



STATUS UPDATE ON POLLING DAY ON 9TH AUGUST 2022

Good afternoon.

Ladies and gentlemen.

Welcome to our first briefing on the polling day.

Opening of Polling Stations

1. The Commission is pleased to announce to the country that the polling stations opened to the public at 6.00am in Kenya and Diaspora.
2. We appreciate that Kenyans woke up early in the morning, braving the chilly weather to queue at the various polling stations hours before they were opened.
3. For those of you, who are yet to leave your homes, the Commission urges you to go and exercise your democratic right and vote.
4. It is important to note that voting in diaspora is happening in 12 countries: Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, South Africa, United Kingdom, Canada, USA, South Sudan, Qatar, UAE, and Germany. Voting in diaspora will take place from 6am to 5pm at their local time.
5. As at noon, 6,567,869 Kenyans had turned up to vote. This equates to 30.65 percent of the 22,120,458 registered voters.



Postponement of Elections

6. As you are aware, elections for Gubernatorial elective position in Kakamega and Mombasa Counties; and for the Member of National Assembly for Kacheliba and Pokot South Constituencies, are postponed to a later date to be announced through a gazette notice.
7. Further, the Commission is postponing elections for Member of National Assembly in Kitui Rural and Rongai constituencies because wrong candidates' pictures and the details were printed on the ballot papers to a later date to be announced through a gazette notice.
8. In areas where election materials are yet to arrive at their respective polling stations due to flooding and other natural calamities, the Commission is working hard to ensure that materials are in place for the smooth conduct of the General Election.

Security Incidents and Accidents

9. Regarding security, last night, the Commission was alerted of incidents of gunfire in Eldas Constituency Election Office in Wajir County where ballot materials were stored. During the gunfight, election officials remained trapped inside the offices preparing to dispatch materials to polling stations. Election has been adjourned and voting shall begin once the issue is resolved.
10. In Turkana Central Constituency, the Commission was informed of a road accident involving a Presiding Officer and two Clerks from Kalokol Ward. The three were rushed to hospital with minor injuries and later discharged.



The officials have since been replaced to allow them to recuperate. We wish the three officials a quick recovery.

11. Due to security concerns raised in Daadab Constituency and four polling stations specifically Maguto Primary School, Barkin Primary School, Hamajo Bore Hall and Qot Qot Bore Hall are yet to be opened. The Commission is in consultation with security to address the issues raised.

KIEMS Kits and Network Connectivity

12. The Commission is working through its ICT officers to resolve any reported issues on KIEMS kits by Returning and Presiding Officers.

13. The Commission has therefore authorized the use of manual register in Makueni County (Kibwezi West constituency) for 84 polling stations, Kakamega County (Malava, Matungu, Mumias West and Mumias East constituencies) for 154 polling stations.

14. As stated before, the Commission has provided 6 backup KIEMS kits per ward in the event of the failure of a KIEMS kit.

Conclusion

15. The Commission urges members of the public to utilise the toll-free lines – 1543 and 1544 - should they wish to bring incidences to the Commission's attention.

16. Where there is a delay in opening or interruption in voting at a polling station, the Presiding Officer shall extend the hours of polling by the amount of time lost.



17.The Commission will keep you regularly updated on all developments touching on the General Election.

God Bless You and God Bless Kenya.


W. W. CHEBUKATI
CHAIRMAN