCCE staff in the Districts to discuss in the local languages (Dagaare and Wali) the song "Yen-Ara-Asase Ni".

A1.4.5 Volta Region

All the twelve districts embarked on the reactivation of the Civic Education Clubs in the second cycle schools.

A1.4.6 Central Region

Most Civic Education Clubs in the region were reactivated through civic education classes in the second cycle institutions while communities, churches and civil society organizations were encouraged to form CECs of their own.

A1.5 Special Regional Programmes

In addition to programmes that could be described as national in character, the regions and districts carried out those programmes peculiar to them either through their own initiatives or collaboration with other NGOs/CBOs. For example the Volta Region helped the Health Services to educate the people on the Vitamin 'A' Immunization programme, the Western and Brong Ahafo Regions on Bushfire control, the Upper West Region on the Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM).

Other region-specific programmes are spelt out below:

A1.5.1 Upper West Region

The region organized a workshop sponsored by the Catholic Relief Services at the Peace-Building centre at Damongo. It took five days. The theme was: "Peace-Building and Conflict Transformation: Networking in search of peace for sustainable Development in the Upper West Region". Prominent among the resource persons and speakers at the workshop were Mr. Ademazoya, the programme officer of (CRS), and Most Rev. Bishop Philip Naameh, Catholic Bishop of Damongo.

A1.5.2 Volta Region

Civic classes were organized for the clubs and the general public at fora, durbars and at religious gatherings. Topics treated included: HIV/AIDS' Girl-Child Education; Teenage Pregnancy and some aspects of the Constitution such as Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms". The target groups were: students and pupils, traditional rulers and their people, opinion leaders, market women and religious bodies.

A1.5.3 Brong Ahafo Region

The Regional activities covered all the thirty-three districts. Civic classes were also conducted in churches and mosques and for working groups such as hairdressers, tailors and market women. Topics treated included Political tolerance, Rights of the child and the Duties and Responsibilities of Parents, The role of the Legislature, Bush fire control, Freedom and Independence of the Media, and Unit Committees and Local Government, and others.

A1.5.4 Central Region

Fora were held as part of the Civic Education Classes for organizations and groups such as the GPRTU, market women, dressmakers and beauticians on different occasions. Topics treated were: The Rule of Law and Good Governance, “Children’s Rights” and some aspects of the Constitution.

A1.5.5 Eastern Region

The Region embarked on extensive civic education activities during the year. Many topics on the Constitution and health were treated at various fora and at Civic Education Club Meetings. Much emphasis was laid on the following topics: HIV/AIDS and STDs; The Rights of Women; the Role of the Citizen in National Development; Teenage Pregnancy; Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms.

A1.5.6 Northern Region

The regional office collaborated with the Northern Ghana Peace, an NGO, at the Unity Centre, Damongo to organise a peace-building workshop on ways of attaining sustainable peace in the Dagbon Area. The workshop was held from May 21 to 26, 2001. The attendance was various chiefs from the Dagbon Traditional Area. At the end of the five- day workshop participants among others recommended that the government should work hard to de-politicise the fire festival of the people of Dagbon. This initiative was not to be a one-stop activity and the Commission should keep on working with the various Dagbon factions with the view to restoring lasting peace as the community suffers from uneasy calm (for full details of the communique refer to Appendix C pages 47-50).

A1.6 Important Conferences, Workshops and Seminars Attended By Commission Members and Staff

In the year 2000 the NCCE, as a governance institution, honoured several invitations from organizations, institutions or bodies to share civic knowledge with their members.

A1.6.1 Interaction with Students from Nigerian Armed Forces and Staff College

The Ministry of Defence on April 25, 2001 invited the Chairman of the NCCE to the Conference Room of the National Development Planning Commission, Flagstaff House, Accra, to brief over 50 students from the Nigerian Armed Forces and Staff College on “The Political Structures of Ghana”. Mr. Bimi briefed the delegation on Ghana’s multi party structure and efforts the Commission was making to ensure

the consolidation of democracy in the country. The Director for Public Education, Napoleon K. Agboada, and the Director for Research, Mrs. Gertrude Zakariah-Ali, accompanied the chairman to the function.

A1.6.2 Lectures at Military Academy and Training School

In response to an invitation by the Commandant of MATS, Napoleon K. Agboada, Director, Public Education, on May 22, 2001, delivered two lectures to a class of 40 soldiers drawn from all units of the Ghana Armed Forces. The topics were “Human Rights and Freedoms” and “Consolidating Ghana’s Democracy: the Way Forward”. Mr. Agboada explained that as citizens the soldiers have the right to participate in the democratic governance of this country and a duty to defend the constitution at all times. The lectures achieved their objective of getting soldiers well equipped with information on human rights provisions as enshrined in the constitution as well as its practice.

A1.6.3 Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences

The Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences held a public forum on “Consensus Building: A tool for Effective Democratic Governance in Africa” at the British Council Hall, Accra, from 18 to 20, 2001. The Chairman of the NCCE delivered a paper on the “Importance of Civic Education in Ensuring Good Governance”. Other speakers at the forum were Prof. Takyiwa Manu, Director of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, Dr. N. Alabi of *Choice FM*, Accra, Mr. K.K.K. Ampofo of the Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Legon, Hon. Daniel Francis Annan, the former Speaker of Parliament, and Hon. J.H. Mensah, Majority Leader.

A1.6.4 Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition

The Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition on June 5-6, 2001 organized a two-day workshop at the Accra International Conference Centre on the theme “Ghana Uniting Against Corruption”. The NCCE and other stakeholders were invited as participants to discuss and adopt action plans for the national anti-corruption campaign and building a broad-based consensus and support for the effective implementation of the Action Plan. Napoleon K. Agboada, Director Public Education, represented the NCCE and was part of the group which drew the Action Plan to curb corruption in Ghana. Stickers and posters were collected and distributed as part of the campaign against corruption. The Minister of Information and Presidential Affairs, Jake Obetsebi Lamptey, represented the President as the Guest of Honour. The workshop was chaired by Peter Ala Adjetey, Speaker of Parliament.

A1.6.5 Youth Advocacy Movement of Ghana

The Youth Advocacy Movement of Ghana, a youth wing of the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana, on July 26, 2001 organised a public lecture at the GNAT Hall, Accra. Mrs. Fanny Kumah, Director, Literature and Materials Development, who was a resource person from the NCCE, spoke on “Rights and Responsibilities of Young People as Enshrined in the Constitution”. From July 23 to August 3, 2001, the Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation (GILLBT) in collaboration with the NCCE, represented by its Northern Regional Office,

organized a week's workshop in Tamale for translators. The workshop took place at the GILLBT Training Center, Tamale. Whilst GILLBT provided funds for the project, the NCCE facilitated the workshop by providing copies of the 1992 Constitution and its abridged version as well as the public relations aspect of the project.

The NCCE was represented at the workshop by Dominic Donnir, Deputy Director of Public Education, Head Office, Accra; Issa Nasagri, Northern Regional Director of NCCE, and Ms. Mary Ataa Nyamekye, Assistant Public Education Officer, Head Office, Accra. At the end of the workshop the Abridged 1992 Ghana Constitution was translated into 34 hitherto unpublished Ghanaian languages.

A1.6.6 PACE-NET

From September 25 to 27, 2001, PACE-NET a network of organizations on civic education in Africa, held its annual conference in Cotonou, the capital of the Benin Republic. The theme of the Conference was "The Roles and Challenges of Civil Society Organizations in the Process of Constitutional Reform in Africa." Dominic Donnir, Deputy Director, Public Education, represented the NCCE.

