



ignorance.

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### Awoko Polls

**How will you rate Awoko's Newspaper over the past 10 years of existence.**

A - Satisfactory ☐

B - Good ☐

C - Poor ☐

### Front Pages of the Newspaper



## IRN wraps up elections coverage

The Independent Radio Network (IRN) over the weekend ended its longest-running elections coverage. In the three months of non-stop broadcast, IRN provide incisive coverage of the local council elections through a network of 21 private radio stations all across the country.

The radio first became a household name during its coverage of last year's presidential and parliamentary elections when it announced provisional results that filled the vacuum before the National Electoral Commission started releasing official ones.

Speaking to Awoko, the IRN Coordinator, Ransford Wright who is the head of the Believers' Broadcasting Network (BBN Radio), said despite the fact that IRN had wrapped up on coverage of the elections they would continue with other programmes such as "Parliament Bol At". The programme he went on would be pre-recorded and would deal with issues around governance and the Parliament. There will also be a weekly news programme on national issues.

Asked to comment on how successful the network was during the coverage of both the national and local elections, Wright said they were able to give out objective and correct information to the public nationwide and contributed to ensuring a peaceful conduct of elections by providing relevant information to the public.

He raised salient issues that were discussed during the smooth running of the country," he said. He paid tribute to all those who contributed to the successful work undertaken by the network, which he referred to as "a national assignment". During the coverage of the elections, the effort of the network was applauded by citizens and according to Saidu Sesay in the east end of Freetown, "the involvement of BBC's Umaru Maruana and the commitment of his team led to successful coverage we were getting and they must be commended by all."

IRN was founded in 2002 through the efforts of Francis Fortune of "Search For Common Ground", a nongovernmental organization using radio as an instrument of healing, and Andrew Fofana of the Media Foundation for Peace and Development.

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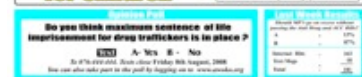
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