

PRESS RELEASE

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STATUS OF THE BOUNDARIES REVIEW PROCESS.

NAIROBI, KENYA: FEBRUARY 14, 2020— Article 89 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 mandates the Commission to review names and boundaries of Constituencies at intervals of not less than eight (8) years and not more than twelve (12) years. Further, the Commission is mandated to review the number, names and boundaries of Wards periodically. Such reviews must be completed at least one (1) year before a General election for the new boundaries to take effect. In the current scenario, review of Constituencies and Wards boundaries must be completed by July 2021.

The current Constituencies and Wards boundaries were gazetted on 7th March 2012. Therefore, the Commission is to commence review of Constituencies and Wards boundaries as from March 2020 being the beginning of the eighth (8th) year while the end of the twelfth (12th) year is February 2024.

The review of Constituencies and Wards boundaries will be mainly based on the population quota derived from the latest Census (i.e. the 2019 Kenya National Population and Housing Census data). However, the Constitution additionally provides for other parameters to be applied such as: geographical features and urban centres; community of interest, historical, economic, and cultural ties; and means of communication.

In preparation for the review, the Commission has developed a Boundaries Review Operations Plan (BROP) which provides a roadmap for the exercise. The Commission also initiated capacity building of its staff, procurement of requisite tools and conduct of a pilot boundaries review. However, these processes have been hampered by inadequate budgetary allocation.

On its part, the Commission is set to commence the implementation of the Boundaries Review Operations Plan, subject to availability of budget and the 2019 Census data which the Commission has requested from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

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