

INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION



**OPENING REMARKS BY
MR. WANYONYI WAFULA CHEBUKATI,**

**THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARIES
COMMISSION (IEBC)**

**DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE HEARINGS
ARISING FROM NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES**

**Dates: 11th JUNE, 2022
Milimani Law Courts, Nairobi**

**Commissioners,
CS/CEO,
Directors
Managers and Staff of the Commission
External Counsel
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good Morning!

I welcome you all to the official opening the Dispute Resolution Committee hearings. The Commission is guided by the Constitution and statutory provisions in the conduct of its processes. Article 88 (4) (f) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 requires the Commission to register candidates for election (Nomination) which we concluded on the 7th June, 2022.

Following this process and in exercise of its mandate espoused under Article 88 (4) (e) of the Constitution, the Commission is responsible for the settlement of electoral disputes, including disputes relating to or arising from nominations but excluding election petitions and disputes subsequent to the declaration of election results. In addition, Section 74 of the Elections Act provides that the said electoral dispute shall be determined within ten (10) days of the lodging of the dispute with the Commission.

I must admit, that in 2017, I was the only Advocate in the Commission and I had to sit and preside over the three Committees of the Commission. It was an herculean task and hence the change of tact this time round. Considering that I am also a Returning Officer and may not be able to sit in a dispute challenging my own decisions unlike 2017 where there was no complaint as regards Presidential registration of Candidates.

As a matter of information, the Commission appointed the Membership of the Dispute Resolution Committee vide a special Issue of the Kenya Gazette No. 6606 carried in Vol. CXXVI- No. 105 published on 6th June, 2022 for purposes of hearing and determining disputes arising from the process of registering candidates for election. Further to those appointments, I have empaneled three Committee Panels which will contain a Presiding Chairperson, Committee Members and Secretaries to the respective Panels.

Allow me to state this, that the Commission in readiness for the election, shared the statutory qualifications and requirements for any aspirants who intended to vie for any elective seat. However, like every process anyone who is aggrieved is allowed to challenge the said.

The Commission extended filing of cases until yesterday and we received a total 262 Complaints to be heard by three panels.

As the Committee commences its hearings today, I wish to remind them, that this is an election process, subject to scrutiny and I urge you all to adhere to the principles of natural justice and strict adherence to the Constitution and the law while handling the complaints before you.

Finally, I now officially launch the Dispute Resolution Committee Hearings and I wish you all the best.

Thank you very much for listening to me. God bless you all and God bless Kenya.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. W. Chebukati', written in a cursive style.

W. W. CHEBUKATI
CHAIRMAN