

Malawi Electoral Commission

REPORT ON TRIPARTITE ELECTIONS

MAY 2019

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MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

TRIPARTITE ELECTIONS REPORT

MAY 2019



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AFORD	Alliance for Democracy
BVRK	Biometric Voter Registration Kit
BVRKO	Biometric Voter Registration Kit Operator
CCJP	Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
CCVEA	Constituency Civic and Voter Education Assistant
CHRR	Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation
CHU	Complaints Handling Unit
CMD	Centre for Multiparty Democracy
CRO	Constituency Returning Officer
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CVE	Civic and Voter Education
DC	District Commissioner
DEC	District Elections Coordinator
DFA	Democratic Federal Alliance
DEST	District Elections Supervisory Team
DPs	Development Partners
DPP	Democratic Progressive Party
ECA	Electoral Commission Act no. 11 of 1998 as amended
ECF SADC	Electoral Commissions Forum of the Southern Africa Development Community
EU	European Union
FBOs	Faith Based Organisations
FP	Freedom Party
FPTP	First-Past-The Post
GoM	Government of Malawi
HRCC	Human Rights Consultative Committee
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDs	Identities
IFES	International Foundation for Electoral Systems
IPDA	Internal Procurement and Disposal of Assets Committee
IPI	Institute for Policy Interaction
LGEA	Local Government Elections Act no. 24 of 1996 as amended
MACRA	Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority
MAFUNDE	Malawi Forum for Unity and Development
MAM	Muslim Association of Malawi

MBC	Malawi Broadcasting Corporation
MCC	Malawi Council of Churches
MCP	Malawi Congress Party
MDF	Malawi Defense Forces
MEC	Malawi Electoral Commission
MESN	Malawi Electoral Support Network
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MK	Malawi Kwacha
MMD	Mbakuwaku Movement for Development
MPLCs	Multiparty Liaison Committees
MTL	Malawi Telecommunications Limited
NTAM	National Theatre Association of Malawi
NRB	National Registration Bureau
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NICE	National Initiative for Civic Education
OMR	Optical Mark Recognition
PEAs	Primary Education Advisors
PEO	Polling Equipment Operator
PETRA	People's Transformation Party
PPEA	Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act no. 31 of 1993 as amended
PPM	People's Progressive Movement
SADC	Southern African Development Community
Sc	Senior Counsel
TA	Traditional Authority
TPM	Tikonze People's Movement
UDF	United Democratic Front
UK	United Kingdom
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
VI	Voter Information
YONECO	Youthnet and Counselling Organisation
ZBS	Zodiak Broadcasting Station

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- a) The Government of the Republic of Malawi,
- b) Political Parties and candidates
- c) Voters and the citizenry in general,
- d) All Development Partners who contributed to the Elections Basket Fund
- e) Members of both Steering and Technical committees
- f) All Government Ministries and Parastatal organisations that released their staff and/or vehicles during this national undertaking,
- g) National Registration Bureau for the collaboration in implementing the new voter registration system and electoral processes
- h) Members of the Transport Task Force,
- i) Institutions that offered their venues to be used as registration or polling and vote tallying points,
- j) District Commissioners/Chief Executive Officers of Local Assemblies for their assistance in the overall management of the electoral process,
- k) All persons recruited on temporary basis including, but not limited, to Constituency Returning Officers, Biometric Equipment Operators, Technicians, Master Trainers, Constituency Stores Assistants, Constituency Civic and Voter Education Assistants, teachers and others who performed various roles during the electoral processes,
- l) Security personnel,
- m) Institutions that contributed to the setting up of the National Results Centre
- n) The Media and MEC stringers,
- L) District Civic and Voter Education Coordinating Committees and CCVEAs,
- o) Multiparty Liaison Committees and Traditional Leaders,
- p) Civil Society Organisations,
- q) Faith Based Organisations,
- r) Centre for Multiparty Democracy, and
- s) Local and International Observers,

FOREWORD

In May 2019, the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) conducted the second Tripartite Elections by simultaneously holding Local Government, Parliamentary and Presidential Elections. These were the sixth general elections and the third for Local Government Elections since the re-introduction of multiparty democracy through a referendum in 1993.

This is a report on the activities implemented in the 2019 Tripartite Elections. The report also highlights preparatory activities for the elections, constraints and challenges experienced before, during, and after the Tripartite Elections. The report also highlights several reforms that the Commission implemented for the first time in the electoral processes. The last part of the report offers recommendations on the conduct of future elections.

The Commission is mandated to conduct Local Government, Parliamentary, Presidential elections and referenda in Malawi. This mandate requires the Commission to ensure the integrity and legitimacy of the electoral process. Consequently, it recognizes that a single institution cannot exclusively own election administration. In particular, the interpretation of electoral laws and regulations, and how political power is contested for, is of great interest to many key players and stakeholders in the electoral process. Inevitably, therefore, elections pose significant challenges to the Commission and all other stakeholders.

Further, social-economic and cultural factors impact the management of elections by posing various challenges. The factors include language, economic hardships, illiteracy, poverty, urban/rural populations, traditions and gender, among others. The Commission had to deal with these factors to make the elections credible and accessible. For example, the illiterate population requires more human contact and visual information throughout the electoral process for them to participate meaningfully and effectively.

The Commission maintained good relationships with a wide range of specific interest groups who have a stake in the electoral process. In this respect, the Commission conducted regular consultations with various stakeholders at national level through National Elections Consultative Forum (NECOF) and at district level through its Multiparty Liaison Committees (MPLCs). The Commission also held meetings with leaders of political parties then represented in Parliament individually and a group meeting for those political parties then not represented in Parliament. The Commission interacted with Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) where various issues were clarified. Roundtable meetings also acted as mechanisms for the Commission to report on its progress in the electoral administration.

The consultations provided an opportunity for specific needs to be channelled directly to the Commission and eventually incorporated into the Commission's policies and programmes. In that regard, the Commission built positive relationships with its stakeholders.

Development Partners complemented the Government's efforts to democracy building through the provision of funding and technical expertise. Apart from providing necessary resources, the Government also created the enabling environment for implementation of the electoral activities.

A Steering Committee co-chaired by the Minister of Finance, and UNDP Resident Representative and a Technical

Committee co-chaired by a MEC Commissioner and UNDP Deputy Resident Representative was established to coordinate the activities of the electoral processes and provided the required interface between the MEC and the Development Partners.

The UNDP also provided financial, technical and material (equipment) assistance through the Malawi Electoral Support Project by the Commission, the Government of Malawi and the UNDP.

The Commission also benefited from electoral observation. Local and International Observers drew conclusions on the state of democracy and made recommendations for future electoral processes.

Elections are a primary tool for increasing awareness and participation in political processes. The high turnout during the May 21 Tripartite Elections, of 74.4% of the registered voters, confirmed that the people of Malawi appreciate participation in elections as a way of sustaining democracy. They chose their representatives freely without fear or coercion.



Justice Dr. Jane Mayemu Ansah, SC, JA.

CHAIRPERSON

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The 2019 elections were the sixth General Elections and the third for Local Government elections since the re-introduction of multiparty democracy through a referendum in 1993. Since 1993 five general elections were held in 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014, while the first Local elections took place in 2000 and the second in 2014. The Commission has since conducted two Tripartite Elections in 2014 and 2019.

This chapter covers the prevailing election context with respect to administrative structures for the elections, the role of Constituency Returning Officers, political parties and a brief on voter population projections.

1.2 Administrative Structures

Malawi has 28 administrative districts distributed in three regions: 6 in the North, 9 in the Centre and 13 in the South. Further, the administrative divisions are subdivided into 35 councils. The District Council is headed by a District Commissioner while a Chief Executive Officer heads a city/town/municipal council.

Each of the districts has an administrative centre, popularly referred to as the 'Boma', and is usually a cluster of a police station, a district hospital, a produce market, and key Government functional units and a District Commissioner's offices.

During the elections, the Commission designated District Commissioners and Chief Executive Officers as District Elections Coordinators for their respective councils. At least a District Elections Clerk supported the District Elections Coordinator. Each council had a District Elections Supervisory Team (DEST) chaired by the District Elections Coordinator supervising the implementation of electoral activities. In addition to this, each council had a Multiparty Liaison Committee (MPLC), a structure to manage election-related conflicts.