A1.6.7 Community Drama

A community theatre was organized at the premises of the Nungua Traditional Council on December 18, 2001 by the NCCE in collaboration with the United Women Front (UNIWAF), an NGO to sensitize citizens on girl-child education through the use of drama sketches performed by selected inhabitants in the Nungua township and facilitated by Ms. Mary Atta Nyamekye, ACEO. In attendance were over 500 members of the Community. Ms. Doris Ocansey, Deputy Chairman of the NCCE, in an address urged women to insist on their rights and fight against any attempts to abuse or cheat them in society. Nii Tsui, the Gbobu Wulomo of Nungua chaired the function.

A2 Research Activities

A2.1 Introduction

In the year under review the Research Department carried out the following activities:

- (i) Research on the *Assessment of the Performance of Parliament in the Fourth Republic*, and issued out initial copies.
- (ii) A review seminar to allow Parliamentarians and civil society to express their opinion on the *Assessment of the Performance of Parliament in the Fourth Republic* and make critiques and comments on the report before its final print copy.
- (iii) Continued collaborative work with the Research Committee of the National House of Chiefs, the Chieftaincy Secretariat and the Konrand Adenauer Foundation on the Codification of Customary Laws and Practices relating to enstoolment/enskinment in Ghana.
- (iv) A workshop to discuss consultants' report on *The Impact Assessment of the First Constitutional Week* at Kama Conference Centre, Labone, Accra .
- (v) A number of research activities were initiated by some Regional/District offices.

A2.1 The Survey to Assess the Performance of the Parliament of the Fourth Republic

The study on *Assessment of Parliament of the Fourth Republic* was undertaken in March 2000. The general aim of the project was to assess the performance of Parliament in the Fourth Republic. Specifically, the survey intended to appraise the Second Parliament of the Fourth Republic in terms of its ability to: (a) make new laws and review existing ones; (b) monitor and review the Executive's financial programmes to ensure accountability and transparency; (c) the attendance of Members and their general participation in the debates of the House. (d) focus on assessing the performance of individual Members of Parliament in terms of the extent to which they have been able to improve the socio-economic conditions of their constituencies and finally; (e) determine the quality of relationship between Members of Parliament and Metropolitan/District Chief Executives, Assembly men and women, and constituency members as a whole. The Report of this Research project was published in April 2001.

Among major findings of the Survey were:

MPs and their District Assembly meeting

The majority of MPs (54 per cent) said they attended meetings more than thrice, 26 per cent attended twice, 15 per cent said once. Of those who regularly attended District Assembly meetings 64.4 per cent claimed that their meetings were useful.

Relationship between MPs and DCEs

The relationship between District Chief Executives and MPs is gradually improving. About 78 per cent of MPs described the relation with the DCEs as good, with 22 per cent saying it was poor. It is interesting to point out that relationship was not necessarily determined by the political stance of the two key players in the district. There were MPs who belonged to the same political party as their DCE but who did not get on well, whilst there were some minority party MPs who got on well with their DCEs.

Issues On/About Which Constituents Approach MPs

The key issues on or about which constituents approached their MPs were developmental, that is, development projects. The other issues MPs were approached on were: poverty alleviation 10 per cent, education 3.1 per cent, environment and sanitation 1.2 per cent. The rest were government policies 0.1 per cent and political issues 0.4 per cent.

The survey buttresses the point that for many of our people, especially those in the rural areas, the concern is about construction of boreholes and water projects and the provision of other social amenities. Political issues, which border on areas such as conduct of elections, political campaigning, etc, are of little concern to the citizenry.

Projects Undertaken by MPs

From the survey, school projects ranked very high with more than 83 per cent of MPs, saying it was the area on which they used their share of the District Assemblies Common Fund.

Assessment of Functions of Parliament

Five major functions were identified as the role of MPs, namely *deliberative, legislative, oversight and investigative role, regulatory role and financial role*. About 51 per cent of MPs said they did not have sufficient time to examine loan agreements and financial statements.

Ways to Enhance Effectiveness of MPs

The main constraints facing MPs in the discharge of their duties were identified as the lack of logistics as their main constraint; 26 per cent mentioned poor remuneration; while only one MP said the income as well as resources given was inadequate. Another 17 per cent said their main concern was the persistent financial demands made on them by their constituents. Such demands range from hospital fees, school fees, to ordinary expenses. The remaining three (3) per cent mentioned ignorance and illiteracy as the main constraints.

A2.2 The Workshop to Discuss the Research Findings on the Assessment of the Performance of Parliament in the Fourth Republic

A Workshop to make a critique of the research findings was organised at the Bayview Hotel, East Legon, Accra, on May 28, 2001 to examine the Research Findings on the Assessment of the Performance of Parliament in the Fourth Republic. About 120 people took part in this workshop.

The Director of Research (NCCE), Mrs. Gertrude Zakariah-Ali, gave a presentation on the research objectives as well as main findings.

The Discussant of the Report, Dr. Essuman Johnson, a lecturer at the University of Ghana, Legon, undertook a general critique of the report. He commended the Research Department of the NCCE for doing a scientific and non-partisan work. In an overview of the Report, he said it was refreshing to note that 92.5 per cent of the respondents had voted in the 1996 elections. It shows evidence of an active electorate. He also discussed the relationship between the DCE and MP. He said there is an assumption that some DCEs aspire to become MPs and MPs see such DCEs as a threat. He questioned the notion of appointing DCEs since it doesn't make it non-partisan but local politics is expected to be non-partisan.

The performance of MPs, according to him, was average. Where the satisfaction with MPs was low the electorate did not want their return to Parliament and the findings show that Greater Accra had the lowest satisfaction rate of the electorate and actually in the 2000 elections most of the MPs were changed.

A2.3 Chieftaincy Research Project

In 1998 the NCCE began a collaborative exercise with the National House of Chiefs and the Chieftaincy Secretariat with the sponsorship of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation to undertake research into Customary Laws and Practices relating to Enstoolment/Enskinment. In the year 1999 the research problem was clearly defined and its objectives and methodology outlined. In 2000, training programmes were held for the NCCE Research Officers and Traditional Registrars. Data collection started then after the workshops.

In 2001 a workshop was organized at Akuafu Hall, University of Ghana, Legon, from August 16, 2001 to August 20, 2001 for a small team of researchers to produce a report out of the data collected by fieldworkers in the twenty selected pilot areas. At the workshop, information gathered from the selected pilot areas was edited, vetted and compiled into reports. It was realized that a few issues needed clarification and follow up efforts also had to be made to obtain questionnaires and field notebook of areas that were not made available to the team. The reports produced by the team were to be sent to the various traditional areas for verification before proceeding to the codification stage which would require legal advice.

A2.4 Workshop for Impact Assessment of the First Constitution Week

The Commission, in an effort to have an objective assessment of the First Annual Constitution Week, in May 2001, contracted a team of scholars from the Institute of Adult Education to assess the impact of the NCW on the populace and also to make recommendations for subsequent NCW celebrations.

The Research Department as a way of reviewing/verifying the report organised a stakeholders workshop at KAMA Conference Centre, Accra, on December 12, 2001; 67 stakeholders from varying backgrounds were involved. The Chairman and Guest of Honour for the workshop was Oseadeeyo Nana Addo Dankwa III, Okuapehene. The Principal Researchers, Messrs I.W. Parry and S.K. Badu-Nyarko, presented the 69-page report which touched on issues such as:

- The level of awareness created about the 1992 Constitution
- The extent of participation in NCW activities
- The extent to which interest in the 1992 Constitution was aroused
- Level of interest, attitudes towards the NCW, and
- Effectiveness of the media; the report also provided conclusion and recommendations.

The Major findings included:

Level of Awareness Created About the 1992 Constitution

The majority of the respondents had heard about the 1992 Constitution. Out of this 80.7 per cent had read it, while 19.3 percent had never done so. About 81 per cent read the Constitution before the celebration of the National Constitution Week and 19 per cent read the Constitution in 2001. The two major things respondents knew about the Constitution were that it is the Supreme Law of Ghana; and it guaranteed people's rights and freedom.

