

## XIGER

Date of Elections: October 22, 1970

### Reason for Elections

Upon the normal expiry of the legislature, the electors of Niger were called to renew the whole of the National Assembly elected on October 21, 1965. Presidential elections had taken place shortly before, on October 1, 1970.

### Characteristics of Parliament

The National Assembly of Niger is unicameral and is composed of 50 deputies elected for 5 years.

### Electoral System

Citizens of Niger of either sex, aged 21 or over, who have not been deprived of their civil and political rights, are entitled to vote. They must be registered on the electoral lists which are revised 6 months before an election. Voting is compulsory, but abstention is not punishable by law.

Every citizen of Niger aged 23 or over, residing in Niger, may appear on a National Candidates list established by a legally formed political party, provided that he can read and write French, has not been deprived of his civil and political rights and is regularly registered on an electoral list. Declarations of candidatures must be prepared by the official representative of a legally constituted political party and be deposited with the Minister of the Interior at least 2 weeks before the opening date of the elections. A deposit of F. CFA 25,000.— per candidate must be paid to the Treasury when the list is deposited.

The whole country constitutes one single electoral constituency in which the deputies are elected by party-list simple plurality system.

### General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The opening date of the electoral campaign was set by Cabinet decree. On October 7, 1970, the Supreme Court declared eligible the 50 candidates presented by the National Political Bureau of the Progressive Party of Niger, a branch of the African Democratic Assembly (PPN/RDA).

The electoral campaign centred on the achievements and projects of the outgoing Government, led by Mr. Diori Hamani who was re-elected President

of the Republic. Following the election of the PPN/RDA national list, the President of the Republic reformed his Government on November 21, 1970.

## Statistics

### 1. Results of the Elections

Number of registered voters. . . . .	1,924,977
Voters. . . . .	1,867,106 (96.8 %)
Blank or void ballot papers. . . . .	.144
<i>Votes in favour of the Progressive Party of Niger.</i> . . . . .	1,866,962

### 2. Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category

Tradesmen. . . . .	2
Chiefs. . . . .	3
Civil Servants. . . . .	45
	50

### 3. Distribution of Deputies according to Sex

Men . . . . .	50
Women . . . . .	—
	50

### 4. Average Age: 44