Within each district, there are Traditional Authority (TA) areas under which the smallest administrative area is a village. Avillage is an important unit for Civic and Voter Education (CVE), and it was given prime attention in the Commission's CVE activities.

There are, currently, 193 Parliamentary constituencies and 462 wards in Malawi.

A constituency may be defined as a voting district; that is, an area that the Electoral Commission has demarcated under Section 8(1) (a) and (b) of the Electoral Commission Act for purposes of determining the number of representatives in the National Assembly in accordance with the electoral laws. These determinations are subsequently presented to National Assembly for approval.

Wards are voting districts demarcated for the purposes of choosing a representative to the local council.

Registration centres are established for each ward and constituency where voters register, and these centres are also used as polling stations. There were a total of 5002 registration centres/polling stations during the 2019 Tripartite Elections.

1.3 The Constituency Returning Officer (CRO)

In the 2019 Tripartite Elections and within the framework of Section 34 (1) and Section 95 (1) of the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections (PPE) Act, the Commission appointed 197 Constituency Returning Officers (CROs). The number of CROs was more than the 193 constituencies in this election to cater for four additional CROs appointed to serve constituencies that were overlapping.

The four additional CROs were appointed as follows:

- In Lilongwe City North constituency where there was a CRO stationed at Dzenza Primary School to serve Mteza and Milindi wards on the rural side of the constituency, which has four wards, where two are for Lilongwe District Council while the other two, Lumbadzi and Nankhaka wards, fall under Lilongwe City Council.
- An additional CRO was stationed at Naotcha TDC to serve Zamba-Nantipwili and Makungwa wards in Blantyre City South East, Naotcha ward in Blantyre City South and Chigwanja ward in Blantyre City West.
- There was also a CRO stationed at Luchenza Municipal Council to serve wards in Luchenza, which is in parts of two constituencies, Thyolo East and Mulanje South West in Thyolo and Mulanje District Councils, respectively.
- In Mangochi, an additional CRO was for Mangochi Town Council which covers parts of Mangochi Central and Mangochi North East Constituencies.

In the 2019 Tripartite Elections the CROs operated full time from within their respective constituencies in designated, centrally-located venues used for processing nomination papers, logistics central points and constituency tally centres.

1.4 Political Parties



LAUNCH OF ELECTIONS: Representatives of various electoral stakeholders pose with MEC chairperson (in pink jacket) with copies of the electoral calendar.

1.4 Political Parties

As of February 2018 at the time of launching the 2019 Tripartite Elections, there were 54 political parties registered under the Political Parties (Registration and Regulation) Act, 1993. Thirteen (13) registered political parties participated in the 2019 parliamentary elections in contrast to 18 that participated in 2019 Tripartite Elections (Refer Appendix 1). Independent candidates also participated in the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government Elections.

1.5 Voter Population

For the 2019 elections, the Commission made projections based on past national population and voter registration trends. The Commission projected to register 8,525,538 voters for the 2019 Tripartite Elections. In accordance with the Electoral Commission Act provisions, the Commission only registered those who had reached the age of 18 by 9th November, 2018 which was the last date of the registration exercise.

At the completion of the registration exercise in November 2018, the Commission released a preliminary field count of 6,856,295 registered voters. The total registered population figure was revised to 6,859,570 following the the voters' register computerisation process.



SOLIDARITY FOREVER: Representatives of Political Parties and Commission captured during launch of the elections.

CHAPTER TWO

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

2.1 Mandate and Core Values

The Electoral Commission is the sole body responsible for the general direction of and the supervision over the conduct of Local Government, Parliamentary and Presidential elections, and referenda in Malawi.

The Malawi Electoral Commission always strives towards attaining its vision to be a highly professional Electoral Management Body that delivers credible elections in Malawi.

In pursuit of its vision, the work of the Commission is guided by its mission which is ‘to deliver credible elections that are free, fair, transparent, inclusive, efficient and cost-effective to entrench democratic values in Malawi’.

To achieve its mission, the Commission is guided in all its activities by the following key principles:

- a) **Integrity:** carrying out its activities honestly and truthfully manner and taking all reasonable measures to prevent wilful wrongdoing by its staff/officials, and ensuring compliance and demonstrating respect for electoral laws and the laws of the country.
- b) **Independence:** ensuring that it operates freely in its own best judgment without taking directives from or being controlled by any person or authority.
- c) **Professionalism:** endeavour to have properly trained, motivated and disciplined staff committed to deliver credible elections.
- d) **Transparency and accountability:** promoting open door policy and ensuring transparency and accountability are inherent in all the Electoral Commission’s activities and interactions, both horizontal and vertical, and improving its performance through monitoring and evaluation, documenting its operations and free disseminating them to all its stakeholders.
- e) **Excellence:** striving to be above standard in the delivery of services.
- f) **Inclusivity:** promoting participation, influence and representation in electoral processes.
- g) **Responsiveness:** attending to the views and concerns of stakeholders.
- h) **Impartiality:** giving equal treatment to all stakeholders.

2.2 Establishment and Functions

The Electoral Commission is established under Section 75 of the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi. It is mandated under Section 76 of the Constitution to exercise such functions in relation to elections as are conferred upon it by the Constitution or by an Act of Parliament. In addition to the broad functions and powers conferred on it by the Constitution, Section 8 of Electoral Commission Act no. 11 of 1998 (ECA), as amended, mandates the Commission to exercise general direction and supervision over the conduct of every election. The same provision outlines the duties of the Commission, which include:

- a) The determination of the number of constituencies for purposes of elections,
- b) Supervision of the demarcation of boundaries of constituencies,
- c) Organizing and directing the registration of voters,
- d) Devising and establishing voters' registers and ballot papers;
- e) Printing, distributing and taking charge of ballot papers and voters' registers,
- f) Approving and procuring ballot boxes,
- g) Establishing and operating polling stations,
- h) Establishing mechanisms for continuous civic education; and
- i) Establishing security conditions necessary for the conduct of every election in accordance with any written law governing elections.
- j) Promoting public awareness of electoral matters and conducting civic and voter education.

While Section 76 of the Constitution lists the powers and functions of the Commission, the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act no. 31 of 1993 (PPEA) as amended, and the ECA stipulate the rules and procedures that facilitate the organization, planning and execution of elections.

The Commission also has powers to regulate its procedures by standing orders and powers to vary, suspend or revoke those standing orders.

Further, on a recommendation to the Minister of Justice, the Commission may introduce regulations to improve its work.

Section 6 of the Electoral Commission Act provides for the Commission's independence in the discharge of its duties. Consequently, the Commission is not subject to the direction of any other person or authority; instead, it sets up its policy framework for the organization as well as for carrying out its specific tasks through its various institutional structures. For purposes of accountability only, the Commission is answerable and reports directly to the President on the overall fulfilment of its functions and powers.

2.3 Appointment of Commissioners

In accordance with Section 75 (1) of the Constitution, and Section 4(1) of the Electoral Commission Act, as was before amendment in 2018, the Commission is composed of a Chairperson who is a judge, and not less than six members. The Judicial Service Commission nominates the Chairperson, while the President in consultation with leaders of political parties represented in the National Assembly appoints the other (not less than six (6) members as the provision was before the amendment of the ECA in October, 2018. Following the amendment in 2018, the appointment procedure for Commissioners provides that Leaders of Political Parties represented in the National Assembly, which secured more than one tenth of the national vote shall nominate a maximum of three names for appointment as Commissioners by the President.

The current Commission is composed of the Chairperson and eight (8) other Commissioners. The members of the current Commission, exception for the Chairperson, were appointed on 6th June, 2016 by President of the Republic of Malawi

in accordance with provisions of Section 75 of the Constitution as read with Section 4 of the EC Act. The Commissioners took an oath of office on 17th June, 2016. The chairperson was appointed on 14th October, 2016. The composition of the Commission was as follows:

- Justice Dr Jane Mayemu Ansah, Sc, JA Chairperson
- Commissioner Reverend Clifford Baloyi
- Commissioner Dr Masten Moffat Banda
- Commissioner Linda Kunje
- Commissioner Dr Jean Mathanga
- Commissioner The Very Reverend Dr Killion Mgawi
- Commissioner Ambassador Yahaya M'madi
- Commissioner Elvey Kalonga Mtafu
- Commissioner Bishop Mary Nkosi

2. 4 The Secretariat



READY TO SERVE: Commissioners with the Chief Justice after taking oath of office.

