Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission

PRESS RELEASE

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SUBJECT: IEBC RECEIVES NOMINATION RULES FROM POLITICAL PARTIES FOR PURPOSES OF THE 2027 GENERAL ELECTION

Nairobi, Kenya: 11th November, 2026

1. The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) announces the conclusion of the process of receiving certified political parties' nomination rules for the 2027 General Election scheduled for 10th August, 2027. A total of **one hundred and five (105) FULLY registered political parties** submitted their certified nomination rules to the Commission by the prescribed deadline of 6th November, 2026.

2. The submission marks a significant milestone in the Commission's preparations for the 2027 General Election and the fulfilment of its constitutional mandate to regulate the process through which political parties nominate candidates for elections.

Constitutional and statutory framework

3. Article 88(4)(d) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 read together with Section 27 of the Elections Act, Cap. 7 mandates the Commission to regulate the process through which political parties nominate candidates for elections.

4. Section 27(1) of the Elections Act requires political parties to submit their nomination rules to the Commission **at least six (6) months** before the nomination of their candidates for election.

5. Further, Section 27(2A) requires the Commission, upon receipt of the nomination rules, to review them within fourteen (14) days to ascertain compliance with the prescribed regulations and either issue a certificate of compliance or require the political party concerned to amend its rules in the event of non-compliance with the prescribed standards.

Submission of Nomination Rules for the 2027 General Election

6. In preparation for the 2027 General Election, the Commission published timelines in the Kenya Gazette governing

the certification and submission of political parties' nomination rules. Under the published timelines, the Registrar of Political Parties was required to certify the nomination rules by 30th October, 2026, following which political parties were required to submit the certified rules to the Commission by **6th November, 2026**.

7. The Commission has concluded the receipt of the certified nomination rules submitted by political parties within the published timelines.

The review process

8. Following receipt of the nomination rules, the Commission will commence a comprehensive review to ascertain their compliance with the Constitution, the Elections Act, the applicable regulations and other relevant legal requirements.

9. The review will, among other things, examine the nomination procedures adopted by political parties, including the eligibility requirements for candidates, the methods of nomination, participation of party members, representation of special interest groups, gender inclusion, and the internal mechanisms for resolving nomination disputes.

10. The review will be undertaken within the statutory fourteen-day period and will involve a structured and coordinated assessment to ensure that the nomination rules are evaluated against consistent legal and procedural criteria.

11. The Commission wishes to clarify that the receipt of the nomination rules does not constitute approval or a determination of their compliance with the applicable legal framework. The compliance status of each political party will be determined upon conclusion of the review.

Why Political Party Nomination Rules matter

12. Political party nomination rules provide the framework through which political parties identify and select candidates to represent them in elective positions. The integrity of this process is therefore an important component of the credibility of the electoral process and the broader democratic system.

13. Compliant nomination rules are essential in promoting transparency, fairness, inclusivity and accountability in

political party nominations, while safeguarding the participation rights of party members, aspiring candidates and other stakeholders. They also provide a framework for addressing disputes that may arise during the nomination process.

The way forward

14. Upon conclusion of the review, the Commission will issue certificates of compliance to political parties whose nomination rules meet the applicable constitutional, statutory and regulatory requirements. Where amendments are required, the Commission will communicate the identified areas of non-compliance and require the respective political parties to undertake the necessary amendments in accordance with Section 27(2A) of the Elections Act.

15. For the avoidance of doubt, only **fully registered political parties,** duly recognized under the law and vested with the legal capacity to undertake the nomination of candidates for elective positions, were eligible to submit their nomination rules to the Commission. Accordingly, political parties that had not attained full registration status on the deadline were not eligible to submit nomination rules.

16. The Commission will continue to engage political parties and other relevant stakeholders throughout the process to facilitate compliance with the applicable legal requirements and support the conduct of transparent, fair and credible party nominations ahead of the 2027 General Election.

Conclusion

17. The Commission remains committed to the impartial, consistent and effective discharge of its constitutional and statutory mandate in regulating political party nominations. Indeed, the review of the submitted nomination rules is an important step towards ensuring that political parties have compliant frameworks for conducting their nominations in preparation for the 2027 General Election.

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