Extent of Participation in the National Constitution Week Activities

Notable reasons given for non-participation include the following:

- Did not hear of the event
- Was engaged or busy elsewhere
- Had travelled
- Did not receive invitation to the celebration

Participation was higher in the Brong Ahafo Region (82.2 per cent), Ashanti (76.9 per cent) and Greater Accra (68.3 per cent). The lowest rate of participation was recorded in the Central Region (30.4 per cent). Significantly, those with relatively higher levels of education identified more with the celebration than those with

lower education attainments. Public and civil servants recorded the highest rate of participation followed by students and teachers. The lowest rate of participation was recorded among farmers, fishermen, traders and the unemployed.

The Extent to Which Interest in the 1992 Constitution was Aroused

Participants expressed good impressions about the activities organized by the NCCE with over 60 per cent rating the radio discussions and school debates and quizzes as generally good. It also emerged from the survey that two important actions that participants were likely to take as a result of their participation in the NCW are: the defence of the Constitution at all times and the need to educate other citizens about the provisions of the Constitution.

Level of Interest

The study shows that 92.2 per cent of individuals who participated in the NCW celebration would participate in future celebrations. Respondents said they would like to participate in the event so as to acquire more information about the Constitution (55 per cent); to acquire the ability to educate others about the Constitution, and to know their rights, duties and obligations.

Attitudes Towards the NCW

An overwhelming majority of 93 per cent of respondents agreed that the National Constitution Week should be celebrated annually. Another significant proportion, 83.9 per cent, wanted the Government to fully finance the NCW, while 92.2 per cent felt that activities should be extended to all parts of the country especially rural areas. The majority of respondents (91.8 per cent) felt that celebration of the NCW would help nurture democratic culture and promote constitutional rule.

Conclusions Drawn

- That most Ghanaians were aware of the existence of the 1992 Constitution
- There was a relatively high level of participation in the NCW celebrations
- Participation was higher among government employees
- Participants showed a high level of understanding of issues addressed.

From findings on the field the reports ended with recommendations that the NCW celebrations should be sustained and supported with the necessary resources. More attention should be focused on the educationally disadvantaged citizens, especially those in the rural areas. Finally, logistic support should be given to the NCCE to enable it to extend future NCW activities to cover most, if not all, parts of the country.

A2.5 Research Activities in the Regions

Apart from the nationwide surveys which some district offices participated in, some regions on their own undertook researches, either alone or in collaboration with other organizations. Efforts made in the regions are presented below:

A2.5.1 Western Region

In the Juabeso Bia District, a health survey on the Expanded Programme on Immunization was conducted in some selected communities. The survey, which was done in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, was held from March 1 to 8, 2001. The purpose was to determine the effectiveness of the immunization process in the past four years. Communities visited for the study were Kaase, Oseikrom, Camp 15 and Nyame Bekyere. The findings indicate the expanded programme on immunization has been well patronized by the women in the District.

The Shama Ahanta East District office collaborated with the district assembly to conduct a survey into environmental activities in the metropolis especially at New Takoradi and Poasi communities. A random sampling of 400 members of the community was done and the direct interview method was employed. Information on type of toilet facilities and number of people using them was collected. Among findings and observations were the fact that about 2,062 people use public toilet facility, 887 had toilet facilities in their house; 2,940 out of 12,000 have access to facilities, and 9,051 people used unsanitary and unapproved outlets when attending nature's call.

It was observed that there was a desire for the communities to contribute towards waste management. There is the need for the provision of more toilet facilities. The people were ready to take up waste collection as jobs.

A2.5.2 Upper West Region

In September 2001, the Sissala District Office embarked on an exercise to ascertain the level of knowledge, attitude and understanding of the people about the HIV/AIDS disease. The findings would be captured in the next report. It is the hope of the district to use the report for educational campaigns on HIV/AIDS in communities in the District.

The Jirapa/Lambussie District Office intensified efforts to collate data on the elopement of young girls in the district. The data collection was aimed at a research into the rampant elopement of young girls around the Karni divisional area of the Lambussie constituency. Preliminary figures revealed that there were 19 cases at Kami, Ullo, Chepuri and Sigri with Chepuri leading. Information gathered also revealed that a 17 year-old girl drowned at Kul-Karnio in an attempt to escape from a man who wanted to elope with her.

A3 Literature and Material Development

In 2000 a new department, Literature and Material Development, was set up at the Head Office. The Department is basically to undertake development and publication of materials for the Commission.

In the year, the department, in spite of its constraints, supervised the abridging and simplification of the 1992 Constitution. The Abridged and Simplified Version of the 1992 Constitution is easier to read, and as such more comprehensible.

Other materials developed for production into brochures were:

- The Functions of Selected State Institutions
- The Citizen and the Police
- Political Tolerance
- Human Rights and Freedoms

The Department is currently gathering materials for the development of a suitable curriculum on ***Civics for Democracy*** in the educational system.

A4 Public Affairs

A4.1 Constitution Quiz on GTV

At the Mid-Year Review Conference of the Commission held in Takoradi in 2000, it was decided, among others, that greater focus be placed on education of the youth, especially those in schools. As a way of reaching the youth with civic knowledge the Commission decided to introduce quiz programmes on the Constitution on television. Primetime Limited was identified as the private Media Company with the best experience to handle the Constitution Quiz on TV.

After a series of preparatory meetings with the company, Prof. (Mrs.) Henrietta Mensah-Bonsu of the Law Faculty, University of Ghana, Legon, was chosen to be the quiz mistress. She graciously accepted the role of the hostess for the programme. Subsequent to her acceptance to host the series, further discussions led to changes to the original idea and focus. A quiz format was adopted as against the original one that had both entertainment and educational content. The targeted age group changed to 10–13 years, that is those in JSS, since they tend to watch television more than the 14–18 age group. It was argued that those young ones once hooked on to the programme can influence both parents and younger siblings to also watch. Three pilot programmes were held with nine schools participating. After a review of the pilot exercise the full programme was carried through.

A total of 27 schools drawn from the Greater Accra Region (including the nine schools which competed in the pilot programme) participated in the competition which was pre-recorded between July 10 and 13, 2001 at the Teachers Hall, Accra. The final contesting schools were Accra New Town Experimental JSS, Kaneshie Presby JSS, and Ave Maria JSS. They secured 78, 68 and 65 points to emerge first, second and third respectively. The Chairman of the NCCE, Laary Bimi, in a short speech before the presentation of a cheque for ₵1.5 million to the winner, stated that the youth constituted the greatest human asset of the nation, and as such, the Commission's focus was directed at concentrating on activities that would generate awareness and interest of children and the youth in the 1992 Constitution. He expressed the hope that the investment would create a future generation of civic minded and democratic citizens for Ghana.

GTV commenced the telecast of the series on Thursday, October 4, 2001 and continued once a week, on Thursdays from 5p.m. to 5.30p.m. until Thursday, December 27, 2001 when the series ran out. Although feedback on the impact of this initiative was positive, regrettably, the programme could not be sustained due to funding limitations.

A4.2 NCCE Calendars

Recognising the important role NCCE's calendars continue to play in disseminating very important civic and constitutional messages, the Commission in 2001 again produced the year's calendar.

The 2001 calendar focused on national symbols and structures. With a general caption of "Yen Ara Asase Ni – Ghana is Our Motherland", the 2001 Calendar captured the essence of national unity. Engraved in the map of Ghana are the Larabanga Mosque of the Upper West Region, the University of Ghana, Legon, the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum in Accra, the Cape Coast Castle – a reminder of our colonial past, the Akosombo Dam – the National prime energy source –and a Black Star Player displaying the trophy of victory. Other symbols included the National Flag, the Coat of Arms, Independence Arch and the Parliament House. The representation of Adinkra Symbols whose meanings are unique to a section of the Ghanaian society added significantly to its educational value.

