

WESTERN NORTH REGION INSTRUMENT, 2019

WHEREAS, the President may, by constitutional instrument, create a new region pursuant to paragraph (a) of clause (1) of article 5 of the Constitution;

WHEREAS, in 2017, the President received petitions from many citizens and traditional rulers from several regions across the country, namely Brong-Ahafo, Northern, Volta and Western Regions, demanding the creation of new regions;

WHEREAS, by letter dated 26th June, 2017, the President, acting in accordance with clause (2) of article 5 of the Constitution, referred the petitions to the Council of State for its advice;

WHEREAS, the Council of State reviewed the petitions and concluded that there was a need and substantial demand for the creation of regions, and, accordingly advised the President, by letter dated 15th August, 2017, to appoint a commission of inquiry to inquire into the need and demand for the creation of regions;

WHEREAS, the President, pursuant to clause (2) of article 5 of the Constitution, acting in accordance with the advice of the Council of State, by constitutional instrument, the Commission of Inquiry into the Creation of New Regions Instrument, 2017 (C.I.105), appointed a Commission of Inquiry into the Creation of New Regions (the "Commission"), to inquire into the demands and make recommendations on all factors involved in the creation of regions;

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted its inquiry and established in its report, dated 26th June, 2018 and titled, "*Equitable Distribution of National Resources for Balanced Development*", that there was a substantial demand and need in the areas from which the petitions emanated;

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WHEREAS, the Commission on that basis, recommended

- (a) the creation of new regions out of Brong-Ahafo, Northern, Volta and Western Regions;
- (b) that referenda be held only in the areas within the boundaries of the proposed regions; and
- (c) that only registered voters within the proposed regions should be eligible to participate in the referenda;

WHEREAS, on 26th June, 2018, the Commission presented its report and recommendations to the President;

WHEREAS, the President, upon receipt of the report and recommendations of the Commission, and in accordance with clause (5) of article 5 of the Constitution, forwarded, by letter dated 18th July, 2018, the recommendations of the Commission to the Electoral Commission, to hold referenda in the manner prescribed in the report of the Commission;

WHEREAS, on 27th December, 2018, a referendum was held, under the supervision of the Electoral Commission, in the proposed Western North Region, pursuant to which at least fifty per cent of the registered voters within the proposed Western North Region voted overwhelmingly in favour of the creation of the new region, meeting the constitutional threshold of at least eighty per cent of the votes cast, being in favour of creating the new region, as set out in *Gazette* Number 12 of 2019;

WHEREAS, by clause (8) of article 5 of the Constitution, the President is required to issue a constitutional instrument giving effect, or enabling effect to be given, to the results of the referendum;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the power conferred on the President by clauses (1) and (8) of article 5 of the Constitution, this Instrument is made this 1st day of February, 2019.

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Creation of Region

The Western North Region is created out of the Western Region.

Area of Region

The area of the Western North Region shall comprise the districts specified in the Schedule to this Instrument.

Regional Capital

The regional capital of the Western North Region is Sefwi Wiawso.

SCHEDULE

1. AOWIN MUNICIPALITY
2. BIA EAST DISTRICT
3. BIA WEST DISTRICT
4. BIBIANI-ANHWIASO-BEKWAI MUNICIPALITY
5. BODI DISTRICT
6. JUABESO DISTRICT
7. SEFWI AKONTOMBRA DISTRICT
8. SEFWI-WIASO MUNICIPALITY
9. SUAMAN DISTRICT

Given under my hand this 1st day of February, 2019.



NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO
President of the Republic of Ghana

Date of Gazette notification: 8th February, 2019.