



# Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS AND CLAIMS AIRED ON KTN TEASER ON ONGOING CONTINUOUS VOTER REGISTRATION

Nairobi, Kenya: 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2026

#### Introduction

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) wishes to clarify the following matters concerning the ongoing Continuous Voter Registration (CVR). This forms part of the Commission's commitment to keeping Kenyans informed of its activities, processes and procedures, as well as the applicable legal framework governing election processes in the Electoral Cycle in preparation for the 2027 General Election.

IEBC seeks to promote public awareness, facilitate informed participation in the electoral process and address misinformation, disinformation and misleading narratives that may undermine public confidence in the electoral process.

In this regard, the Commission wishes to inform and clarify to the public the following facts:

1. The Commission notes with grave concern the continuous dissemination of misleading and unverified information by sections of the media, groups and individuals, through mainstream and social media platforms, concerning its constitutional mandate and ongoing preparations for the upcoming General Election. In particular, the Commission has witnessed sensationalized reports and unsubstantiated stories regarding the Commission's Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) exercise which is being conducted across all the 290 constituencies throughout the entire Republic. Such reporting risks misleading the public and undermining confidence in the electoral process.

#### Registration of Voters

2. The Commission reiterates that the stories on electoral malpractice or illegality relating to the registration of voters, illegal transfers of voters and alleged registration of foreigners as voters in Kenya and abroad remain unsubstantiated and untrue. To date no entity, organization, group or individual has submitted to the Commission any credible



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evidence supporting any such allegations of illegality and malpractice. Where credible evidence is presented, the Commission shall take appropriate action including disciplinary action, investigation into criminal conduct and where culpability is established, criminal prosecution and punishment shall be undertaken in accordance with the laws of Kenya.

3. The IEBC wishes to clarify to the public that its constitutional mandate under Article 88 of the Constitution is limited to the registration of eligible Kenyan citizens who possess National Identity Cards (IDs) and valid passports and maintenance of the Register of Voters. In addition, IEBC does not issue National IDs or Kenyan passports. These functions fall within the mandate of the relevant State Agencies responsible for identification, citizenship and immigration. Any association or references to IEBC in relation to issuance of IDs or passports is factually incorrect, malicious, intended to misinform and risks misleading the public regarding the respective mandates of the relevant State institutions
4. It should be appreciated that the processes and procedures of registration of voters are governed by the Constitution and the applicable electoral laws. Article 88 (4)(a) mandates IEBC to conduct continuous registration of citizens as voters and the Elections (Registration of Voters) 2012, Regulation 13 (2)(a) stipulates that a person who wishes to be registered as a voter shall, make an application to, the Registration Officer for the Constituency in which the person wishes to be registered. A person who applies to be registered as a voter is required to present his/her valid identification document to the registration officer stationed at a registration center of his/her choice.
5. Voter registration is a regulated statutory process conducted under the oversight and authority of the Commission. The exercise is undertaken in accordance with the decisions approved by the Commission Plenary and the applicable law. These include: the designation and Gazettement of registration centers where registration shall take place, the KITs to be used and their movement schedules, appointment and deployment of Registration Officers and the applicable timelines. These measures ensure that voter registration is conducted in a structured, transparent and accountable manner.
6. In that regard, the Commission has, since 29th September 2025, undertaken CVR at designated and gazetted registration centers. The exercise is conducted by duly gazetted and trained registration officials, under the supervision of the Registration Officers in the 290 constituencies, Huduma Centres and the Customer Care Centre



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at Anniversary Towers.

7. The exercise is ongoing across the entire nation and it is intended to facilitate all eligible Kenyan citizens with IDs and valid passports to register as voters. Any allegations of illegal registration, transfers of voters, or claims of favoritism or discrimination ought to be supported by verifiable evidence.
8. The Commission's CVR and ECVR exercises are conducted uniformly across all the Wards and constituencies in Kenya, with the objective of ensuring that no eligible citizen is excluded from the Register of Voters. The Commission has also partnered with various institutions including civil society organizations, religious groups, universities and colleges, professional associations, and community leaders who have supported mobilization efforts that have enabled IEBC to register over 2.6 million new voters in the last 1 year of coming into office of the Commissioners. The Commission appreciates the continued partnership and collaboration with all stakeholders which has contributed to the orderly, uninterrupted and successful conduct of CVR.

