



PRESS BRIEFING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAIROBI, KENYA: 7TH JULY 2022

SUBJECT: STATUS UPDATE OF GENERAL ELECTION PREPAREDNESS

Today marks 32 days to the 9th August 2022 General Election, and the Commission is on course in preparations for the General Election. The Commission wishes to update the public on the General Election Preparedness as follows:

1. Registration of candidates was successfully concluded on 6th June 2022. This was immediately followed by resolution of disputes arising from the decisions made by the Returning Officers either by registering or declining to register candidates. Three hundred and twenty-five (325) cases were filed, out of which 39 (12%) complaints were allowed, 269 (82.7%) were dismissed summarily including want of jurisdiction, prosecution and merit, and 17 (5.2%) were withdrawal. The Dispute Resolution Committee heard and determined the 325 cases, and only 31 have proceeded to the High Court by last evening.

The Commission acknowledges the rights of such aggrieved persons to move to Court to review the decisions of the Committee. The Commission shall endeavor to abide by all the orders lawfully issued by Courts of Law.

Having finalized with DRC, the Commission embarked on printing of ballot papers since 1st July 2022 and undertaking logistical arrangements such as transporting general election materials from the headquarters to the County and Constituency offices. The logistical arrangements required to ensure that all election materials, including ballot papers, are

distributed on time during polling day at each polling station is largely dependent on early determination of those petitions.

The Commission notes with concern that these critical processes could be hampered by unconcluded Court cases and cases in which Orders have been issued stopping printing of ballot papers amongst others. This is likely to interfere with the logistical arrangements which have been put in place to ensure efficient and timely delivery of materials. Indeed, this could compromise the conduct of the election itself.

The Commission this morning received the first batch of ballot papers of 128 pallets at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. Following the meeting with presidential candidates on 29th June 2022, the Commission has arranged visitation to the printing factory in Greece for purposes of inspection of the printing and packaging of the ballot papers. After consultations with the printer, the Commission has established that all stakeholders can schedule a visit between 15th July 2022 and 20th July during which time the Presidential ballot papers will be printed and packaged for shipping to Kenya. Delivery of the printed ballot papers commenced today the 7th July 2022 and shall be concluded by 29th July 2022.

2. The Commission is concerned and takes great exception on the rising propaganda by gutter press, social media and some political players on its members and staff, and distributed in various social media channels by innocent Kenyans. This has not only led to anxiety amongst key staff of the Commission, but also security threats to them even as the country gears towards 9th August 2022 General Election.

The Commission condemns the actions of the perpetrators in the highest order. The Commission has written to the Director of Criminal Investigations to urgently investigate the matter and to take stern action against the perpetrators of such insincere and insensitive propaganda. We also urge the Inspector General to enhance security of election officials across the country.

3. Earlier on, the Commission had announced, during the verification and inspection of the Register of Voters exercise, that it had identified members of staff who were involved in irregular transfers of voters in regions such as Wajir, Kiambu, Uasin Gishu, Nyeri, Nairobi

among others without following laid down protocols. The Commission has since suspended the concerned officers and shared the report with Director of Public Prosecution for further investigation and prosecution.

4. The Commission in partnership with other institutions and development partners will be holding a National Elections Conference under the theme “Moving Kenya towards a stronger democracy” on 11th and 12th July, 2022 at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC). The Conference will provide an opportunity for Kenyans and key electoral stakeholders to reflect on their roles in the broad spectrum of Country’s preparedness for the 2022 General Elections.
5. The Conference is designed to include participation of state and non-state actors from the National and County Governments. International and local experts will share their experiences in panel discussions and presentation of papers. The media is invited to cover the event.

We continue to appeal to all stakeholders to support the Commission towards conducting a successful General Election, including maintaining a peaceful political environment conducive for secure and credible elections.

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



W. W. CHEBUKATI
CHAIRMAN