The Commission has a Secretariat, which serves as the administrative and support structure of the Commission. The Chief Elections Officer, currently Mr Sam Alfandika, heads the Secretariat, with support of two deputies, one responsible for Operations, and another responsible for Administration and Finance. While the Operations division is directly responsible for the design, development and implementation of electoral programmes, the Finance and Administration division is responsible for financial and general service administration. There are eight directorates, namely Electoral Services; Administration and Human Resource; Finance; Information and Communication Technology; Civic and Voter Education; Legal Services; Audit; and Media and Public Relations.

In addition, the Commission has three Regional Elections Officers who are responsible for all electoral activities at the regional level (see Appendix 2 for the names and designations of the management team).

The Regional Elections Officer is assisted by District Elections Clerks, who are based in all councils. These officers safeguard election materials and play pivotal logistical roles during electoral activities. Overall, the District Elections Clerks project an acceptable image of, and uphold good public relations for the Commission in the districts.

In addition to the regular staff, the Commission establishes supervisory structures at council level and also hires temporary field staff. The Commission establishes District Elections Supervisory Teams (DEST) chaired by the District Commissioner/ Chief Executive Officers, who are designated as District Elections Coordinators.

The Commission hires different categories of staff including Constituency Returning officers to oversee electoral activities at constituency level and other field staff to register voters, engage in data capturing and verification, warehousing and polling. After selection, the temporary staff undergo rigorous training to equip them with relevant skills.

2.5 Establishment of Commission Committees

The Commission established four committees to enhance its performance. These Committees were:

- a) Electoral Services
- b) Finance and Administration
- c) Audit
- d) Media, Civic and Voter Education

2.5.1 Electoral Services Committee

The Committee is responsible for all operations in the conduct of elections such as registration of voters, computerization of the voters' register, legal matters, logistics, monitoring of campaign by candidates and political parties, preparation of manuals and training of staff. The Committee is also responsible for the implementation of established procedures as well as introduction of innovations in the conduct of the elections.

2.5.2 Finance and Administration Committee

The Committee manages all financial and administrative requirements for the conduct of elections such as budgeting, financial reports preparation, expenditure control, procurement of equipment and materials, staff recruitment and payment. It is also the responsibility of this committee to manage transport requirements.

2.5.3 Audit Committee

The Committee is responsible for the following: - reviewing the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management systems and making appropriate recommendations for the improvement in secretariat control; considering major findings of internal and external auditors and ensuring that the Commission complies with legal requirement, relevant regulations and good governance.

2.5.4 Media Civic and Voter Education Committee



CLOSE COLLABORATION: The MCVE Committee captured with the Electoral Broadcasts Complaints Committee.

The Committee coordinates implementation of civic and voter education at all levels and recommends accreditation and supervises accredited civic and voter education service providers.

The Committee is also responsible for the development, implementation and review of the communication strategy. It also facilitates press conferences, radio and television programmes. It coordinates monitoring of media coverage on election issues through the Media Monitoring reports generated by Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA).

2.6 Technical and Financial Assistance

The Commission received technical and financial assistance from donor partners to support the implementation of electoral activities.

The Commission received assistance from the donor partners through the basket fund managed by the UNDP. Areas of assistance included:

- Staff capacity building including staff placement programmes in other EMBs; various training programmes; learning visits
- Procurement of ICT equipment and motor vehicles
- Technical support through the deployment of consultants on ICT security and others
- Payment of registration staff and some legacosts for the 2019 TPE court case
- Resources for implementation of electoral activities including the hiring of trucks during polling and conduct of civic and voter education such as loudhailer and roadshow performances using activation trucks.
- Recruitment of external auditors and payment of the costs



ENGENDERING ELECTIONS: MEC Chairperson Dr Jane Ansah, JA, SC (Right) with UN Women Representative Clara Anyangwe launching the Gender Strategy.

ActionAid International provided resources for the development of CVE messages.

The UN Women also assisted the Commission with expertise and resources for the development of Gender Strategy.

The Commission also received direct financial assistance from the European Union.

The Commonwealth Secretariat also assisted with the deployment a Demarcation Expert and resources for the development of a Toolkit for the Implementation of the Media Code of Conduct.

IFES assisted the Commission with the deployment of Communications Expert and conduct of the Electoral Process Diagnostic for the 2019 Tripartite elections.

The Commission also received assistance from the African Union in the training of Constituency Stores Assistants and Party Roving Monitors. The assistance was in the form availing trainers and resources for the conduct of the trainings.

The Commission is indebted to all the development partners for the support rendered in the implementation of the various activities in the 2019 TPE

CHAPTER THREE

PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Commission undertook several preparatory activities that included some reforms in electoral processes, developing an election operational plan and budget which this section of the report is highlighting.

3.1 Legal and Administrative Reforms

In the aftermath of the May 2014 Tripartite Elections, several organisations including the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC), the Malawi Electoral Support Network (MESN), National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE), the Public Affairs Committee (PAC), among others, conducted post-election reviews which generated recommendations for electoral reforms.

A National Task Force on Electoral Reforms was established, co-chaired by the Malawi Electoral Commission and the Malawi Electoral Support Network, to concretize the reforms agenda and chart out action to realize the proposed changes.

The Task Force comprised public and civil society organisations as well as development partners interested in aspects of the electoral reforms agenda.

The reforms dimensions were categorised into three namely Legal; Administrative; and Political.

3.1.1 Legal Reforms

The Law Commission through a report of the Special Law Commission on the Review of Electoral Laws and the Commission on its own proposed several legal reforms but they did not materialise into law. The only reform that succeeded was the passing of the Electoral Commission (Amendment) Act, 2017 which was assented to by the President on 24th October, 2018. This amendment was included into the Commission's compilation of electoral laws.

The major changes introduced by the Electoral Commission (Amendment) Act are as follows:

3.1.1.1 Appointment of Commissioners

The National assembly modified mode of appointment of Commissioners. The President, who is the appointing authority, is now restricted to appointing commissioners from the names submitted by political parties who have attained a minimum of 10 percent of the national vote in elections to parliament. Each of the qualifying political party is restricted to submit a maximum of three (3) names. After the names are submitted, the President appoints commissioners in proportion to the nominating political parties' representation in the National Assembly.

3.1.1.2 Civic and Voter Education

Section 21 of the EC Act was amended by the insertion of Sections 21A, 21B, 21C, 21 D and 21E. By this amendment, the Commission is mandated to:

- i. establish mechanisms for the provision of continuous voter education and to prepare voter education curriculum.

- ii. accredit persons to conduct voter education to the general public about any election, and the Commission should prescribe the manner of accreditation
- iii. prescribe code of conduct for persons accredited to provide voter education
- iv. cancel accreditation where a person accredited to provide voter education fails to comply with conditions

3.2 Administrative Reforms

The Commission carried a review of several election processes, procedures and documents to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

3.2.1 Reforms to facilitate voter registration and verification of voters



DEAL SEALED: MEC Chairperson, Justice Dr Jane Ansah SC shakes hands with former NRB Director, Mr Tresphore Kang'ombe after signing an MOU on registration.

The Electoral Commission used data from the National Registration Bureau (NRB) to create a national voters' register and made available the voters' register for public viewing six months before the polling date.

In that regard, the Commission signed an MOU with the NRB to guide working modalities in the use of national registration data to create the voters' register.

The Commission also developed registration and polling monitoring tools.

3.2.2 Reforms to improve the delivery of election day materials

The Electoral Commission implemented reforms to effect a decentralised approach to the management of elections. In the 2019 elections, Constituency Returning Officers were in their respective constituencies for all election activities, including receipt of nomination papers and processing of results. Election materials, including ballot papers, were also distributed to polling stations from the constituency tally centre.

The Commission also enhanced its approach to ensuring the availability of electoral materials in polling stations guided by a criterion that distinguishes between sensitive and non-sensitive materials to which stakeholders were sensitised.

The Commission ensured the timely and secure printing and packaging of results sheets together with ballot papers.