A4.3 Working Lunch for Top Media Personnel

In collaboration with Attitude Ghana, an NGO, a working lunch was organised for top media executives from all the media houses in Accra. The theme: 'Media as a Public Educator' was chosen to negate the diversionist stance that the media had taken on so many issues of national importance during the year. The working lunch was organised as a forum for discussing means to curb media excesses and create an awareness for them to refocus on their important role of informing, educating and entertaining the public. The function was chaired by Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin II, Okyehene of the Akim Abuakwa State.

Speakers at the function were Professor Ansu-Kyeremeh, School of Communications Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, who spoke on "Media Language as a Means for Fostering Peace and Stability for Positive Change in our Society", Dr. Audrey Gadzekpo, School of Communication Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, who spoke on "The Power of Language", Yaw Ayebofo, Executive Secretary, National Media Commission, who spoke on "Fact Vrs. Opinion in the Media", while Tim Acquah Hayford, Total Marketing Communications Limited, spoke on "Promotional Communication".

A4.4 Radio Programmes

The Commission, staying within the constraints of its available resources, used the electronic media to further educate the populace. The Commission made use of a minimum of one radio station per region to run weekly programmes aimed at educating Ghanaians on the Directive Principles of State Policy. The radio programmes were reinforced by a quiz programme on Ghana Television (GTV) for selected schools on the Ghanaian Constitution.

SECTION B

Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Division of the NCCE covers the Personnel Unit, Transport Unit, Finance Department, Stores Section, Administration Section. The Division in the year under review continued with efforts to infuse efficiency and discipline into all levels of the Commission.

B1 Administration

B1.1 The Commission

During the year under review the Commission held 12 regular meetings and three (3) emergency meetings. A major problem that often arises is the lack of quorum whenever a member travels. This is because the membership of the Commission continues to be five (5) instead of seven. Two members, namely Mrs. Susanna Adam who had resigned in 1996 and Dr. J.E. Oppong whose appointment had been revoked by his Excellency, the President of the Republic, had not been replaced. The absence of the two members left the Commission with five members. The NCCE establishment Act fixes the quorum for meetings at four. .

B1.2 Strategic Plan

The NCCE in 1999 under the auspices of NIRP and with the support of UNDP contracted a Consultant, Harley Reed & Co, to prepare a (10) Ten-year strategic plan. The plan was to enable the Commission to carry out restructuring of its organs, get support from UNDP to improve its logistical base, develop and improve its human capacity and acquire adequate accommodation facilities at the Head Office, regions and districts. Unfortunately the programme never took off, despite constant flow of Consultants to review our performance and progress under the strategic plan.

B1.3 Personnel Matters

B1.3.1 Staff Strength and Turnover

The staff strength as of December 31, 2001 was One Thousand, Five Hundred and One (1501). During the year 97 new appointments were made; these comprised 39 senior and 58 junior staff. A total of 45 members of staff left the services of the Commission through resignation, retirement, vacation of post or dismissal

B1.4 Transport

The Commission had only 14 roadworthy vehicles. This number included two Nissan and four Toyota Pick-ups allocated from the Office of the President in 1999 and 2000 and distributed to the Northern, Western, Volta, Brong Ahafo, Upper East and Eastern regions. The vehicles were allocated from the Office of the President as a result of the MTEF Policy, under which the government bought and allocated vehicles required by MDAs, according to approved budgets.

The breakdown of the vehicular situation of the Commission at the end of the year was as follows:

- Five Cross-Country Land Cruisers (all over 10 years old).
- Two Ford Explorers were procured in 1996. In 1999 one Ford Explorer was exchanged for a Toyota Prado by the Office of the Chief of Staff.
- On the instructions of the Chief of Staff, 32 of the said vehicles in the regions were grounded so as to be auctioned. But as of December 2001 the vehicles were still grounded due to industrial action embarked upon by the National Auctioneers Association.

B1.5 Accommodation

The office accommodation predicament of the Commission continues to negatively affect general productivity. The co-existence at the headquarters with the Electoral Commission has its own peculiar difficulties while in the regions and districts our locations in the regional and district administration premises have their own problems as well. While some regional/district administrations would demand that the Commission reports to them in violation of Article 234 of the 1992 Constitution, others have had the Commission ejected from their premises, especially since 2000.

B1.6 Office Equipment

In 1994 the Commission procured 130 manual typewriters from the Ghana Supply Commission. The machines have since outlived their usefulness, a state which has seriously affected the work of our districts in the submission of their reports.

B1.7 Capacity Building

B1.7.1 Diploma Courses

As a follow-up to the three-month course in Adult Education at the Tsito Institute of Adult Education in 2000 for 20 District Directors who were sponsored to do it, the Commission designed a system to let them advance to the Diploma level at the University of Ghana. Four of them passed the entrance examination and were offered admission. They were as a result granted two-year study leave during the 2000/2001 academic year. They are: I. K. Antwi (District Director, Tema), S. A. Kassim (District Director, Wa), Eric Nawai (Jirapa, later transferred to University of Cape Coast to do a three-year Degree Course), and Roland Azumah (District Director, Bawku West).

B1.7.2 Seminar on Effective Public Speaking

From June 15 to 20, 2001, a seminar on Effective Public Speaking was organized for NCCE management and directors by the Joe Lartey School of Public speaking. In attendance were Laary Bimi, Miss Doris Ocansey, Lt. Col Agbotse, Mrs. Gertrude Zakaria Ali, Napoleon Agboada, Paapa Nketsiah, H.W Tani-Eshon, Kwaku Baa Owusu, Dominic Donnir, A.K. Appiah, Kojo Voegborlo, Robert Dassah and Wisdom Amedzo. Various aspects of persuasive public speaking were discussed to sharpen the skills of officers in their daily work as civic educators. The in-service seminar was highly successful.

B1.7.3 Workshop on Budget Planning

The NIRP from September 24 to 29, 2001 organized a five-day workshop for members of the NCCE Budget Committee on Policy Review at the NCCE Conference room. With the coming into power of a new government a new national goal and mission statement had been devised; the Commission was thus enjoined to link up its goal and objectives to the national goal and also set new strategies (activities). A document was put together on the fifth and final day.

B1.7.4 52nd Annual New Year School

The Commission, represented by management and a select number of directors and senior officers, participated in the 52nd Annual New Year School held at the Commonwealth Hall, University of Ghana, Legon, from January 8 to 14, 2001. The school was organised under the theme *Globalisation and the Socio-Economic Development of Ghana*.

The formal opening ceremony came off on Saturday, January 8, 2001 and was addressed by Oyeeman Wereko Ampem II, Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon. The chairman for the opening ceremony was Prof. George Benneh, immediate Past Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon, and now Chairman, National Council for Tertiary Education.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Kwabena Duffour, Governor of the Bank of Ghana, and his topic was, *Globalisation: Implications for Developing Countries*.

There were five lecture and symposia sessions. Topics dealt with included Ghana's Liberalisation Policy: An Overview; Regional and Continental Integration for Participation in the Global Market; Information Technology: A Two-edged Sword in the Development Process; Vision 2020: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward; Industrialisation and Export Promotion: Challenges and Prospects for the Execonomic Growth of Ghana.

In addition there were three specialist seminars on:

- a. HIV/AIDS and Socio-Economic Impact
- b. Security Agencies, National Integration and Development
- c. Industrialisation and Export Promotion in Ghana

Eight study groups examined issues raised by the resource persons as well as considering other topical issues. The groups were:

- i. Resuscitating the Economy of Ghana
- ii. The Free Market Approach to Education in Ghana
- iii. Civic Education and National Integration
- iv. The Labour Movement and Socio-Economic Development
- v. Gender in Socio-Political Development of Ghana
- vi. District assemblies as Growth Points in National Development
- vii. NGOs as Effective Structures in National Development
- viii. Revamping the Agricultural Sector for Sustainable Development

The chairman of the Commission, Laary Bimi, served as resource person for Study Group Three which discussed *Civic Education and National Integration*. The other resource persons for that group were Mrs. Margaret Amoakohene of the School of Communication Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, and K. Kusi-Nkrumah of the Institute of Adult Education, University of Ghana, Legon.

