



NEC WEEKLY INFORMATION BULLETIN

(February 9-17, 2024)

NO	ACTIVITY/ACTION	DETAILS
1	Preparatory Activities for By-Elections	Following the receipt of the notifications to conduct Senatorial By-election in Nimba County and Representative By-election in Electoral District #1 of Grand Gedeh County, the Commission immediately began initial planning activities to conduct these by-elections. In so doing, the budget for the by-elections has been drafted and is currently being reviewed by the Board of Commissioners. Also, the timeline has been developed in which the Commission plans to conduct both by-elections on 23 April 2024. The Writ of Elections was issued on 9 February 2023 election magistrates of Lower Nimba, Upper Nimba and Grand Gedeh. Additionally, the Key Dates for the by-elections was published on 9 February 2024, which sets the period for Candidate Nomination from 16-19 March 2024; Replacement of Lost/Damaged Voter ID Card 20-25 March 2024; Political Campaign Period 4-20 April 2024, among activities planned for 23 April By-elections.
2	Authority to Conduct the By-elections	With respect to details on the authority to conduct the By-Election, on 1 February 2024, the NEC received a communication from the Liberian Senate informing the Commission that “there exists a vacancy due to the election of Senator Jeremial Kpan Koung of Nimba County as Vice President of the Republic of Liberia, in the just ended Presidential and Legislative Elections”. Again, on 2 February 2024, the NEC received a communication “by directive of the Honorable House of Representatives (IN SESSION)”, informing the Commission that “the passing of Hon. Erol Madison Gwion, Representative-elect, District #1, Grand Gedeh County has created a vacancy in the House of Representatives”. In both communications, the two houses of the Legislature emphasized that the letter constituted the sufficient authority of the Commission.
3	Facts and Figures about the two By-elections	Statistically, Nimba County is the second largest county in terms of voting population. As such, the Commission is organizing the polls for 307,254 registered voters at 262 precincts, comprising 736 polling places. It requires 3,846 polling staff to man the polls in Nimba. As for District #1, Grand Gedeh County, there are 20,407 registered voters and 11 precincts comprising 46 polling places, which requires 243 polling staff.
4	Inter-Party Consultative Committee Meeting	On 16 February 2024, the Commission hosted a meeting of the Inter-Party Consultative Committee (IPCC) at the Headquarters of the NEC. The meeting was called to brief political parties on the planning process of the By-elections for Nimba and Geand Gedeh Counties.
5	Other Post Election Activities	The Commission is currently involved in a number of post 2023 electoral activities to include the process of documenting lessons learned from the 2023 General Elections and legal reform. It is expected that the documented lessons learned will inform the electoral reform agenda and the development of a new six-year strategic plan (July 2024-June 2030). Personnel of the Commission have also begun professional development activities, including “Train The Facilitators” Building Resources in Democracy Governance and Election (BRIDGE) training currently taking place in Gompa City, Nimba County, with support of the UNDP and partners’ (European Union, Ireland and Sweden) Liberia Election Support Project (LESP).