Ballot papers, result sheets and indelible ink as part of sensitive materials were dispatched to councils four days before polling day. Further, the Commission provided a specific day in the electoral calendar for all presiding officers to open and check the correct quantities of materials prior to voting day in the presence of interested stakeholders and security detail.

The Commission worked out a more reliable arrangement for acquiring vehicles needed for the distribution of Election Day materials by providing for a hiring component to beef up on vehicle requirements. The Commission started consulting the Government on this through the Elections transport taskforce committee chaired by the Office of the President and Cabinet much earlier than the case was in the past elections.

3.2.3 Reforms to improve the management and transmission of results



COMPUTERISED: A section of the Main Tally Centre for 2019 elections.

The Commission conducted Dry Test Runs for Result Transmission System twice: from 29th April to 2nd May, 2019 for the first test; and from 12th to 13th May 2019 for the second test.

For the first time, the Commission utilised polling station results sheets with results indicated in both figures and words.

The Commission took the effort to establish Constituency Tally Centres and conducted a verification exercise to that effect to ensure proper location of Constituency Tally Centres to promote convenience, transparency in the aggregation of results and safeguard the integrity of electoral results.

3.2.4 Reforms to strengthen voter education and voter information

The Commission embarked on the accreditation and mapping of CSOs 24 months before Election Day to allow ample time for accredited organisations to mobilise resources and help the Commission verify and check out illegitimate or bogus organisations.

3.2.5 Recruitment of Master Trainers

Drawing on lessons from Placement Programmes of MEC staff in other EMBs, the Commission implemented the concept of using Master Trainers in the conduct of field staff training. The Commission invited applications from within and without the MEC and conducted interviews to identify 200 Master Trainers. A total of 62 master trainers were identified from amongst MEC staff and the rest from outside the Commission.

The Master trainers were oriented and went through practical examinations from which a final list was drawn.

3.2.6 Review of Electoral Forms

The Commission reviewed a wide range of election forms that are used in various election processes, including voter registration, nomination processes, and counting and tallying of results. The reviews were done to make the forms more user-friendly while maintaining the integrity of the electoral processes.

3.2.7 Pre-examination of nomination forms and Ballot template vetting exercise

The Commission introduced a specific date in the electoral calendar for pre-examination of nomination forms to facilitate a smooth nomination process and checking of electors to make sure there is no double nomination of candidates.

After analysing nomination papers, the Commission drew a programme for ballot paper vetting, whereby all aspiring candidates were invited to inspect and make necessary amendments to their information on the ballot. The exercise started from 5th to 14th March, 2019.

3.2.8 Introduction of voters' registers for monitors during polling

The Commission implemented the printing of a specific voters' register for use by monitors during polling to enhance transparency.

3.2.9 Recruitment of Constituency Stores Clerks

The Commission recruited four specific bodies to manage electoral materials at Constituency Tally centres. Constituency Stores Assistants (CSAs) were engaged in line with the decentralized approach to the distribution of polling materials to

the constituency level. The African Union provided financial and technical assistance for the Commission to conduct one-day training sessions for two CSAs per constituency on basic warehousing and stores management from 8th to 9th May 2019 at regional level.

3.2.10 Engagement of Auditors

The Commission engaged the services of auditors to assist with the verification and confirmation of tallied results at constituency tally centres and the National Tally Centre.

The Commission took advantage of the by-elections conducted before the 2019 TPE to implement most of the administrative reforms and review their practical application where necessary.

3.3 The Budget

A Programme based budget for the 2019 Tripartite Elections was formulated using a zero-based budgeting approach. The budget employed lessons drawn from the 2014 elections and subsequent by-elections as well as the 2014 Observer Reports. Among other issues, it was observed that most of the challenges faced by the Commission during elections were due to insufficient resources and delays in providing such resources to the Commission. Having adopted the electoral cycle approach to elections management, the Commission started engaging the Government for elections funding much earlier. The Commission formulated an election implementation plan and budget spanning three financial years i.e. 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The total budget for the 2019 Tripartite Elections was MK42.8 billion spread into three fiscal years to ease pressure in election planning and Government in funds allocations.

	2017/18 (MK' Million)	2018/19 (MK' Million)	2019/20 Proposed (MK' Million)	2019/20 Proposed (MK' Million)
Approved Budget	10, 362	32, 227	218	42,807

Table of Expenditure outlays

BUDGET LINE	Approved Budget 2017/19	Total Expenditure 2017/19	Approved Budget 2018/20	Total Expenditure 2018/20	Total Budget 2017/19	Total Expenditure 2017/19
PROGRAM: MANAGEMENT & ADMIN SERVICES	MK	MK	MK	MK	MK	MK
SUB PROGRAM : Administration, Planning and Monitoring and Evaluation	748,885,365	740,929,769	2,594,882,281	2,594,882,271	3,343,767,646	3,335,812,040
SUB PROGRAM : Financial Management and Audit Services	5,078,425	4,855,793	142,642,000	142,642,000	147,720,425	147,497,793
SUB PROGRAM : Human Resource Management and Administration	267,903,706	254,639,382	944,239,916	944,239,916	1,212,143,622	1,198,879,298
SUB PROGRAM: Information and Communication Technology	4,923,234	1,843,318	129,425,000	129,425,000	134,348,234	131,268,318
	1,026,790,729	1,002,268,261	3,811,189,197	3,811,189,187	4,837,979,926	4,813,457,448
PROGRAM : ELECTORAL SERVICES						
SUB-PROGRAM : Preelection Services	966,226,428	958,184,106			966,226,428	958,184,106
SUB-PROGRAM : Polling Services	-	-	18,341,092,545	18,340,125,164	18,341,092,545	18,340,125,164
SUB-PROGRAM : Electoral Education and Outreach	1,438,904,211	1,432,729,030	2,913,388,406	2,914,355,787	4,352,292,617	4,347,084,817
SUB-PROGRAM: Voter Registration and Verification	6,929,703,633	6,924,096,794	7,161,788,810	7,161,305,805	14,091,492,443	14,085,402,599
	9,334,834,272	9,315,009,930	28,416,269,761	28,415,786,755	37,751,104,033	37,730,796,685
TOTALS	10,361,625,002	10,317,278,191	32,227,458,958	32,226,975,942	42,589,083,960	42,544,254,134

Over the two fiscal years of 2017/18 and 2018/19, the Government provided MK42.5 billion for electoral activities. The final MK218 million was expected in 2019/20 for the Commission to carry out a postmortem of the elections. It funded the Commission according to the agreed cash flow forecast in line with the electoral calendar of activities. This assisted the Commission in effective planning and timely implementation of activities.

Among other things, the approach provided the Commission with the opportunity, time and resources to embrace the modern biometric voter registration technology during the 2019 TPE voter registration process as a solution to the tedious paper-based OMR system, which greatly affected the quality of the voters register in the past elections.

3.4 Challenges in Planning and implementation

- Some of the proposed legal reforms were not approved by the National Assembly, for example, the harmonisation of the electoral laws.
- Some changes to the implementation plan led to some budgetary constraints, for example, engagement of NRB registration teams for every centre during registration of voters, which was not in the initial plan.
- IFMIS downtime was a major challenge throughout the year. This led to delays in processing payments.

The continued use of the CPO in carrying out payments has some adverse effects.

- There were instances where cheques from the CPO were dishonoured. These created challenges for the Commission as service providers insisted on waiting for the cheques to clear before rendering services.

3.5 Recommendations

- The Commission should identify and submit proposed recommendations that are outstanding but still relevant as well as any other new recommendations arising from the recent elections.
- The Commission needs to enhance its planning based on lessons learnt and comprehensive consultations with stakeholders.
- There is a need for the Commission to be in full control of funds for implementation of the elections budget.
- MEC should seek autonomy to make payments from its bank accounts rather than the CPO as is the case currently.

CHAPTER FOUR

DEMARCATION OF WARDS AND CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

4.1 Mandate of the Commission

The Commission is mandated to carry out demarcation of constituencies every five years according to the Constitution Section 76 (2) (b) and wards in accordance with the Electoral Commission Act Section 8 (1) (c).

The Commission did not conduct a comprehensive demarcation exercise due to the unavailability of the most recent data as the last population census took place in 2008. The Commission resolved to conduct a comprehensive demarcation exercise in 2020 to take advantage of the 2018 National Population and Housing census data.

