

GUINEA

Date of **Elections**: 27 January 1980

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament following the premature dissolution of this legislative body. General elections had previously been held in December 1974.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Guinea, the National People's Assembly, consists of 210 Deputies elected for 7 years. The former Assembly had been composed of 150 Deputies.

Electoral System

All Guinean citizens who are at least 18 years of age and in full possession of their civil and political rights are entitled to vote unless they have been convicted of certain crimes. 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.

Qualified electors who are at least 25 years of age and nominated by the *Parti démocratique de Guinée* (PDG)—the country's sole political organization—may be candidates for Parliament. The office of Deputy is incompatible with a number of public posts, membership of the armed and police forces and the office of minister of religion.

Assembly candidates appear on the national list of the PDG and are elected according to majority vote, the country as a whole constituting, for this purpose, a single constituency. Nominations are made at the latest 21 days prior to the polling date.

By-elections are held to fill parliamentary seats which fall vacant between general elections, unless the vacancies occur during the last year of the legislature.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

In November 1979, at the 11th Congress of the ruling *Parti démocratique de Guinée* (PDG), the merging of the functions of the Party and State were announced, and the country was renamed the "Popular and Revolutionary Republic of Guinea". President Ahmed Sekou Toure—in office since 1958—reiterated Guinea's commitment to socialist aims but expressed its desire for co-operation with investors from the western world. In June 1979, a reshuffle of the Government took place.

On polling day, voters overwhelmingly approved the PDG list of candidates to the newly-enlarged Assembly (increased by 60 seats to 210).

Statistics

1. Results* of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the National People's Assembly

Number of registered electors	2,506,298
Voters	2,398,356 (95.69%)
Blank or void ballot papers	4,756
Valid votes	2,393,600
<i>Votes in favour of the Parti democratique de Guinee.</i>	2,393,600

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Number of Seats
<i>Parti democratique de Guinee</i>	210	210

* According to unofficial reports.