On the whole the school was successful and the Commission made a great impact on discussions at the various syndicate groups.

B2 Finance

B2.1 Introduction

The Commission continued to depend on the Government of Ghana (GoG) for the funding of its activities. It is important to note however that out of a Service Expenditure of ₵1,359,700,584.30 only ₵302,562,000 came from the Government of Ghana subvention. It was the Ford Foundation that financed the activities of the first Annual Constitution Week launched in the year.

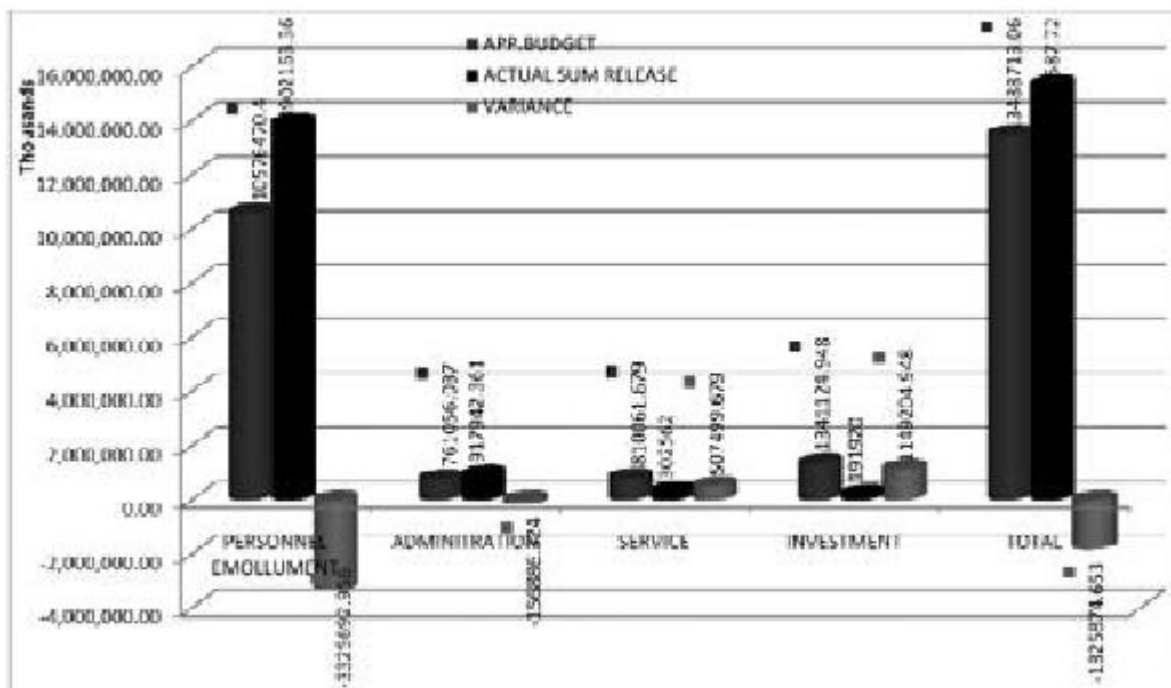
B2.2 Opening Bank Balances

The opening bank balance of the Commission at the beginning of the year was ₵408,422,708.76. This was constituted as follows:

NCCE Main Accounts	₵135,712,047.66
NCCE Programme Accounts	₵192,517,762.00
Car Loan Account	₵11,070,763.17
NCCE US Dollar Account @	₵69,122,135.93
	₵408,422,708.76

B2.3 Approved Budget and Releases

In the year under review, a budget of ₵13,508,713,064 was approved for the Commission. At the end of the year, however the Ministry of Finance's actual release came up to ₵15,314,607,716 which was a 13.4 per cent increase. Though there was an increase in the quantum of money to the Commission it belies the fact that there were drastic cuts in items like administration, service and investment that were in the approved budget. Out of the total subvention release of ₵15,314,607,716, a total of ₵13,902,183,355.00 representing 91 per cent went into personnel emoluments, while administration took only ₵917,742,361.00 representing 6.0 per cent), service 302,562,000 or 2.0 per cent, investment was only 191,920,000, that is 1.0 percent. These figures were against approved budgetary figures of 10,576,470,400, 781,056,037, 810,061,679 and 1,341,124,948 respectively. The detail of approved budget and releases are presented in graphical form below.

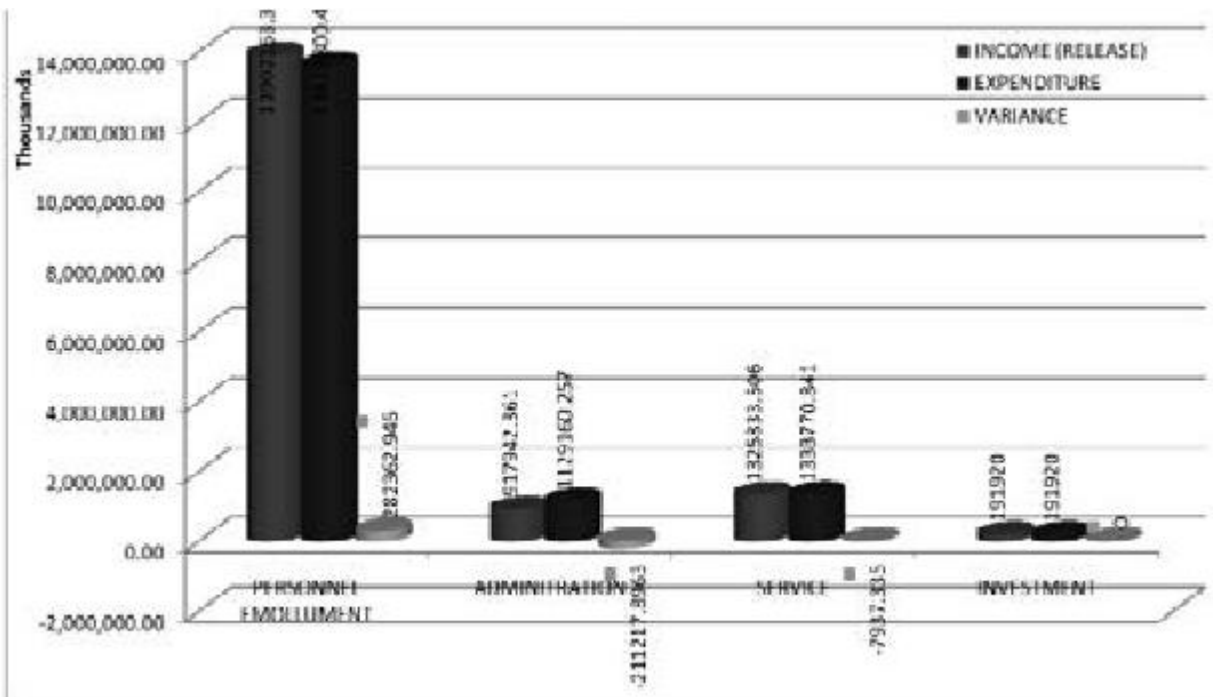


Comments:

- The excess 3.3 billion over Personnel Emolument was the result of new salary adjustments of about 30 per cent implemented within the year.
- Administration budget received a boost of ₦136,886,324.00 during the mid- year budget review
- The Service budget of ₦320m was released in two batches of ₦202m in November of the year and ₦101m in January 2002
- The investment figure of ₦191 million was so small that it could not meet all investment requirements of the Commission.