The Commission made no changes to the constituency boundaries, and the total number of constituencies remained 193; Northern Region 33, Central Region 73 and Southern Region 87 as was the position in 2014 elections.

4.2 Consultative Meetings

The Commission did not conduct comprehensive demarcation exercise; nevertheless it took the opportunity to increase the number of centres based on the requests made during consultative meetings.

The Commission conducted consultative meetings with stakeholders in Councils from the 14th to 26th March, 2017. The exercise resulted in the creation of new centres and a few minor re-alignments of constituency boundaries.

As part of the process, the Commission then instituted Demarcation Committees to look at all the requested centres.

4.3 Centre Verification Exercise

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As part of the process, the Commission then instituted Demarcation Committees to look at all the requested centres.

The Commission also conducted a centre verification exercise to avoid establishing centres in premises not conducive for election from 4th to 12th November, 2017.

The physical verification exercise assisted the Commission to assess several issues, including:

- I. Checking whether the centres requested are properly allocated in Wards/Constituencies as requested.
- II. Availability of proper structures in centres for electoral activities to take place.
- III. The proximity of requested centres to existing centres.
- IV. Examining the justifications for the centre requests.

The Commission finally approved 557 new centres bringing the total number of centres for the 2019 TPE to 5002 (Appendix 3 shows the List of approved additional centres). For the 2014 TPE the Commission had approved 548 new centres bringing the total number of centres to 4,445 (North 948, Central 1,844 and Southern 1,653) from 3,897 in 2009 in response to stakeholders' requests during public hearings.

After the approval of the wards and centres, final maps were compiled and a list of registration/polling centres according to wards, constituencies and regions were produced and made available to stakeholders.

4.4 Challenges

Several challenges can be highlighted with surrounding demarcation issues as follows:

- Outstanding demarcation issues persist in areas such as in Lilongwe, Luchenza and Blantyre.
- Some requests for centres were made for sites that had no structures .
- Some requests for new centres were made wrongly for places which were already centres for neighbouring councils and constituencies/wards.
- Some stakeholders who did not come to consultative meetings were approaching the Commission for consideration of extra proposals well after the completion of the consultative process.
- Weather and terrain affected accessibility to some centres.

4.5 Recommendations.

- The Commission should conduct a comprehensive demarcation of constituencies and wards as a matter of priority with the involvement of the Ministry of Local Government to take care of issues to do with administrative boundaries.
- The Commission should enhance its demarcation guidelines.

CHAPTER FIVE

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND INSPECTION OF THE VOTERS' REGISTER

5.1 Introduction

As part of preparations for the Tripartite Elections, the Commission conducted registration of voters from 26th June 26 to 9th November 2018. This was a fresh voter registration, in which the Commission used a new method of registration using the National Identity Card as a primary form of identification. The conduct of the voter registration took place in eight (8) phases. Each phase lasted 14 days with an additional transitional period of 3 to 5 days to enable the teams to move to the next registration centres in the next phase.

5.2 Planning for Registration

5.2.1 Registration equipment

There were 5002 registration centres in the country, but the Commission had 1,499 sets of registration equipment.

On 8th December 2017, the Commission received 1499 Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs) from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) that the National Registration Bureau was using under the National Registration and Identification System (NRIS) project. The equipment comprised seven hundred (700) kits that were given to the Commission while the other seven hundred and ninety-nine (799) were on loan to the Commission.

The kits were supplied with their accessories in backpacks numbering one thousand two hundred and eighty-three (1,283). The backpacks contained several accessories, among which were a mouse and a solar panel.



TESTING: Justice Kachale of the High Court participates in a demonstration of the new biometric voter demonstration.

The UNDP provided the equipment on the background that the Commission had planned to use handheld devices for registration and had tendered for the procurement of the handheld devices to be used for voter registration and transmission of results. However, it was felt that with the investment made into the NRIS the cost of voter registration would come down significantly when equipment used for the biometric registration of citizens would be given to the Commission as it also had the capabilities to do voter registration and transmission of results.

Since the sets of equipment were insufficient for all centres, a one-off registration for the whole country could not be conducted. Accordingly, registration teams equivalent to available sets of equipment were mobilised.

The Commission had initially planned to conduct voter registration in 6 phases starting from 26th June, 2018. However, stakeholders raised concerns with the initial arrangements during meetings for demonstration of Biometric Voter Registration regarding the use of National Identity Document (ID) on identification of voters during voter registration. Stakeholders raised a concern regarding the placement of National Registration Bureau (NRB) staff in strategic centres

Considering the concerns expressed by stakeholders, the Commission decided to place NRB teams in all voter registration centres. The Commission approached government and Development Partners to provide additional resources to meet the new proposal. The NRB teams registered eligible voters who had not registered with NRB before.

Following this new arrangement, the phases for voter registration were revised to eight (8) from six (6) to run from June 26 to November 9, 2018.

5.2.2 Recruitment and Training of Registration Staff

The Commission recruited Centre Supervisors, from among the primary school teachers from those schools that served as registration centres and Biometric Voter Registration Kit (BVRK) Operators and Technicians to facilitate the registration exercise. In addition, Biometric Registration Kit (BRK) Operators were recruited to facilitate national registration, which was conducted side by side with voter registration by the NRB. The Malawi Police Service provided security personnel in all centres where registration was taking place.

The Commission then trained all the registration staff accordingly. The Commission conducted the Training of Trainers on voter registration procedures for 15 facilitators from within the MEC from 30th April to 1st May 2018 at Palm Valley in Thyolo.

The facilitators, in turn, conducted training sessions for Biometric Kit Operators in voter registration procedures. The BKO, in turn, briefed the rest of the registration staff in respective centres upon deployment.

Political parties were informed of the training activities and were encouraged to send their monitors to observe the training so that they would objectively monitor the actual registration process.

5.3 Registration Operation

The registration of voters took place from 26th June to 9th November, 2018.

The exercise was undertaken in eight phases of fourteen days each with a transition period of either three or five days depending on the distance to be covered during re-location.

5.3.1 Voter registration phases

The voter registration phases were as follows:

Phase 1: 26th June – 9th July, 2018: Kasungu, Kasungu Municipality, Salima and Dedza.

Phase 2: 13th - 26th July, 2018: Nkhotakota, Ntchisi, Dowa and Mchinji.

Phase 3: 30th July – 12th August, 2018: Lilongwe District and Lilongwe City

Phase 4: 16 th - 29 th August, 2018: Ntcheu, Blantyre, Blantyre City, Mwanza and Chikhwawa.

Phase 5: 2 nd - 15 th September, 2018: Balaka, Neno, Thyolo, Luchenza Municipal, Phalombe and Mulanje.

Phase 6: 19 th September – 2nd October, 2018: Mangochi, Mangochi Town, Zomba District, Zomba City and Nsanje.

Phase 7: 8 th October - 21 th October, 2018: Chitipa Karonga, Rumphu, Machinga and Chiradzulu.

Phase 8: 27th October to 9th November, 2018: NKhata Bay, Likoma, Mzuzu City and Mzimba.

5.3.2 Qualification for voter registration

In accordance with Section 77 of the Republican Constitution, the Commission registered only those aged 18 or would attain voting age by 9 th November , 2018, which was the last day for voter registration. In other words, the Commission registered only those that were born on or before 9 th November , 2000.

5.3.3 Registration process

The Commission employed a new method of Voter Registration. It moved away from the Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) Technology and embraced Biometric Voter Registration (BVR), riding on the national registration undertaken by the National Registration Bureau (NRB).

The Commission made it a pre-requisite that anyone wishing to register for voting, first had to be registered with the National Registration Bureau. To dis-enfranchising anyone, the Commission collaborated with the NRB to set up a National registration desk at each voter registration centre. All eligible voters that NRB had not registered had to visit the NRB desk first to be registered there and then proceeded to voter registration with the registration slip issued by NRB. Those that already had their National ID cards just proceeded straight to the MEC desk for voter registration.

This enabled the Commission to ensure that people were registered only once for voting. This new approach also automatically removed all the under-aged and foreigners that were not eligible to vote. This, therefore, ensured that the Commission had a clean and credible Voters' Register for the 2019 Tripartite Elections.

