



PRESS STATEMENT

Nairobi: April 19, 2017

1. Deployment of the Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS)

We wish to report that **10,000** Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS) gadgets are currently in the country. The Commission and the supplier have agreed on strict timelines for the delivery of the remaining **35,000** kits by early June 2017.

The gadgets come with two key functionalities:

- a) Electronic Voter Identification Device (EVID)
- b) Results Transmission System (RTS)

It is worth noting that the entire system is integrated by design, as provided for in the law.

This means that there is linkage and communication involving three processes namely; i) the register of voters; ii) electronic identification of voters; and iii) electronic transmission of results.

The Commission has rolled out an elaborate training programme for all staff who will operate the KIEMS gadgets.

The gadgets are currently in the process of being configured with the register of voters in readiness for the biometric verification of voters, which runs from **10th May to 9th June, 2017**.

2. Electoral Code of Conduct

The Commission, continues to be deeply concerned with the increase of acts of violence during the political party primaries. Further to the Commission's meeting with political parties on 12th April, 2017, we wish to underscore that the law requires all candidates (including independents) and political parties to subscribe to and observe the Electoral Code of Conduct.

Section 110 (2) of the Elections Act 2011 stipulates that: "a political party that is eligible to nominate candidates under the Constitution, this Act or any other written law shall not be eligible to contest in any election unless the political party and the candidate have subscribed to the Electoral Code of Conduct".

As of today, 59 fully-registered Political Parties have signed the Electoral Code of Conduct.

The Commission stresses that the Code of conduct applies from 17th March, 2017 until after the swearing-in of newly elected leaders.

3. Nominations and Defections

The Commission wishes to remind all political parties to observe the rules submitted to the Commission for their party primaries to avoid disputes and breaching the law. We urge political parties to use the membership lists submitted to the Commission to conduct their primaries.

On issue of defections to other political parties, the Commission calls the attention of aspirants and political parties to Section 28(1) of Elections Act, 2011 which stipulates that ‘a political party that nominates a person for an election under this Act shall submit to the Commission a membership list of the party in the case of a general election, at least one hundred and twenty days before the date of the election.’ Only aspirants whose names are in the party membership lists submitted to the Commission are eligible to participate in party primaries or to be directly nominated as candidates by parties.

4. Outlook on Election Timelines

The Commission will continue to remind the public of key electoral timelines. Political parties and aspiring candidates should note the following:

- Each political party wishing to participate in the elections must finalize its primaries on or before the 26th April, 2017. The parties should first resolve all intra-party disputes using their internal mechanisms. It is only after these mechanisms are exhausted that as provided for in Section 40(fa) of the Political Parties Act, 2011, the Political Parties Dispute Tribunal may be invoked to determine disputes arising out of party primaries.
- Following resolution of all intra-party disputes, political parties are required to submit the persons nominated to contest for the elections to the Commission on or before 10th May, 2017.
- Candidates intending to participate in the general election as independent candidates must submit their names and symbols to the Commission on or before 10th May, 2017. Independent candidates should not be members of any political party by 8th May, 2017, being 3 months before the General Election.
- Both independent candidates and political party aspirants have to submit their nomination papers for clearance to the Commission’s Returning Officers at the constituency level between 28th May and 2nd June, 2017. The Commission will

communicate further details on the venues and time of submission of nomination papers.

- The Commission shall thereafter, in line with Article 88(4)(f) of the Constitution, register qualified candidates for election and indicate those disqualified. Disputes relating to or arising from registration of candidates shall be determined within ten (10) days of the lodging of the dispute with the Commission.
- The campaign period for purposes of the 8th August, 2017 General Election shall commence on 28th May, 2017 and cease on 5th August, 2017.

WAFULA W. CHEBUKATI

CHAIRMAN