



UPDATE ON ELECTIONS PREPAREDNESS

NAIROBI: Friday, 09 June, 2017 - It is now 60 days to the August 08, General Election and we wish to update the country on the status of key processes towards a free, fair and credible election.

1. Procurement of Ballot papers for the Election

Following a number of challenges in relation to the procurement of ballot papers for the General Election, the Commission upon review of the law and in consultation with key stakeholders resolved to utilize the direct procurement option in accordance with Section 103 (2)(a) of the PPAD Act 2015. The Commission projects to print about 120 million ballot papers together with elections results forms and poll registers. This requires adequate lead time to allow the printers to mobilize resources and put in place logistical measures for efficient delivery of ballot papers.

Having considered a number of available options, the Commission resolved to award the tender for ballot papers to Al Ghurair Printing and Publishing LLC, a company based in Dubai. The following are some key considerations that led to the selection of Al Ghurair:

- a. Capacity of modern machines whereby 50% of machine capacity have been allocated for production of ballot papers with adequate back-ups.
- b. Has a suitable emergency production, packaging and delivery plan.
- c. Has fully deployed experienced and qualified personnel.
- d. There are four direct flights daily by two major airlines to Kenya which makes shipping easier.
- e. The Company has sufficient and stable financial base to fund its obligation.
- f. The firm has experience in African countries, part of Asia, Middle East among others.
- g. The prices offered by M/s AL Ghurair Printing and Publishing LLC in the previous contracts were competitive and within the prevailing market rates.
- h. The firm has a reputation of being efficient and reliable in terms of delivery.

At this point in time, we want to invite all Kenyans to now focus on other priorities with respect to preparedness for the elections. At the appropriate time, the Commission shall arrange a trip consisting of key stakeholders to witness the ballot paper printing in Dubai.

2. Preparation of the Voters Register

The verification exercise that started on 09 May, 2017 ends today. The next step as provided for in law will be to revise the Register of Voters as per the findings during the verification exercise.

We trust that those who took chance to verify their details have also experienced the new technology which shall also be used on the Election Day.

Related to this, you are aware that KPMG undertook to audit the voters register in accordance with the requirements of the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2016. Today, KPMG shall formally hand over the report on the audit of the register of voters. The Commission is duty-bound to implement the recommendations of the audit report at the same time submitting the report to parliament.

The verification exercise and the audit should enable us build an accurate and credible register of voters for the 2017 General Election.

3. Kenya Integrated Election Management System (KIEMS):

The Commission to date has received 35,000 Kenya Integrated Election Management System gadgets and expects the last batch to arrive not later than 13th June 2017. It is important to note that we have already deployed 11,000 kits for purposes of verification.

This afternoon, the Commission shall be demonstrating an end-to-end functionality of the KIEMS technology. The demonstration shall showcase how voter identification and results transmission are expected to work on the Election Day.

The Commission has planned at least two more tests to be undertaken before the General Election. This will be in done with the support of professional bodies and experts in the sector.

4. Nomination process

As of 8th June 2017, the Commission had processed 14,552 candidates for various positions. So far only 9% of the candidates are women while youths are at 13%.

Arising from this exercise, 372 disputes were filed and the hearing concluded by yesterday. We expect to finalise determination of all the cases by end of day today.

The Commission shall gazette eligible candidates not later than 20th June, 2017. Parties are reminded that party lists should be submitted to the Commission not later than 24th June 2017.

Summary of Nomination as of 8th June 2017

POSITION	STATUS As of 8 th June 2017						
	CRMS Entry by ROs	Disqualified	Withdrawn	Suspended	Deceased	Returns to HQs	Difference
President	8	0	0	1	-	8	0
Governor	214	0	2	0	-	216	2
Senator	253	7	2	1	-	252	1
CWMNA	297	1	2	0	-	297	0
MNA	1,890	1	7	3	-	1,900	10
MCA	11,810	59	26	3	2	11,879	69
TOTAL	14,472	68	39	8	2	14,552	82

Lastly, as we approach the election, we wish to urge the country to rally together to ensure that we have free, fair and peaceful elections. That is the reason we, together with partners, have invited over 1,000 participants to the National Elections Conference to be held from 12th – 14th June 2017 at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC).

Thank you very much.

W.W. CHEBUKATI

CHAIRMAN