B2.4 Income and Expenditure for 2001

The four (4) main areas of our expenditure were Personnel Emoluments of ₦13,619,800,410.54 (84 per cent), Administration ₦1,129,160,257.31 or 7.0 percent, Service ₦1,333,770,841 or 8.0 per cent, and Investment ₦191,920,000 (1.0 per cent). Contrasting our Incomes with Expenditure the following variances were recorded; for Personal Emoluments there was an over expenditure of 282,382,944.46, Administration less ₦211,217,896.31, Service less ₦7,937,332.00, Investment-zero.



B2.5 Closing Bank Balances

The total Bank Balance at the close of the year stood at ₦690,971,718.23 with the details as follows:

Main Account	₦563,860,229.03
Programme Account	₦12,442,477.46
Dollar Account US\$14,940.51 @ ₦7,559.50/ \$ 1	₦122,942,785.34
Car Loan Account	₦1,726,266.40
	₦690,971,718.23

SECTION C

Conclusion and Recommendations

C1 Conclusion

NCCE's activities during the year under review received favourable reaction. There have been increased calls by the general public on the need for the NCCE to intensify its activities in problem areas throughout the country. It can safely be concluded that there has been increased awareness of constitutional issues regarding citizens' civil and political rights.

Increased knowledge of citizens rights and responsibilities has given people the needed confidence to question issues that are wrong in society.

The institution of Constitution Week in Ghana has opened many doors and built new bridges for the NCCE as the public has become more open and receptive to and even appreciative of the activities of the NCCE.

Despite the positive developments, the Commission faces the difficult task of reorienting the attitudes of the adults in society and the wholesale copying of foreign systems and cultures by the youth as against building a constitutional democracy based on Ghana's traditional and cultural values.

Another challenge is lack of adequate resources and irregular release of funds to sustain ongoing civic education programmes.

C2 Recommendations

On the basis of activities conducted and our interactions with the public, the Commission hereby makes the following recommendations:

- Parliament should examine the electoral laws in the context of the time available to organize run-off presidential election and handing over ceremony. It is doubtful whether the period between December 28, 2000 and 7 January 2001 was adequate for the briefing and swearing-in of a new president.
- A formula for dealing with transitional issues between incoming and outgoing governments should be discussed and adopted by all political parties/ stakeholders, to ensure that it proceeded on the basis of principles and policies, devoid and insulated from the subjectivism of negotiators. This will help build the political stability of the country.
- Feedback from the interaction with the security services, especially the Armed Forces, indicates we have to galvanize our activities so that the whole society would be encouraged to defend the Constitution.
- Parliament should provide the lead in discussing how to improve women's participation in politics, starting with the 2002 district level elections.
- Parliament should embark on more outreach programmes so as to deepen their interaction with the electorate and thereby correct some of the public misconception about the work of Parliament.
- Critical constitutional bodies such as the NCCE, CHRAJ, NMC, and EC should explore avenues for enhanced cost effective collaboration in service delivery.
- Parliament should prevail upon the Executive to make adequate resources available to the Commission for the Constitution Week celebration since donor support is not sustainable. [According to an Impact Assessment on the Week, the celebrations made a tremendous impact on Ghanaians in terms of raising awareness about the Constitution and principles of constitutional rule and hence must be sustained. The maiden celebration was made possible largely through the financial support of the US-based Ford Foundation].
- The Ministry of Education and Ghana Education Service (GES) should take firm steps towards the teaching of **Civics for Democracy** as an examinable subject in first and second cycle schools as part of a wider strategy for improved political socialization of the Ghanaian youth.
- The Ministry of Finance should be encouraged to fast-track the infrastructural development of the Commission so as to bring it to the level of other commissions. The Commission expresses serious concern about the slashing of its investment budget by 87 per cent when the Commission has no infrastructure of its own.

- Central Government should convene a donor conference to focus on how best funding could be made available for the work of the Commission. Alternatively, such a donor conference could examine the challenge of inadequate funding of the governance bodies set up under the Constitution.
- The Council of State should be prevailed upon to initiate action to appoint the other members of the Commission so that the full complement of the Commission can be achieved.
- The Divestiture Implementation Committee, the Ministry of Works and Housing and other related bodies should be prevailed upon to allocate to the Commission some properties (buildings) that could be refurbished quickly for office accommodation. This is to help solve the problem of office accommodation, especially in Accra. As a long term alternative, the Lands Commission and similar bodies are equally to be prevailed upon to allocate plots of land in Accra and the regional/district capitals to the Commission for the development of offices
- The Standing Orders of Parliament should be amended to permit constitutional bodies such as the NCCE, CHRAJ to advocate their causes.

Appendix A:

Communique of Peace-building Workshop For Dagbon Chiefs Held At Damongo Unity Center, from May 21 to 26, 2001

We the participating Dagbon Chiefs at this conflict transformation and peace-building workshop at Damongo do acknowledge that:

- Dagbon as a traditional state is Unitary, Centralised and Multi-ethnic.
- We acknowledge that natural differences exist amongst the people of Dagbon and that these differences sometimes take the dimensions of conflict.
- These conflicts have occasionally degenerated and have assumed destructive and violent dimensions with undesirable consequences and resulted in some level of disunity and jolting the traditional system.

In this context, this workshop has been mind-broadening. We have had a deeper appreciation of conflicts through the treatment and discussion of the following: -

1. Understanding Conflict
 - The roots of conflict
 - Conflict cycle
 - Spectrum of responding to conflict
2. Peace Building
 - Concepts of peace
 - Values of peace
 - Integrated framework for peace building
3. Reconciliation and Transformation

There were three group discussions as follows: -

Group Work One

Topic: What is the Root Causes of Conflict in Dagbon at the following levels

- Inside Dagbon traditional set up
- Between Dagbon and other communities in the Northern Region
- Integrated framework for peace building

Group Work Two

Topics:

1. Identify some of the traditional mechanisms in Dagbon to respond to conflicts
2. What roles should traditional chiefs play to respond to conflicts?
Traditional Response Mechanisms

Traditionally non-violent approaches are deployed as the first response to conflicts. Generally, the following process is followed: -

Consulting elders and experts on the issue

- Verifying the subject matter as clearly as possible
- Carrying out mediation or arbitration
- Application of force if necessary

Role of Chiefs

- Chiefs facilitate conflict resolution
- Arbitrate or mediate in conflict
- Provide sanctuary or protection for the weak or victims of conflicts in need of protection
- Enforce settlement

Group Work Three

Topic:

As traditional leaders, what concrete activities do we need to develop to consolidate peace in the Northern Region at the following levels?

Social-cultural

Political

Inter-religious

In the group works we came out with the following: -

1. Conflict and Root of Conflict in Dagbon
Chieftaincy Disputes
Causes
 - Abuse of traditional system of succession
 - Lack of documentation of line of successions
 - Outmoded (customs)
 - Interpretation of custom and tradition
 - Recognition

- Wrong appointment to vacant skins
 - Deskinment after the implementation of the Ollenu Committee Reports
 - Political interference
2. Religious Disputes
- Causes
- Islamic doctrinal differences among Moslem sects
 - Politicization of Islam
 - Linkages of Islamic sects to Chieftaincy factions
4. Political Disputes
- Causes
- Linkages between some political parties, chieftaincy factions and religious sects
 - Struggle for political power
5. Ethnic Disputes
- Causes
- Chieftaincy
 - Land
 - Ethnic self-esteem
 - Negative stereotyping and prejudices
6. Social Conflicts
- Causes
- Struggle for economic resources
 - Witchcraft

Responses to issues raised:

Participating Chiefs came out with the following as responses to issues raised

- a. Dagbon should organize regular meeting to discuss problems
- b. Dagbon should make special effort in afforestation project to help identify land boundaries between skin lands and three lots
- c. Dagbon should encourage land leasing and not land sales
- d. There is the need to enhance education on land acquisition
- e. It is time to review the Dagbon Constitution of 1930

- f. Dagbon royals and Chiefs have to abide by the principles of integrity and sincerity in the application selection and enskinment of Chiefs
- g. Regular meeting among Dagbon Chiefs should be revamped
- h. Chiefs in this workshop should serve as vehicles for regeneration of linkages and communication among Dagbon Chiefs
- i. Dagbon Chiefs should be encouraged to initiate confidence-building moves between Dagombas and other ethnic groups of Dagbon by reaching out to them with new languages of respect, recognition and reconciliation
- j. Dagbon people need a specialized workshop to effectively manage the politicization of Dagbon traditional institutions and how to come out of this politicization
- k. Effective involvement of all ethnic groups in the traditional administration of the region at all the traditional councils

Participants' assessment of workshop urged traditional rulers to attend this important workshop has been relevant to the extent that it has been educative and added to our knowledge and wisdom.

