



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAIROBI, KENYA: FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: BUDGET FOR VERIFICATION OF SUPPORTERS' SIGNATURES

The Commission, on 10th December, 2020, received Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2020 and supporters' signatures (4.4M) from the promoters of the initiative.

The Commission is required by law to undertake verification of the supporters to ensure compliance with the requirements of Article 257(4) of the Constitution of Kenya. To undertake the verification exercise, the Commission will have to hire data entry clerks, conference facilities, accommodation, stationeries, among others. Consequently, the Commission prepared and submitted a budget of Kshs. 241,011,000 to the National Treasury. This budget was premised on providing full accommodation to all verification personnel. This arrangement would prevent exposure to Covid-19 pandemic due to daily commuting of the verification personnel using public transport and compliance with curfew restrictions. It would have also ensured optimum verification process since all personnel are accommodated on one site.

Upon submission of the budget to the National Treasury, the Commission was invited for discussions on cost rationalization given the constrained fiscal space. It was agreed in that meeting that the Commission explores several scenarios. The Commission resubmitted budgets based on four (4) scenarios, the highest being Kshs. 241,011,000 as submitted earlier and the lowest being Kshs. 93,729,800 mainly based on non-residential verification clerks. Subsequently, the National Treasury made an allocation of Kshs. 93,729,800 to the Commission for the exercise.

The Commission will therefore proceed with the verification exercise accordingly.

W. W. CHEBUKATI

CHAIRMAN