



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE;

Nairobi, Kenya: 3rd November, 2021

SUBJECT: ENHANCED CONTINUOUS VOTER REGISTRATION (ECVR) UPDATE

The Commission wishes to update the Country on the status of Enhanced Continuous Voter Registration (ECVR) exercise which commenced on 4th October, 2021.

1) New Voter Registration and Transfers

Between 4th October, 2021 and 2nd November, 2021, the Commission has managed to enroll a total of **1,413,444** new voters out of the projected target of **6,000,000** eligible voters. Further, a total of **352,679** registered voters have applied to transfer from their current registration centres to other centres of choice.

Please follow the link below to access full ECVR information as at 2nd November, 2021.

<https://www.iebc.or.ke/media/?press>

2) Continuous Voter Registration (CVR)

Pursuant to Article 88(4)(a) and (b) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 the Commission will resume the constituency office-based Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) and Revision of the Voter's Roll upon conclusion of the ECVR. This will run until such a time that the Commission will publish a gazette notice suspending the CVR exercise to pave way for Biometric Verification of the Register of Voters (ROV) as required by Law. The CVR includes; new registration, transfers of registration centres, change of particulars and deletion of dead voters.

3) Voter Registration for Citizens Residing Outside Kenya

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010 affirms the rights of all eligible Kenyan citizens to be registered as voters and to vote during elections and referenda. Article 82(1) (e) of the Constitution specifies that the right to vote of citizens residing outside Kenya is to be achieved progressively. The Elections Act, 2011 and the Election (Registration of Voters) Regulation, 2012 provides an implementation framework for voter registration and voting for local citizens as well as Kenyan citizens residing outside the Country.

The Commission plans to commence the voter registration for citizens residing outside the Country on Monday 6th December, 2021 for a period of fifteen (15) days. The exercise will be concluded on 20th December, 2021.

The Commission will, prior to commencement of the exercise, publish in the Kenya Gazette the names of registration centres and Countries in which registration and voting is scheduled to take place and the period of registration.

4) Audit of the Register of Voters

Section 8A of the Election Act, 2011 requires the Commission to, at least six (6) months before the date of a General Election, engage a professional reputable firm to conduct an audit of the Register of Voters for the purpose of: verifying the accuracy of the register; recommending mechanisms of enhancing the accuracy of the register; and updating the register.

The engaged firm shall give a report within a period of thirty (30) days and the Commission shall thereafter implement the audit report within thirty (30) days.

5) Voter Register Inspection and Biometric Verification of Data

Section 6A of Election Act, 2011 read together with regulation 27(a) and (b) of the Elections (Registration of Voters) Regulations, 2012 requires the Commission to, not later than sixty (60) days before the date of a General Election, open the Register of Voters for verification of biometric data by members of the public at their respective Polling Stations for a period of thirty (30) days. This activity is to afford registered voters an opportunity to verify their registration particulars and to correct any errors or omissions relating to their registration particulars. The activity will ensure that the Commission maintains a complete, accurate, updated and comprehensive register of voters.

The Commission will publish a gazette notice of the availability of ROV for verification not later than 28th February 2022 to pave way for commencement of inspection of the Register of Voters and Biometric Verification of Data.

6) Certification and Publication of the Register of Voters

Section 12 of the Elections Act 2011, provides for the certification and publishing of the Register of Voters in the Kenya Gazette. The certification details include: the name of the County Assembly Ward and the Total number of registered voters. The Commission, guided by the above provision of the law, plans to certify and publish the ROV for the 2022 General Elections by June 2022.

7) Court Orders – Eldoret High Court

The Commission had scheduled the Enhanced Continuous Voter Registration (ECVR) exercise to run for 30 days effective from 4th October, 2021 to 2nd November, 2021. However, the High Court sitting at Eldoret issued *ex parte* orders prohibiting the Commission from “closing the national voter registration exercise slated for closure on 2nd November 2021”. The ECVR exercise costed the country Kshs.1.282 billion (an average of Kshs.42.7 million per day) for the 30 days in form of wages to temporary registration officials, logistics and direct expenses to third party service providers. The Commission shall require further budgetary allocation of Kshs.42.7 million per day on any additional ECVR day as directed by the court.

In the meantime, our Advocates appeared in Court on 3rd November 2021 for the hearing of the said case and the matter was adjourned to be heard on 4th November 2021. The Commission in compliance with the said court order will continue with ECVR until further orders from the court.

8) Conclusion

The Commission calls upon eligible Kenyans to continue registering as Voters in order to exercise their democratic rights as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.



W.W. Chebukati
CHAIRMAN