



**MEDIA BRIEFING**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Nairobi, Kenya: June 20, 2022**

**Subject: Audit Report on the Register of Voters**

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**Introduction**

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 postponed the certification and gazettelement of the Register of Voters (ROV) to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to address critical audit findings and recommendations touching on the ROV upon receiving of the preliminary audit report on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.

The Commission is pleased to announce that the audit of the ROV has been completed by KPMG and the final report submitted to the Commission on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Commission, based on preliminary audit findings shared by KPMG, implemented some of the recommendations and it is in the course of finalizing the few remaining ones. As the Commission briefs the country today it is equally pleased to announce that the total number of registered voters is 22,120,458 and the number of polling stations \*46,232.

In accordance with the Elections Act, the Commission will also submit the report to the National Assembly and the Senate. In the spirit of transparency and commitment to public confidence in the ROV and electoral processes the Commission now provides this briefing to inform Kenyans of the summary findings and actions taken to address issues identified from audit.

Below is the analysis of the final register of voters as presented to KPMG on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Key Figures**

Year	Number of Polling Stations	Final Number of Registered of Voters	KNBS Eligible Voters	NRB Issued IDs
2022	*46,232	22,120,458	27,857,598	29,566,678
2017	40,883	19,611,423	25,212,056	25,323,059
% Growth	13.08%	12.79%	10.49%	16.76%

\* - Migration of 2 degazetted polling centres in Kisauni in Mombasa to gazetted polling centre may affect this figure by plus or minus one or two polling stations or none at all.

## Enrolment Rates

National Enrolment	2022	2017
Registered voters (IEBC) compared to eligible voters (KNBS)	79.41%	77.78%
Registered voters (IEBC) compared to Issued IDs (NRB)	74.82%	77.44%

## Diaspora and Prisons Voter Registration Evolution

	Registered Voters 2022	Registered Voters 2017
Diaspora	10,444	4223
Prisons	7,483	5,182

## Stakeholders Engagement

As part of the audit, KPMG engaged with a number of stakeholders. These includes:

Government representatives responsible for maintaining and providing reference data required for the audit including Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), National Registration Bureau (NRB), Department of Immigration Services (DIS) and Civil Registry Services (CRS).

Aspirants and Political Parties, in conjunction with Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC): Aspirants running independently or through registered political parties.

Public / Media Briefing: A briefing of the Public / Mainstream Media Houses jointly with the Commission on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The briefing covered the state of the Register, state of the Audit, Highlights of the Report and next steps towards certification of the Register.

## Audit Results

The results of the audit of the ROV are summarized in the following thematic areas:

- Process and System Controls
- Transfer of Voters
- Registered Voters Biometric Review
- Exceptions Generated from the Register of Voters

- Database Security and Infrastructure Controls
- Inclusiveness of the Register of Voters
- Action Plan for Implementation of Audit Recommendations

#### **(i.) Process and System Controls**

KPMG audit has identified a number of issues that can enhance accuracy and credibility of the ROV. The audit has also recommended that IEBC gives priority to implementing a medium-term transformation program to ensure that it has systems, capacity and structure that will enable its role in anticipation of a fresh registration process before 2027 general election.

In accordance with the recommendations, the Commission will review its registration process with a view to strengthening the same by developing and implementing amongst others: automated data input validation controls or explore possibility of using Integrated Population Registration System (IPRS) database in enrolment process, having prenumbered registration forms and digitizing the same, periodic comparison of the Register of Voters with the relevant government agencies, logging and monitoring of system user activities.

#### **(ii.) Transfer of Voters**

KPMG analyzed the full register and noted that there were transfer transactions processed between 2017 general election and May 2022. The analysis of those transfers identified several constituencies and counties showing trends of abnormal voter transfers having been processed in the Register of Voters.

A breakdown of all transfers processed in the register to and from the 47 counties, 290 constituencies, diaspora and prisons was shared, and together with the Commission, the audit identified the specific counties which had abnormal trends and voter transfer numbers. The objective of the joint exercise was to ascertain accuracy and validity of those transfers and to enable quick corrective action.

