



REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN, WAFULA CHEBUKATI TO THE NATION ON 8th AUGUST 2022

Fellow Kenyans,

1. In less than 24 hours from now, Kenya will hold its 12th General Election since independence and its 7th since the reintroduction of multi-party democracy in 1992. It will also be the third General Election to be held under the Constitution of Kenya 2010.
2. Kenya is also on the verge of transition of power through an election for its 5th President. This momentous decision will be in the hands of **22,120,458** registered voters.
3. Kenyans will be voting for **16,105** candidates, who are vying for a total of **1,879** elective positions.
4. On this momentous day in our Nation, the Commission is committed more than ever to a free, fair and credible General Election and all preparations are in place to ensure that we deliver on our constitutional mandate.

My fellow Kenyans, allow me to update you on the state of our readiness for the elections.

Logistical Preparation for Polling Day

5. As things stand right now, we are ready for the elections. The Commission has deployed both strategic materials such as ballot papers and KIEMS kits, and non-strategic materials to all the **46,229** polling stations across the country.
6. We however wish to inform the country that despite the high level of preparedness, ballot papers for the following elective positions were noted to have errors:
 - a) Ballot papers for Kakamega County Governor position have wrong Gubernatorial candidates' pictures and their details printed on them.
 - b) Ballot papers for Mombasa County Governor position have wrong Gubernatorial candidates' pictures and their details printed on them.
 - c) Ballot papers for Kacheliba Constituency have wrong Member of National Assembly candidates' pictures and their details printed on them.
 - d) Ballot papers for Pokot South Constituency have wrong Member of National Assembly candidates' pictures and their details printed on them.

As a result, elections for the respective positions have been suspended to a later date that will be announced through a gazette notice.

7. Ballot papers for the following areas were wrongly routed:
 - a) Ballot papers pallets for County Assembly Ward belonging to Fafi Constituency were erroneously sent to Chuka Igamba Ng'ombe in Tharaka Nithi County.

- b) Ballot papers pallets for County Assembly Ward belonging to Mua in Machakos County were erroneously sent to Kuresoi Constituency Nakuru County.
- c) Ballot papers box belonging to Tiaty County Woman Member of National Assembly in Baringo County were erroneously sent to Lamu County.

The Commission has since rerouted the ballot paper pellets to their rightful places using air transport contracted to facilitate such emergencies.

- 8. I wish to also bring to your attention an incident that happened this morning in Moyale Constituency, Marsabit County, where a KIEMS Kit for Uran Primary school station Code 010045022607102 was reported missing. The loss was discovered when the KIEMS Kits were being charged before deployment to the polling stations. The incident has been reported at Moyale Police station and investigations into the loss is ongoing.
- 9. The Commission has blacklisted and replaced the missing KIEMS Kit. Any activity or data that may originate from the missing Kit will be flagged and isolated from our system. The Kit will not be useful to anyone.
- 10. The Commission has also deployed 465,660 temporary staff towards the success of 9th August General election. This includes Presiding Officers, Deputy Presiding Officers, Poll clerks and security.
- 11. I take this earliest opportune moment to thank the Vice Chair, Commissioners and the Secretariat staff led by the CEO and his two Deputies for working diligently to ensure the Commission is ready for this election. Special recognition goes to my fellow Returning Officers

and their Deputies in the Counties and Constituencies for the sacrifice they have made, which is beyond their call of duty.

12. I call upon all our temporal poll officials to discharge their duties with utmost integrity and commitment to serve our country, Kenya.
13. However, I have received information that five (5) Presiding Officers and two (2) Clerks in Ndhiwa Constituency were allegedly caught by members of the public in the homestead of an associate of a contestant in what was believed to be a meeting to manipulate elections' outcome. Four of the Poll officials were arrested and recorded statements at Ndhiwa Police station. As a result, the Returning Officer for Ndhiwa Constituency has sacked and replaced the said seven (7) officials.
14. In Webuye East, Bungoma County, two (2) Deputy Presiding Officers were allegedly in a meeting with a candidate. The two were arrested by the Police, dismissed from duty and replaced.
15. In Webuye West, Bungoma County, a Presiding Officer allegedly attended a meeting convened by a candidate in a hotel within Matete Sub County, in Kakamega County. The Presiding has been dismissed from duty and replaced.
16. The Commission has been informed of the destruction of election materials in Chuka/Igambang'ombe, which were being transported from the IEBC warehouse in Chuka to Tharaka. We have since deployed our officers to liaise with local police to review the incident.
17. The Commission takes great exception polling officials, who contravene the Code of Conduct for poll officials and will not hesitate to take stern action against any official found to be in breach of the Code and Election Offences Act.

