

VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM IN GHANA.



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CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

ARTICLE 42 (Right to vote)

Every **citizen of Ghana** of **eighteen years** of age or above and of **sound mind** has the **right to vote** and is entitled to be registered as a voter for the purposes of public elections and referenda.

(1992 constitution)



REGISTRATION REGULATIONS

Registration of Voters' Public Elections. (Registration Regulations, 1995, C.I. 12)

Instruments revoked because of the enactment of
C.I. 12:

- Registration of Voters Regulations, 1968 (L.I. 587)
- District Assembly Elections (registration of Voters) Regulations, 1988 (L.I. 1397)



Qualification for Registration.

A person who-

- a) is a citizen of Ghana
- b) is of 18 years of age or above
- c) is of sound mind
- d) is resident or ordinarily resident in an electoral area
- e) is not prohibited by any law in force from registering as a voter.



Implementation (1)

1. Procurement of Registration Materials
 - OMR Forms, Printing of registration questionnaire, Indelible ink, Thumb print Pads, Lamination Cards etc.)
2. Recruitment of temporary staff
(Registration Officers, registration assistants , cameramen & Laminators)
3. Training of Staff
Cascading Training
(Training for Regional Directors, TOT, Grassroot Training)



implementation (2)

4. Registration Process

- Applicant appear before a Registration Officer
- R.O. Administers questionnaire on applicants
- R.O. & R.A complete OMR form and is endorsed by applicant
- Picture of applicant is captured by camera man and Voter I.D. Card issued by the laminator
- OMR Forms sent to HQ.
Forms are scanned
Registers Compiled.



Challenges and Complaints

Persons who can make a challenge

(Monitors, Registration staff, Party Agents and all persons qualified to be registered)

Grounds For Challenge

- applicant does not satisfy the qualification requirements.

Challenge Process

- Challenger completes the challenge to Registration Form
- RO completes registration form but does not issue applicant with voter I.D. card.
- R.O. Send completed Registration form with completed challenge form to the DRRC



District Registration Review Committee (DRRC)

Composition

- a) A Representatives of each registered Political Party
- b) The District Director Of Education
- c) The District Commander of Police
- d) A representative of the Traditional Council.
- e) District Electoral Officer (Secretary)

Function

- Examine Grounds of challenge
- Decide whether or not applicant is qualified to be registered
- Communicate its decision in writing to the commission



Chief Registration Review Officer

- A high Court Judge of each Region shall be the Chief Registration Review Officer.
- She/he determines an appeal of a voter aggrieved by the decision of the DRRC
- The Chief Registration Officer Communicates his/her decision to the EC



Exhibition

- Provisional Register of Voters for each registration Center are opened for public inspection and scrutiny at the center.

During Exhibition Period;

- Voters can ascertain whether particulars on I.D are same in Register.
- Applicants who were accepted to be on the register but mistakenly have been omitted can request for name to be included in the register.
- Registered Voters can object to persons not qualified to be on the register.



Settling claims and objections on provisional register.

- The High Court judge of a district appoints a lawyer of 3 or more years standing as the District Registration Revising Officer. He/she settles all claims and objections on the provisional Register
- A person aggrieved by decision of the Revising Officer appeals to the High Court.



Case Study



Controversies

- Brigadier Tehn Addy Vrs EC
 - Limited Registration
Opening of only 2500 Registration Centers in 2008
- Replacement of polaroid and delay procurement of cameras and Accessories.



Looking into the Future

- All year Registration
- Registration would capture pictures & biometric features of applicants.



Thank you
