

# CIVIC FORUM INITIATIVE (CFI)

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Press Release on: Matters Arising from the Polls on December 7, 2012.

Released on Friday, December 7, 2012

## **IDEG –CFI STATEMENT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE POLLS ON DECEMBER 7, 2012.**

The IDEG-CFI has taken note of concerns from sections of the public regarding the conduct of the polls. These include the late start of voting, delays in delivery of voting materials, problems with verification machines, crowd management and security concerns.

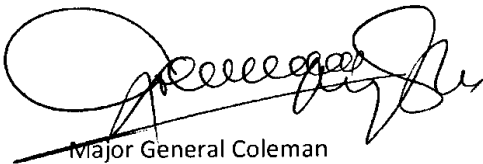
Our observation from the election situation rooms across the country, shows that voters in areas where there are long queues are anxious about whether they will be able to vote after 5pm or not.

As we approach the end of polls we urgently call on the Electoral Commission to consider all options within the law to ensure that voters are able to exercise their franchise.

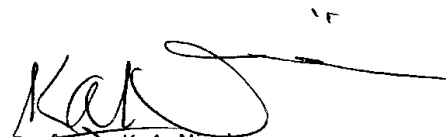
Considering that voting and counting of votes may drag on into the night, we call on the Electoral Commission to ensure the provision of adequate lighting in all areas so that the process will end peacefully.

We further appeal to all voters especially those in affected polling stations to stay calm while the EC and the Security agencies take steps to secure the polling environment for the orderly and peaceful conduct of polls.

The media should continue to educate the public and be circumspect in their reportage in order not to disturb public peace.



Major General Coleman  
Chairman CFI & Associate Exec. Director ASDR



Professor K. A. Ninsin  
for IDEG