We heartily wish to herein appeal for more of such workshops for varied focus groups of Dagbon, that is, the other ethnic groups, the youth, women, etc. This will go a long way to develop positive social consciousness toward conflicts and its negative consequences.

We wish to express our profound gratitude to the organizers and sponsors of the peace project and this workshop in particular viz:

- The Damongo Diocese
- The Unity Center
- The CRS
- WANEP of
- The Northern Ghana Peace Project, and
- The NCCE

Dagombas have a saying that, ***“Gman’zee bi chebstri wurugu”***.
May the Almighty God bless us all to be peace loving forever.



Heralding of the Week in Agona Swedru.



Heralding of the Week in Agona Swedru.



Route March to herald first Annual National Constitution Week in Koforidua in the New Juaben District.



Route March to herald first Annual National Constitution Week in Mankranso.



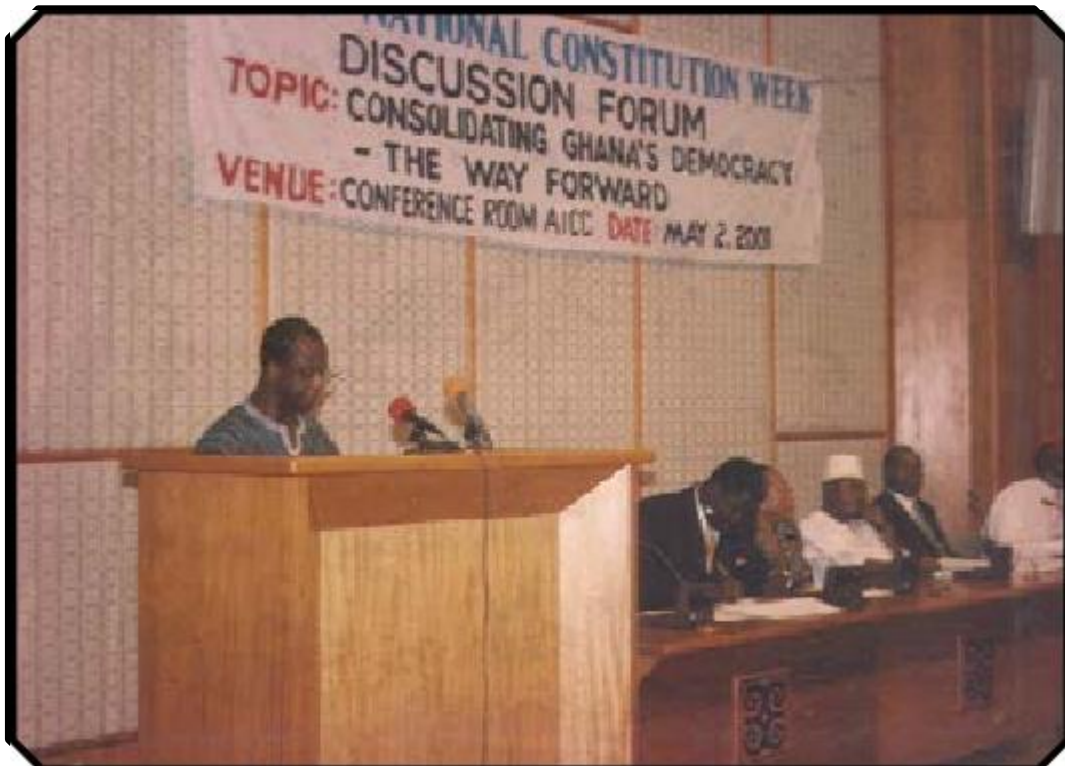
A section of the high table at the official launch of the Annual National Constitution Week at the Accra International Centre, Accra. Seated L-R are: Mr. Laary Bimi, Dr. H. Kwesi Prempeh (Guest of Honour) who delivered the keynote address, Ms. Doris Ocansey (Deputy Chairman of NCCE) and Mrs. Betty Mould-Iddrisu (Chief State Attorney). Others not in the picture are: Oyeeman Wereko Ampem II (Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon, and chairman for the function), Nana (Dr.) S.K.B. Asante (Special Guest), Rev. Dr. Robert Aboagye-Mensah (General Secretary of the Christian Council of Ghana) and Dr. Benjamin Kunbour (MP for Lawra-Nandom)



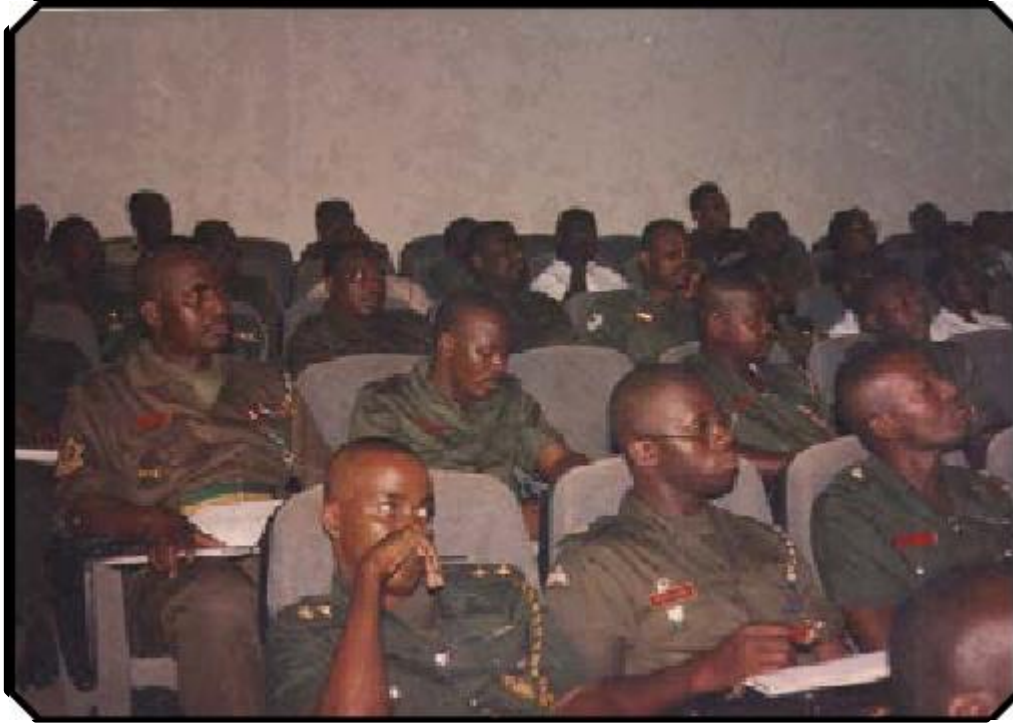
A cross-section of dignitaries at the launch of the Week. In the front row are Lt. Col. Agbotse, Commission Secretary, Mr. Opoku-Afriyie, Commission Member, A.K. Deku, Senior Citizen and one-time Commissioner in the erstwhile NLC regime, and Lt. Col. Christine Debrah, one-time member of the NCD.



Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, presenting awards to students from the universities which took part in the debate organised as part of the Week.