18. On security, the Commission has partnered with the National Police Service and has trained and deployed over **150,000** police officers, with **two (2)** police officers per polling station throughout the country.
19. I wish to bring to your attention two insecurity incidences affecting polling stations in Turkana and Mandera.
20. In Turkana bandits attacked and burnt down homes in a village within Kapedo/Napeiton ward and displaced population expected to vote in three (3) polling stations. The Returning Officer in consultation with the Security team and stakeholders has recommended that polling be conducted at Lokori.
21. In Mandera County, unknown people burnt down two classrooms in at Hareri primary school (a gazetted polling station) in Khalalio ward in Mandera East Constituency. Security has been beefed up and polling will proceed as planned.
22. The Commission has set up a fully-fledged call centre where poll officials and the general public can call a toll-free number to make inquiries or report incidences related to the 2022 General Elections. The toll-free numbers for the general public are **1543** and **1544**. We encourage all Kenyans to make good use of the numbers for purposes of seeking information from the Commission on incidences happening on the ground.
23. The Commission has also set up a Media Centre where the Commission will give Media briefs on the progress of General Election activities on need basis. In addition, the Media Centre will be a work-station for journalists to file their stories.
24. The Commission has accredited a total of 4,850 local and international

journalists to ensure free flow of information and accurate reporting of the election results to the public.

25. The Commission has already shared with the media, political parties and observers the secure formats and templates in which the results will be shared to enable them to integrate with the Results Transmission System in order to receive, process and tally accurate results as they are received by the Commission.
26. We call upon the media to remain true to their role of providing comprehensive and objective coverage of the elections as possible, especially in relaying results. The media can tally the results, but not declare the winners.

Activities on Polling Day

27. All polling stations will open on 9th August 2022 from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 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. Voters who will be on the queue at the time of closing the polling station will be allowed to vote.
28. The Commission will ensure that every registered Kenyan voter gets a chance to exercise their right to vote for their preferred candidate. To achieve this, the Commission has put legal, technological and administrative structures in place to ensure that all voters have an improved voter experience as they cast their votes.
29. As part of its mandate, the Commission has accredited a total of 120,731 domestic and international observers/monitors. Out of which 50,231 and 70,500 are observers and monitors respectively. They from

872 observer organisations, which are: -

- 795 domestic observer organisations.
- 77 international observer organisations.

The Results Transmission System

30. The Commission has put in place an Election Results Management Framework (ERMF) that provides the workflow of results from the Polling Station to the Constituency and National Tallying Centre in accordance with the Elections Act and regulations.
31. The System allows the Presiding Officer to open the Results Transmission System application after the close of polling. The Presiding Officer shall be able to capture and transmit the image of the A series results' form. In transmitting the results, the Results Transmission System only sends the A series results form which has a QR code once.
32. Persons authorised to be at the polling station including media, observers and polling station agents will be allowed to take an image of the original results Form 34A.
33. Polling station agents of Presidential candidates will be issued with carbonated copies of the results form 34A.
34. Results announced at the polling station will be final.

Tallying Centres

35. Proper planning and management of tallying centres plays a central role in the conduct of a credible election for it is at the tallying centre where results are collated and declared for respective positions.

36. The Commission has set up three levels of tallying centres namely Constituency Tallying Centres, County Tallying Centres and National Tallying Centre, right here at Bomas.
- Polling Station: Counting and filling of results forms
 - Constituency Tallying Center: Tallying and declaration of Member of National Assembly and Member of County Assembly; collation of Presidential, Gubernatorial and Senatorial and County Woman Member of Parliament,
 - County Tallying Centre: Final tallying and declaration of Gubernatorial and Senatorial and County Woman Member of Parliament
 - National Tallying Centre: Final tallying and declaration of Presidential results from the polling stations.
37. Let me assure you that the National Tallying Centre, which I am in charge of as the Presidential Returning Officer, is ready to undertake its important role.
38. I would like to thank all stakeholders – both State and non-state actors – who have supported the Commission in its preparations for the General Election.

A Call to Action to Voters

39. In closing, let us now cast our eyes forward to the patriotic duty that lies before us – the opportunity to express our voices through the ballot. To this end, I am calling upon every registered Kenyan voter – both here in Kenya and in the diaspora to show up at their respective polling station to exercise their democratic right to vote.

40. At this moment in time, let us draw our inspiration from Article (1) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 that vests all sovereign power to the people of Kenya who may exercise it either directly or through their democratically elected representatives. Let us collectively rise up and show the whole world that Kenya is a vibrant democracy.
41. On its part, the Commission will count every vote because every vote counts.
42. Fellow Kenyans, this is your time. This is your moment!

God Bless You and God Bless Kenya.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. W. Chebukati', written in a cursive style.

**W. W. CHEBUKATI
CHAIRMAN**