5.3.4 Distribution of National IDs

Alongside the voter registration exercise, in collaboration with the National Registration Bureau (NRB), National Identity Cards were also distributed to all Malawians that had registered during the time of voter registration.

5.4 Monitoring and Observation of the Registration Exercise

Pursuant to Section 27 and 105 of the PPE Act and Section 18 and 88 of the LGE Act, the Commission extended invitations to international and local observers to observe the registration process. The observers would cover both the registration and inspection of the voters' register.

The Commission accredited local observers to observe registration of voters. Political parties were also asked to provide monitors at every centre to monitor the registration of voters on their behalf. The National Initiative for Civic Education monitored the registration at all centres while other non-governmental organisations only monitored some of the centres. Political parties too, monitored most registration centres.

The Commission and the NRB also monitored the registration processes to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

5.5 Transport Logistics for the Registration Exercise

The phased registration exercise posed challenges to the Commission because of the complications in deploying materials and staff from one phase to the other. The Elections Transport Task Force worked tirelessly to mobilise vehicles for the exercise.

At the commencement of the registration exercise, Government Ministries and Departments, including Malawi Police Service and the Malawi Defence Force, released some of their vehicles for use in the exercise to transport materials and registration staff to the districts. Additional vehicles were sourced from statutory bodies. Buses were also hired to supplement transportation needs, particularly transportation of BVRK and BRK Operators from one district to another. Boats and helicopters were also used in areas that could not be accessed by vehicles.



ONLY THE STRONG: Sometimes you need a monster to rescue a beast.

5.6 Processing of the Registration Data

At the end of each registration phase, the registration kits were taken to the district nerve centre, where the data was uploaded from the kits to mobile servers. The mobile servers were then taken to the MEC head office, and the data was uploaded into the main server.

In the course of processing data, 13,803 multiple registration cases were identified and submitted for necessary legal processes since multiple registrations is an offence under the electoral law.

5.7 Final Registration Statistics

During this period, the Commission successfully registered 6,859,570 voters.

5.8 Inspection of the Preliminary Voters' Register

The Commission inspected the voters' register exercise in four phases of five days each from 10th December, 2018 to 9th January, 2019. During this period, all those registered for voting during the Voter Registration exercise were given a chance to go and verify their details in the Voters' Register. The Commission provided registered voters with the opportunity to effect transfers and also to replace voter registration certificates.

Registration Centres were being opened from 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM, including lunch hour and weekends. The centres also ran for full hours during the Christmas and New Year holidays.

5.8.1 Voter register inspection phases

The exercise took place as follows:

Phase One: 10th to 14th December, 2018.

The Councils covered were Kasungu, Kasungu Municipality, Nkhotakota, Ntchisi, Dowa, Salima, Mchinji and Dedza.

Phase Two: 18th to 22nd December, 2018

The councils covered were Lilongwe, Lilongwe City, Ntcheu, Blantyre, Blantyre City, Mwanza and Neno, Nsanje and Chikhwawa.

Phase Three: 26th to 30th December, 2018

The councils covered were Mangochi, Mangochi Town, Balaka, Machinga, Zomba, Zomba City, Chiradzulu, Thyolo, Luchenza, Phalombe and Mulanje

Phase Four: 5th to 9th January, 2019

The Councils covered were Chitipa, Karonga, Rumphu Nkhata Bay, Likoma, Mzuzu City and Mzimba.

5.8.2 Voter verification through SMS

The Malawi Electoral Commission, with support from UNDP, set up an SMS facility whereby voters had an opportunity to verify their registration using their mobile phones. This facility worked with the simplest phones and was free. One phone could be used multiple times by various registrants.

To check their details, voters needed to dial *2019# and follow instructions. Registrants needed either their voter certificate or national ID number to check their registration details. The SMS response displayed text details of the registrant, including names, centre where registered and voter number. A total of 571,255 people had verified their voter registration details using this facility.

Towards polling, the Commission also opened up the SMS facility, and voters could check their registration details, including the stream they were supposed to vote. . On polling day, polling staff used the system to resolve issues of people that presented themselves at wrong polling centres as it could show where the person registered.

5.8.3 Replacement of certificates

During the verification period, registered voters who lost their certificates were also encouraged to go to the centres where they registered to get duplicate certificates, which would assist them to vote easily on 21th May , 2019. The certificates were reprinted using the BVRK.

5.8.4 Processing of voter transfers

The Commission also processed transfers for people who had moved away from the centres where they registered. These voters were required to go with their voter registration certificates to the centre they wished to vote and ask for a transfer. However, a transfer could not be processed without a voter registration certificate.

For 2019 elections, MEC deleted 13,244 multiple registrant records. In situations where a person had registered more than once, the system was able to detect the original registration information and automatically invalidate the subsequent ones.

At the end of the voters' register inspection exercise, the Commission processed a total of 39,709 transfers.

5.9 Challenges during Voter Registration and inspection of the voters' register

The voter registration and inspection of the voters' register exercise faced several challenges, including:

- Inadequate equipment led to the conduct of registration in phases which was subsequently cumbersome.
- Inadequate transport
- Cases of equipment failure because some of them were old and in other cases due to poor handling
- There were some challenges in relation to security personnel deployed in centres
- Theft and vandalism of equipment
- Threats of industrial action by registration staff bordering on remuneration
- Absence of CSOs on the ground to conduct sensitisation on voters' register inspection
- Cases of indiscipline and incompetence by some Kit Operators such as absence without leave, impersonation and not following procedures
- Weather conditions and terrain affecting the accessibility of some centres
- Perception of low voter registration turnout by some stakeholders
- Low voter turnout during verification



FOR HARD-TO-REACH AREAS: Voter inspection staff are transported in a tractor in Neno.

5.10 Conclusion

The Commission registered 6,859,570, representing about 80.4% of the projected registration figures. This also represented 91.08% of the 2014 TPE figures. With the implementation of the new biometric voter registration system, riding on the back of the issuance of the National Identity Card by NRB, the Commission was convinced that this was the most credible voters register for the first time since 1993.

5.11 Recommendations

- The Commission should plan to procure appropriate and adequate equipment as well as enhance mechanisms to ensure proper equipment management and security.
- The Commission should revise its remuneration packages for its staff based on prevailing market value.
- The Commission should conduct research to establish the trends and factors affecting or impacting voter registration and verification.
- The Commission should enhance the strategies used in the recruitment processes for registration staff.

CHAPTER SIX

NOMINATION

6.1 Introduction

Malawi uses the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) electoral system whereby the candidate who gets the most votes becomes the winner. For Local Government Elections, the country has 462 wards, and 193 constituencies for parliamentary elections. Each ward constituency elects one Member of Council, while each constituency elects one Member of Parliament. In presidential elections, the whole country is taken as one constituency.

Each registered political party had the right to sponsor one candidate in every constituency/ward. The number of candidates in a constituency or ward depended on the number of contesting parties and other aspiring persons who stood as independent candidates. Candidates who contested in the local government, parliamentary and presidential elections were nominated by a registered political party or stood as independents. All candidates were required to fulfil the legal requirements for the desired position.

6.2 Qualifications for Nomination

To qualify as a parliamentary candidate, Section 51 of the Constitution defines the eligibility criteria which states, inter alia, that a person must be:

- a) A citizen of Malawi,
- b) 21 years of age,
- c) Able to speak and read the English language well enough to take part in the proceedings of Parliament,
- d) Not convicted of a crime of dishonesty or moral turpitude,
- e) Not the holder of a public office, not serving in the Defence or Police Force, and who
- f) Does not owe allegiance to a foreign country.

To qualify to be a presidential candidate, Section 80.6 of the Constitution defines the eligibility criteria, which state that a person must be:

- a) a citizen of Malawi,
- b) 35 years of age,
- c) Not of unsound mind, bankrupt, convicted of crime in the last 7 years involving dishonesty or moral turpitude,
- d) not owing allegiance to a foreign country, and
- e) Not the holder of a public office or serving in Police or Defence Force

To qualify as a local government elections candidate, Section 27(1) of the LGEA defines eligibility criteria, which state that a person must:

- (a) Have attained the age of 21 years at the time of nomination
- (b) Be able to speak and read the English language well enough to take an active part in proceedings of the Council; and
- (c) Be a registered voter

NOMINATION PICTORIAL



Dr Lazarus Chakwera of Malawi Congress Party making his remarks accompanied by his running mate, Hon Sidik Mia .



Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika of Democratic Progressive Party makes a speech accompanied by his running mate Everton Chimulirenji.



Peter Kuwani of Mbakuwaku Movement for Development with his running mate, Archibald Kawaoang'oma.



Professor John Chisi of Umodzi Party (left) and his running mate, Timothy Kamulete (right) with MEC Chairperson.



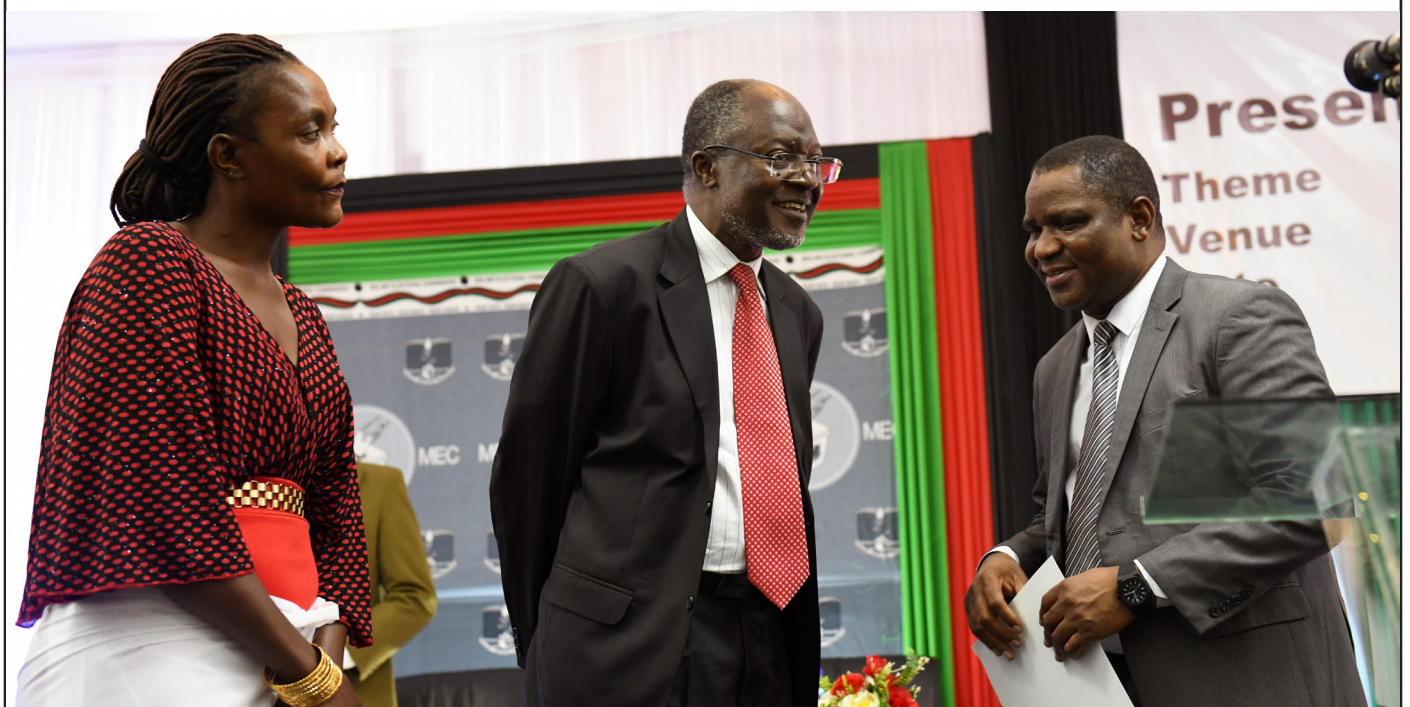
Ras Chikomeni Chirwa with his running mate, Catherine Kayange makes a speech during nomination papers.



Dr Saulos Klaus Chilima of UTM presenting his nomination papers to MEC Chairperson.



Atupele Muluzi of the United Democratic Front signing code of conduct in presence of MEC chairperson, Justice Dr Jane Anshah.



Dr Cassim Chilumpha of Tikonze Alliance (middle) with his running mate, Zion Akuziona Matumba (left) talks with MEC CEO, Sam Alfandika.

6.3 Nomination Fees

In accordance with Section 45 of PPEA and Section 37 of the LGEA the Commission is supposed to publicise nomination fees 6 months before the polling date. In line with that provision the Commission announced nomination fees, and this was gazetted in July 2018.

To encourage the participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities, the Commission reduced the nomination fees for these categories. The nomination fees were as follows:

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION	
Male and Female Candidate	MK2,000,000.00
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION	
Male Candidate	MK500,000.00
Female Candidate	MK250,000.00
The Youth	MK375,000.00
People with Disabilities	MK250,000.00
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION	
Male	MK40,000.00
Female	MK20,000.00
The Youth	MK30,000.00
People With Disabilities	MK20,000.00

Contesting candidates were required to deposit relevant nomination fees at the bank and attach deposit slips to nomination forms as evidence of payment of nomination fees. In line with the electoral law all nomination deposits are **non-refundable**.

6.4 Collection of Nomination Papers by Candidates

The Commission distributed nomination papers to councils from 3rd January to 8th February 2019 and briefed DEST members on how to fill the forms. The forms were given to CROs to distribute at Constituency/ward level, and District Council to be distributed at the Boma by the District Elections Coordinator and the District Elections Clerks.

The Commission worked hand-in-hand with the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) in distributing nomination forms to political parties. Political parties collected nomination papers through CMD, while independent candidates contesting the local government and parliamentary elections collected their papers from respective council offices. Those aspiring for the presidential positions collected the forms from the Commission headquarters.

6.5 Pre-examination of Nomination Papers

Aspiring candidates were allowed to have papers pre-examined by the respective CROs in line with provisions of the electoral laws. Further, the Commission provided special dates in the electoral calendar for pre-examination of nomination papers from 2nd to 3rd February, 2019 in all constituencies.

6.6 Presentation of Nomination Papers

The presentation of the nomination papers by aspiring candidates took place from 4th to 8th February 2019 from 8 am to 4 pm on each day. Parliamentary and Local Government Elections candidates presented their nomination papers to CROs in their respective constituencies while Presidential aspirants presented their nomination papers to the Commission at COMESA Hall in Blantyre.

During the presentation of nomination papers, aspirants were required to provide a copy of a signed Electoral Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates to signify the acceptance of the candidates and their supporters to abide by the Code of Conduct. Additionally, nominators' details were also verified during the receipt of nomination papers.

At the end of the process, candidates verified that all their particulars were captured correctly. On the last day of presentation of nomination papers and after the last candidate verified the captured details, field staff printed out a ballot template with all the candidates on it.

6.7 Analysis of Nomination Papers and Approval of Candidates

6.7.1 Presidential election

A total of 24 aspiring candidates collected nomination papers from the Commission; nevertheless, only 13 came forward to present their nomination papers to the Commission.

However, only 10 passed the preliminary screening and were given certificates of candidacy, while the other three (3) had their papers rejected. Following withdrawals/disqualifications, there were seven (7) candidates on the ballot in the 2019 presidential elections. There was one independent candidate and no female candidate.

Table: List of Presidential Candidates 2019 TPE

Serial No.	Name of Candidate	Affiliation
1	LAZARUS MCCARTHY CHAKWERA	MCP
2	DR. SAULOS KLAUS CHILIMA	UTM
3	PROFESSOR JOHN EUGENES CHISI	UP
4	REVEREND HADWICK KALIYA	IND
5	PETER DSD KUWANI	MMD
6	ATUPELE MULUZI	UDF
7	PROF. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA	DPP

6.7.2 Parliamentary Elections

Both independent and others from thirteen (13) political parties presented nomination papers for the 21 May 2019 parliamentary elections. There were 1,329 candidates contesting the Parliamentary elections. Of these, 500 stood as independent candidates while 295 were females.

