

28th April, 2017.

**PRESS RELEASE ON THE NOMINATION OF METROPOLITAN,
MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVES (MMDCEs)**

NORSAAC wishes to express its warm gratitude to his Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo for the nomination of Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCEs) for the various Metropolis, Municipalities and Districts across the country. We particularly express our gratitude to his Excellency for the nomination of the 36 women out of the 216 positions to these high offices.

NORSAAC wishes to congratulate all these women especially, the four women nominees from the Northern Region. It will be recalled that the organization, in its earlier press release made an appeal to his Excellency to nominate at least six women for the positions of MMDCEs in the Northern Region. That has not been fully materialized, but the current number is a significant improvement from the previous case, where the region had only one female District Chief Executive. We send our congratulatory messages to Madam Alele Veronica Heming for Bole, Madam Mariama Iddrisu for Sagnarigu, Hajia Ayishetu Seidu for Savelugu-Nanton and Hajia Amama Ayibu for Tolon.

We at NORSAAC will also add our voice to the condemnation of all forms of agitations and violence in relation to the nomination of the MMDCEs across the country. We encourage citizens especially party supporters to follow established party structures and the larger country laws in expressing their protest. NORSAAC particularly condemns the violence in areas where the women are nominated. We have noted that almost all the areas where women are nominated in the Northern Region have experienced some unacceptable rancor. It is unfortunate, sad, discriminatory and depicts intolerance for women's leadership. It is highly unacceptable and against human dignity to think that women are inferior and incapable of leading. It is high time we recognized the contributions of women to political victories and consider them as partners in development.

We are therefore making a passionate appeal to the assembly members in the various Municipalities and Districts to massively endorse the women nominated in the Northern Region and the entire country. The assembly members should put priority on competence but not on sex of the nominees. It is without doubt that these women are competent enough to make their areas proud. These women's endorsement will significantly contribute to overall women empowerment and increased economic opportunities for young women and their families in the Northern Region in particular and Ghana at large.

NORSAAC

Editor's Note:

NORSAAC is an empowerment for change organization empowering women and young people. Established in 2002 as a gender advocacy organization, it remains committed to advancing the course of women and young people. The organization will continue to provide alternatives to governments as a way of growing our democracy and also deepening the local governance in the country. Even though the organization has gained national level recognition, it is more visible in the three regions of the north.

Thank you

Signed:

Alhassan Mohammed Awal

Executive Director

NORSAAC