

GUINEA

Date of Elections: December 27, 1974

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the members of the newly-enlarged Parliament. The term of the legislature, which was elected in January 1968, had been extended since 1973.

Characteristics of Parliament

According to constitutional amendments announced on December 14, 1974, the unicameral Parliament of Guinea, the Legislative Assembly, consists henceforth of 150 members elected for 7 years *. The former Assembly had been composed of 75 members.

Electoral System

Deputies of the Legislative Assembly are elected by secret and direct universal suffrage. All Guineans at least 18 years of age whose names appear on the electoral registers and who enjoy full civil and political rights can vote.

Candidates for the Assembly must be registered voters, aged at least 18 and sponsored by a legal political party. No member of the Government may at the same time be a deputy. Various legal provisions exist barring certain officials who by virtue of their office might be in a position to distort election results from participating in the poll.

Candidates appear on a single national list and are elected pursuant to a majority list ballot. For election purposes, the entire country constitutes a single electoral college rather than being split into constituencies.

By-elections are held to fill parliamentary seats which become vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

On December 13, 1974, Guinea's National Council for the Revolution endorsed the list of 150 candidates of the Democratic Party of Guinea (*Parti*

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 8.

cUmocratique de Guinie — PDG), the country's ruling and only official political party, possessing "sovereign and exclusive control of all sections of national life", for the enlarged Legislative Assembly. This list, which included 47 representatives of public services, 4 representatives of the National Confederation of Guinean Workers, 4 representatives of the Youth of the Democratic Revolution of Africa, 5 representatives of the Revolutionary Union of Guinean Women and 90 representatives, from 30 geographical regions, of the federal administration, was submitted by the Central Committee of the PDG, the directing organ of the Party since 1972.

In a speech before the National Council for the Revolution, the President of the Republic and Secretary-General of the PDG, Ahmed Sekou Toure, vowed that his Party would continue to work to assure the interests of the Guinean people by advancing the revolutionary movement evident in the country. It was with this purpose in mind, he said, that certain constitutional amendments aimed at giving more voice to the public had been proposed*.

As in the 1968 elections, the electorate gave its overwhelming support to the PDG list of candidates. President Toure, who has headed the Government since Guinea's independence from France in 1958, himself was re-elected for a 7-year term by the same large margin. The first session of the newly-elected Assembly took place on January 3, 1975.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Legislative Assembly*

Number of registered voters	2,436,487
Voters	2,432,129 (99.8 %)
<i>Votes obtained by the candidates of the PDG list</i>	<i>2,432,129</i>

Political group	Number of Seats
<i>Parti d&mocratique de Guinie</i> (PDG)	150

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	125
Women	25
	150

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 8.