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### **THE NATIONAL INTEREST MOVEMENT'S MESSAGE FOR LIFE BEYOND ELECTION 2020**

The National Interest Platform's Movement (NIM) asserts that as a civil society organization with an agenda for political reform, it is not neutral but pro Ghana first above any partisan considerations. Neutrality in the face of entrenched interests of an elite political class is an absurd position. NIM rather seeks amendment of the 1992 constitution to create a new paradigm for more equitable, inclusive governance based on meritocracy.

NIM in partnership with other Civil Society Organizations, therefore, plans to work in cooperation with any incoming administration whose candidate will be sworn in on January 7, 2021. NIM's primary goal will be to promote and help to facilitate a referendum for comprehensive constitutional reforms.

The key targets of these reforms will be to limit opportunity for abuse of power and exclusion of whole segments of the population from decision making concerning allocation of our national resources.

Reforms will also seek to ensure appointments of public servants based on a system of meritocracy that is transparent.

Reforms will seek to cut waste in public sector expenditure, that traps the nation in a perpetual cycle of debt, without regard for generating more money than we spend.




Ideally a referendum on comprehensive constitutional reforms should take place in 2022 to allow for the first time in 2024, an election where there can be a coalition government after the first round of voting if there is no outright winner according to the 50% plus one majority rule. This will encourage growth and inclusion of alternative voices from smaller political groups whose impact has been hitherto subsumed.

Constitutional reforms will also encourage mergers to create broader based political movements that can commit to delivering on the benefits of reforms for all Ghanaians.

**It is with these objectives in mind, that NIM asks members and fellow Ghanaians to vote for a candidate that in their opinion can deliver this new paradigm for Ghana's growth and development beyond the 2020 election.**

In another six days (December 7, 2020) Ghana's 2020 election will be held as the 8<sup>th</sup> general election in the Fourth Republic after nearly 30 years of continuous multiparty democracy. In these last thirty years there have been three (3) changes of government to opposition party administrations, a formidable achievement in Africa during an era plagued by despotic dictators.



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These thirty years of multiparty democracy have been built on a rocky foundation of three (3) Republics in thirty-three years (33) since independence in 1957.

The sum total of sixty-three years (63) since our independence is every Ghanaian's investment in our national aspiration of freedom and justice to pursue a shared prosperity in happiness. The attainment of such a vision would make Ghana a shining example of the pan African dream of what black people can do for themselves.

The only acceptable measure of our successful pursuit of this vision will be against global standards of welfare of our people's basic living standards that ensure our health, education and ability to compete with dignity, so as to create wealth for our people in a global market place. More importantly the civility of our nation can only be measured by the dignity we accord the least among us and not the pomp surrounding the society's leaders. Our attitudes to those with mental health challenges, the homeless and vulnerable children will be key indicators of our progress and collective compassion.

None of the above can be compromised for the ego or ambition of any Presidential candidate of any political party. We must as Ghanaian's therefore vote for our preferred candidate in perfect peace without rancor, insults and violence that attempts to intimidate others. We must also ensure that we respect the roles of the institutions of state that are deployed to ensure we have freedom to cast our votes and have them counted. The officials of these state institutions must also conduct themselves with the utmost professionalism to guarantee a free and fair election that is beyond reproach.

To this end Ghanaians expect mutual co-operation between all contestants and the Electoral Commission, Security Agencies and all relevant state institutions involved in the conduct of the 2020 general election.

There is life beyond the 2020 election campaign and NIM wants you to be part of a mass movement that will help champion a constitutional referendum for Ghana to make its system more fit for purpose to attain our shared vision.

Stand ready to be part of this great movement for a national cause that is transformative and will build a great legacy for any incoming President in 2021.

Bequeathing a system change in Ghana to the next generation will also be the challenge for our successor generation, as indeed attaining independence was for our forefathers.

Please come out to vote wisely and peacefully.

May God bless you all and guard our homeland Ghana.

**Dr. Abu Sakara Foster**  
**Founder and Leader of National Interest Movement**