By the time of issuance of the KPMG final audit report, transactions in areas identified as having unusual transfer records had been reversed. In addition, the Commission undertook a parallel exercise of collecting all the Form Cs across the country and capturing them in a database to quality check the Register of Voters and to take appropriate action.

#### **(iii.) Registered Voters Biometric Review**

In the review of the registered voters biometric the audit assessed the completeness, biometric quality and uniqueness of the ROV. The tests carried out by KPMG confirmed

that the finger prints images captured by the Commission were good and that the deduplication system was working as expected.

**(iv.) Exceptions Generated from the Register of Voters**

KPMG carried out various tests on the ROV including comparison with the NRB, DIS and CRS to ascertain its accuracy. The results of the tests were provided to the Commission for validation to confirm whether they relate to legitimate voters. The results and resolution of the findings are highlighted in the table below.

Exception Description	2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Remarks
ID and passport references that match to NRB and DIS but names recorded in the ROV do not match with NRB and DIS	226,143	172,929	24% of 226,143 had been acted upon and deactivated because majority require verification by the Registration officers. The use of biometric identification during election will mitigate the risk of illegitimate voter to vote.
Individuals who have registered more than once with both ID number and passport number	4,757	1,928	59% had been acted upon and deactivated. Unique records were identified and left out after adjudication process. The whole of this category will be subjected to further investigation by relevant agencies.
Records within the ROV with duplicated or blank IDs/Passport References	481,711	144,674	70% acted upon and deactivated. In order to ensure that legitimate voter are not turned away during election the use of biometric identification during election will mitigate the risk of illegitimate voter to vote.
Records with invalid document reference number as recorded in the ROV when compared to NRB and DIS (12,435 invalid passports and 151,834 invalid IDs)	164,269	145,855	11% acted upon and deactivated. The records of 12,435 regarded as invalid were actually valid as they were old generation passports that DIS was not maintaining their inventory. The rest were as a result of key

Exception Description	2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Remarks
			stroke errors that can be mitigated through use of biometric identification during the election.
Records in the ROV that are in the Deceased Persons provided by CRS	246,465	0	100% acted upon and deactivated

#### (v.) Database Security and Infrastructure Controls

As part of the audit KPMG reviewed controls over database and infrastructure control and made recommendations on strengthening controls over application, database and infrastructure to ensure security of the ROV. The Commission has already commenced implementation of KPMG recommendations with the third parties providing Commission with IT support. This includes application of “Least Privilege Principle” by disabling all user access rights and only giving them privileges needed to complete their specific tasks.

#### (vi.) Inclusiveness of the Register of Voters

KPMG carried out an assessment on the inclusiveness of the ROV with regard to age, gender, persons living with disabilities (PWDs) and geographic distribution. Further, KPMG reviewed inclusiveness processes, policies, infrastructure and mechanisms implemented by the Commission to enhance inclusiveness of the ROV. The following statistics obtain from the assessment:

Women represents 49.12% of voters registered and men represent 50.88% of the total voters, demonstrating that women are still underrepresented in the register of voters

The number of youth (18-34 years old) registered to vote in 2022 stands at 39.84% which is a decline of 5.27% against 2017. Further analysis of youth enrolment statistics shows that the number of registered female youth voters has declined by 7.75% in the period 2017 to 2022, while male youth enrolment has declined by 2.89%

The enrolment rate of PWDs stands at 18.94% of the eligible voting population.

Registration of Kenyans living in diaspora constitutes 0.05% of the register of voters.

(vii.) **Action Plan for Implementation of Audit Recommendations**

KPMG has provided categorized action plan that is summarized as follows:

Audit Work Streams	Pre-Election Day	Medium Term	Total
Voter registration, transfer and voter details update processes	3	6	9
ROV database and system controls	11	6	17
Data and biometric analysis	5	22	27
Assessing inclusiveness in the ROV	0	9	9

The Commission has invested all its efforts to address majority of pre-election day issues identified from the audit and at the same time implementing the Election Operations Plan.

The Commission is grateful to KPMG for the services provided in the Audit of the ROV. The Commission now invites all stakeholders to continue providing every support in the preparations for the Elections in August 2022.



**W. W. CHEBUKATI**  
**CHAIRMAN**