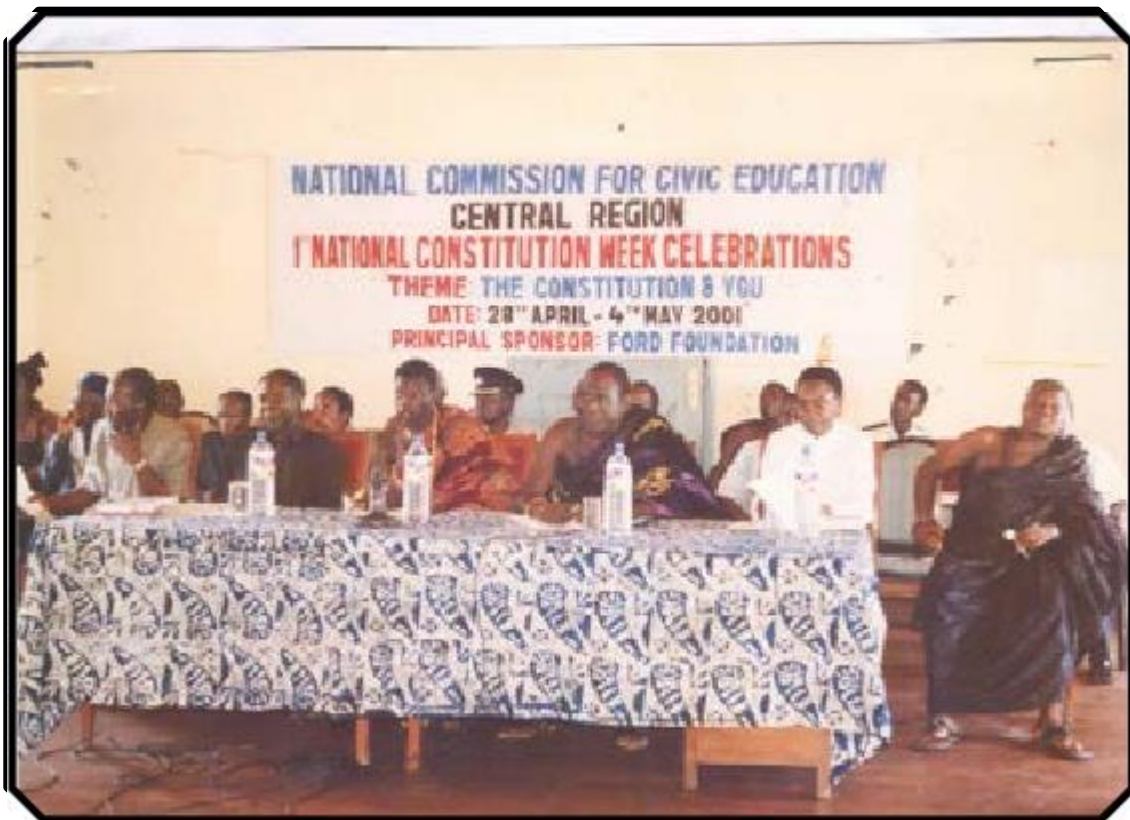
Mr. Laary Bimi, the Chairman of the NCCE, delivering his welcome address at the discussion forum on “Consolidating Ghana’s Democracy – The Way Forward”. Those seated on the high table L-R are: Hon. Nkrabea Effa-Dartey, Deputy Minister of Local Government, Ms. Doris Ocansey, Deputy Chairman of the NCCE, Maulvi Wahab Adam, Missionary and Ameer-in-Charge, Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission in Ghana, Mr. Oppong of CHRAJ and Rt. Rev. Charles Palmer-Buckle, Catholic Bishop of Koforidua.



Mr. Laary Bimi, Chairman of the NCCE, addressing officers and men of the Ghana Armed Forces, on “Consolidating Constitutional Democracy in Ghana: The Role of Security Services” at Burma Camp in Accra.



Ms. Doris Ocansey, Deputy Chairman (Programmes) of the NCCE, (inset) addressing officers and men of Ghana Police Service at the Police Headquarters in Accra.



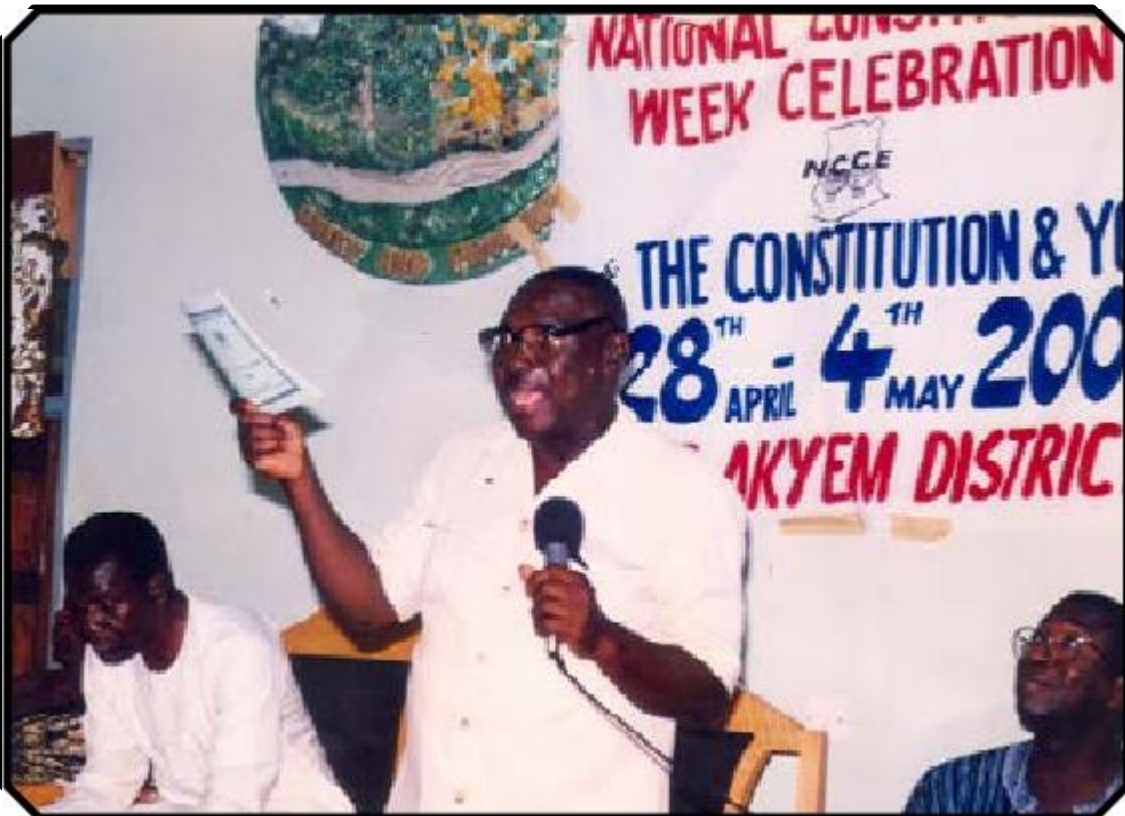
The high table at the Central Regional launch of the First Annual National Constitution Week at Cape Coast.



The high table at the Brong Ahafo Regional launch of the First Annual National Constitution Week at Sunyani.



Staff of the Kwabre District Office of the NCCE at the launch of the First Annual National Constitution Week at Mampong in the Kwabre East District.



Dr. Owusu Manuah making his opening remarks as chairman for the function to inaugurate the Annual National Constitution Week in the East Akyem District.



Ms. Doris Ocansey, Deputy Chairman of the NCCE, in a group picture with NCCE Staff after a talk organised as part of the week at Nsawam.

Mr. Laary Bimi, Chairman, with staff of the NCCE who attended the 2001 Annual New Year School held at the University of Ghana, Legon.

