



7<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

## **CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM: THE NEXT STEP TO PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AND SOVEREIGNTY**

Today, 7<sup>th</sup> of January dubbed “*Constitution Day*”, since its inception in 2019 has been set aside to commemorate the birth of the 1992 Constitution which ushered in the Fourth Republic. Indeed, having uninterrupted Constitutional rule for twenty-nine (29) years is a milestone that we must celebrate as Ghanaians recalling our chequered political history and the overthrow of three previous Republican Constitutions, which were truncated by military interventions. The National Commission for Civic Education, NCCE joins the people of Ghana to celebrate the Fourth Republican 1992 Constitution, and encourages the study of our fundamental law as a guide to civic rights and responsibilities.

The Day, aside acknowledging Ghana’s longest serving Constitution, also ensures that the tenets of democracy, liberty, democratic governance, rule of law, accountability, constitutionalism are upheld.

The Fourth Republic has fostered peace, democracy and prosperity.

Consequently, on this day, the NCCE reminds Ghanaians of our collective commitment to uphold and defend the 1992 Constitution against interference and interruptions. As article 3(4) of the 1992 Constitution reminds us, every citizen of Ghana has a duty to defend the Constitution, must stand in defense against any person, group or issue that threatens the very fabric of our democracy, and must reject oppressor’s rule in any form or anything that seeks to disturb the peace and stability we enjoy.

The NCCE however notes that despite these gains, strengthening our democracy by reforming and improving our constitutional infrastructure should once again be made a

national priority. This will help tackle constitutional deficits and aspects of the 1992 Constitution that seemingly breed apathy from the public, disengages the public in major aspects of governance at the grassroots and national levels, further deepens marginalisation, promotes excessive powers of the Executive and festers the course of corruption.

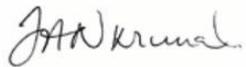
Our constitutional framework is anchored on the cardinal pillars of freedom, justice, probity and accountability, liberty, equality of opportunity and prosperity. The dynamism of these principles must empower Ghanaians and our constitution must be responsive to the evolving needs of its citizenry. This will promote a sense of belonging and ensure the collective ownership and participation of every citizen from the grassroots to the national level in our democratic journey.

The NCCE wishes all Ghanaians a happy Constitution Day.

**Long Live Ghana!**

**Long Live the 1992 Constitution!!**

**God Bless Our Homeland Ghana and Make Our Nation Great and Strong!!!**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'JANkrumah'.

**Josephine Nkrumah (Ms.)  
Chairman**