



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAIROBI, KENYA: THURSDAY 18TH NOVEMBER, 2021

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON ELECTION PREPAREDNESS

The Commission's attention has been drawn to statements attributed to the Hon. Chief Justice Martha Koome on IEBC's poll preparedness, as published by the People Daily on 17th November 2021. The Hon. Chief Justice is reported to have questioned the Commission's preparedness in logistics and hiring of Returning Officers ahead of the 2022 General Election, and insinuated it is ill prepared.

The Commission takes great exception to such unfortunate, misleading and untrue representation of its election preparedness and makes the following clarifications:

- (a) In delivering a transparent, efficient and impartial 2022 General Election, the Commission is guided by its Strategic Plan and the Elections Operations Plan (EOP). Both documents were launched on 15th June 2021 in a function where the Hon. Chief Justice was the Chief Guest but was ably represented by the Chief Registrar Anne Amadi.
- (b) The EOP contains detailed election logistics and clear timelines within which prescribed election activities should be undertaken. So far, the Commission is on course and is committed to delivering on its Constitutional mandate.

(c) The Commission's permanent staff includes County Election Managers (CEMs), Constituency Elections Coordinators (CECs) and Constituency Administrative Assistants (CAAs) who are deployed as County Returning Officers, Constituency Returning Officers and Deputy Constituency Returning Officers, respectively. Needless to say, these Officers are well trained and have vast experience in election management. The Officers will be assisted by temporary poll officials who will be recruited and adequately trained between the months of March and June 2022, in line with the EOP.

The Commission is concerned that such uninformed remarks that cast aspersions on its capacity to deliver a free, fair and credible election were made by the Hon. Chief Justice, who by law is destined to preside over Presidential Election Petition(s) in any event. These unfortunate and unwelcome statements, coming from a head of a crucial arm of Government, undermines the reputation and credibility of the Commission.

The Commission remains committed to delivering a free fair and impartial 2022 General Election that meets the democratic aspirations of the people of Kenya.



W.W. CHEBUKATI
CHAIRMAN