## Administrative and technological safeguards in voter registration

9. The Commission has put in place administrative and technological safeguards to protect the integrity of the process of voter registration, this include:
  - a. The KIEMs kits are Commission assets, configured to strict operationalization by a Registration Officer.
  - b. Only a Registration Officer can delegate operationalization to a Registration Clerk courtesy of a unique password.
  - c. Registration Clerk is then mapped within an electoral area.
  - d. The Registration Clerk is then trained under supervision of the Registration Officer before deployment.
  - e. Operationally, registration is restricted to gazetted registration centres.
10. During the Enhanced Continuous Voter Registration exercise conducted from 30th March to 28th April 2026, the Commission maintained a KIEMS Kit movement schedule which was shared with stakeholders. The Kits were secured at designated police stations or IEBC offices and upon conclusion of the exercise, were retrieved and secured at IEBC warehouses. No KIEMS Kit has been misplaced or reported missing, intercepted or unlawfully moved to unauthorized places or foreign destinations. The Commission categorically affirms that all KIEMS kits are accounted



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for and remain in its lawful custody and under its exclusive control. Any allegations suggesting that IEBC voter registration or election materials have been found in unauthorized locations or foreign jurisdictions are wholly unsubstantiated and strongly dismissed.

11. Further, the Commission reiterates, that the registration system is securely configured for use within the Commission's authorized electoral environment. Any unauthorized access, movement or use of registration equipment constitutes a serious breach. Where such breach is established the Commission shall take firm and decisive action against any person responsible, including instituting investigation and recommending prosecution where warranted, in accordance with the law.
12. To facilitate timely and appropriate action on any allegations of malpractice, the Commission urges the media, organizations, groups or individuals to report any suspected irregularities to the IEBC. The Commission welcomes constructive engagement and partnership with citizens and stakeholders towards ensuring that the Commission's staff, processes and procedures are accountable and in compliance with the law.

## **Registration of Kenyan citizens living outside the country**

13. While the Commission recognizes that many Kenyan citizens reside outside the country, including in Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan and other countries around the world. Their residence status outside Kenya does not extinguish their constitutional right to participate in the electoral process. Article 82(1)(e) of the Constitution requires the progressive registration of citizens residing outside Kenya and the progressive realization of their right to vote.
14. The Commission has progressively implemented its constitutional mandate on diaspora voter registration and participation through a structured Diaspora Engagement Framework, which guides the identification and mapping of Kenyan citizens residing abroad, voter education, stakeholder engagement, voter registration and the facilitation of electoral participation through designated and legally authorized mechanisms. Pursuant to this framework, voter registration of Kenyan citizens residing outside Kenya was initially undertaken in a limited number of countries during the 2013 General Election and the reach was subsequently expanded in successive General Elections, extending to 12 countries in the 2022 General Election.



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15. The Commission has approved the process for mapping additional countries to enhance participation of Kenyans abroad, with diaspora registration scheduled to be undertaken upon the launch of Enhanced Continuous Voter Registration Phase II (ECVR II), in accordance with the applicable legal and operational framework.
16. As part of these efforts, the Commission has proposed to expand diaspora voter registration and participation from the twelve (12) countries covered during the 2022 General Election to twenty-six (26) countries in the 2027 General Election.
17. The Commission therefore wishes to clarify that diaspora voter registration is not a surreptitious or informal process. It is a constitutionally contemplated and progressively implemented electoral function, undertaken through designated mechanisms and under the supervision of the Commission.

## Conclusion

18. The IEBC is an independent constitutional Commission. It makes and implements its decisions and programs independently, without fear, favour or improper influence, and strictly in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of Kenya.
19. The Commission welcomes credible information concerning any malpractice, unlawful conduct or breach of electoral procedures. Any citizen, institution or agency possessing such information is encouraged to report it promptly to the Commission and where appropriate, to the relevant investigative agencies.
20. The Commission cautions against the deliberate dissemination of misinformation calculated to undermine public confidence in the integrity, security and credibility of Kenya's electoral processes. The Commission remains firmly committed to safeguarding all electoral materials and ensuring strict compliance with the law.
21. At the same time, the Commission urges the public and all stakeholders to distinguish between credible evidence and unverified allegations, misinformation or sensationalist claims. The Commission shall continue to provide factual information on its processes and shall not be diverted from its constitutional mandate by unfounded assertions intended to undermine public confidence in the electoral process.



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22. The Commission remains steadfast in its constitutional duty to deliver a free, fair, transparent, accountable, credible and verifiable electoral process.
23. The Commission shall continue to keep the people of Kenya informed at every stage of the preparations for the 2027 General Election.

**ERASTUS EDUNG ETHEKON, HSC**  
**CHAIRPERSON, INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION (IEBC)**