Table: Summary of Approved 2019 Parliamentary Elections Candidates

Serial No.	SPONSOR	GENDER		TOTAL
		FEMALE	MALE	
1	Alliance For Democracy (AFORD)	2	7	9
2	Development People's Congress (DePeCo)	4	14	18
3	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)	51	141	192
4	Freedom Party (FP)	1	9	10
5	Independent (IND)	118	382	500
6	Malawi Congress Party (MCP)	29	160	189
7	Mbakuwaku Movement for Development (MMD)	0	1	1
8	National Salvation Front (NASAF)	0	1	1
9	People's Transformation Party (PETRA)	0	1	1
10	People's Party (PP)	24	56	80
11	Tikonze Peoples Movement (TPM)	2	5	7
12	United Democratic Front (UDF)	20	105	125
13	Umodzi Party (UP)	2	4	6
14	UTM	42	148	190
	TOTAL	295	1034	1329

6.7.3 Local Government Elections

On the other hand, 15 political parties and 832 independent candidates participated in the Local Government elections. There were 2,709 candidates in the local Government elections of which 645 were women.

Table: Summary of Approved 2019 Local Government Elections Candidates

Serial No.	SPONSOR	GENDER		TOTAL
		FEMALE	MALE	
1	Alliance For Democracy (AFORD)	9	18	27
2	Development People's Congress (DePeCo)	15	28	43
3	Democratic Federal Alliance (DFA)	0	1	1
4	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)	93	364	457
5	Freedom Party (FP)	6	18	24
6	Independent (IND)	150	682	832
7	Malawi Congress Party (MCP)	91	321	412
8	Mbakuwaku Movement for Development (MMD)	1	8	9
9	National Salvation Front (NASAF)	0	1	1
10	People's Transformation Party (PETRA)	0	2	2
11	People's Party (PP)	84	104	188
12	Tikonze Peoples Movement (TPM)	3	9	12
13	United Democratic Front (UDF)	78	179	257
14	United Independence Party (UIP)	1	0	1
15	Umodzi Party (UP)	12	8	20
16	UTM	102	321	295
	TOTAL	645	2064	2709

A list of all validly nominated candidates was accordingly published in the Gazette and newspapers.

6.8 Ballot Paper Template Vetting

After analysis of nomination papers, the Commission drew a programme covering all councils for ballot paper template vetting, whereby all aspiring candidates were invited to inspect and make necessary amendment to their information on the ballot. The exercise started from 5th to 14th March, 2019.

6.9 Death of Candidates

- **Lirangwe Ward in Chiradzulu West constituency:** Mr Charles Bokosi, UTM Party candidate, passed on. Further receipt of nomination papers done on 9th April, no extra nominations received.
- **Blantyre West constituency:** Mr George Kajumo, an independent Parliamentary candidate, passed on. Further receipt of nomination papers done on 29th March, 2019 and no extra nominations received.
- **Nkhotakota Central constituency:** Mr Andrew Mlotha, a Parliamentary candidate, passed on. Further receipt of nomination papers done on 29th April, 2019 and no extra nominations received.
- **Lilongwe South constituency:** Ms Agness Penemulungu, UTM parliamentary candidate, passed on. Here will be by-election after 21 th May since there is not enough time for receipt of nomination papers.

6.10 Challenges during Nomination Process

Several challenges were experienced during the nomination processes as follows:

- Some candidates used names, which were different from the ones on their national identification cards. This led to confusion and delays during the development of ballot paper templates.
- Bulk payments by political parties caused some confusion, with some candidates claiming that they have been paid for by respective parties when they were not, and in other cases, multiple payments or overpayments were observed .
- Some candidates attempted to flout laid down procedures
- Apparent lack of awareness on nomination procedures and electoral laws in general
- Nomination papers were allocated per council; however, some independent candidates wanted to collect forms from outside their councils.

6.11 Conclusion

The nomination exercise went on smoothly, and there were no incidences of violence. Candidates observed the time allocated to them. Stakeholders also praised the Commission for its impartiality, especially during the submission of presidential nominations. Using the CMD to distribute the nomination forms also relieved the Commission of some burden of work and proved to be effective.

6.12 Recommendation

- The Commission should explore possibilities of utilising appropriate technologies for accessing nomination forms, for example, downloading from MEC website, distribution by e-mail or WhatsApp.

CHAPTER SEVEN

CAMPAIGN

7.1 Political Parties/Contesting Candidates Official Campaign

Campaigning allows contestants to market themselves and articulate their policies to the electorate. In addition, campaigning provides citizens with the opportunity to make informed decisions on their choices on prospective representatives who will govern them. Section 56 of the PPEA and Section 40 of the LGEA entitles all political parties and candidates to campaign in an election. For the 2019 Tripartite Elections, the official campaign was launched on 19th March, 2019 in Lilongwe under the theme 'Consolidating Malawi's Democracy Through Peaceful Campaign'. The campaign period closed on 19th May 2019 at 6.00am, 48 hours before opening the poll, according to the electoral law.

As part of the launch activities, contesting political parties and the sole independent presidential candidate signed a declaration committing themselves to conduct free and fair campaign. The CMD also made a presentation on the regulation of handouts during the campaign period based on the newly enacted Political Parties Act of 2018.

All the aspiring candidates signed the Electoral Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates during the nomination process. Sections 56 to 66 of the PPEA and Sections 41 to 50 of the LGEA also provide the framework and guidelines for the official campaign.

The Commission took the opportunity to call upon various stakeholders, including all media houses, traditional leaders, faith/religious leaders, security authorities and public officials, to give equal treatment to all political parties and candidates during the campaign.

Political parties campaigned across the country, and they generally respected the freedoms of assembly, movement and speech were restricted.



IN SEARCH OF VOTES: Campaign posters hang out in a street in Blantyre.

7.2 Radio/TV Programmes

During the official campaign period, the Commission arranged with MBC for airtime vouchers to enable political parties and candidates to air their campaign messages for free.

The Commission also had several radio programmes where Commissioners explained the importance of the violence-free campaign, keeping voter certificates safe, avoiding corruption and the importance of attending political rallies by the

electorate. Listeners also had the opportunity to ask the Commissioners questions on various election issues.

7.3 Public Debates

The Commission was not involved in organising public debates; however, some stakeholders organised public debates for presidential candidates, running-mates, parliamentary and local government elections candidates.

7.4 Electoral Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates

The Code of Conduct for Political Parties and candidates acted as a tool for levelling the playing field and improving the conduct of elections. It detailed all the rights of parties and candidates. It also contained measures and mechanisms for cooperation with police, the MEC and the media. Besides explaining prohibited conduct and sanctions to defaulters the Code of Conduct also contained mechanisms for dealing with conflicts and a commitment to accept the results of the elections or challenge the results by following relevant laws.

During the campaign, the Commission kept on reminding all key players about the Code of Conduct which they had signed and were bound to follow at all times to ensure a peaceful election environment. Time and again, the Commission issued statements to condemn conduct that contravened the campaign guidelines. Religious leaders reinforced the Commission efforts by calling for and preaching peace at meetings and in churches and mosques.

On its part, the Commission monitored the adherence to the Code of Conduct by attending various campaign rallies and meetings.



Leaders of Political Parties, chiefs, CSOs representatives and other stakeholders captured after receiving a copy of the code of conduct during launch of campaign.

7.5 Political Environment

The political environment in the run-up to the 21st May, 2019 Tripartite Elections appeared competitive and highly charged compared to previous elections with rigging and counter-rigging allegations in circulation. Issues and complaints related to alleged buying, snatching and recording of voter registration certificates. There were also issues emanating from the

distribution of incentives or gifts to polling staff in some areas leading to interventions by the MEC, including dismissal of some polling staff.

7.6 Conclusion

Generally, the campaign for the Tripartite Elections was peaceful. Parties and candidates dwelt on issue-based campaign.

Generally, political parties and candidates adhered to the Code of Conduct for political parties and candidates.

CHAPTER EIGHT

CIVIC AND VOTER EDUCATION

8.1 Introduction

The Electoral Commission Act (1998) Section 8(j) specifically mandates the Commission “to promote public awareness of electoral matters through the media and other appropriate and effective means and to conduct civic and voter education”. Further in line with the amendment of the ECA in November, 2018 gives the Commission the mandate to conduct continuous voter education.

The Commission solicited the support of various stakeholders such as service providers, Traditional Leaders, Political Parties, the Media and other groups to assist in the delivery of Civic and Voter Education (CVE). This is in line with best practices, principles of participation and inclusivity which are crucial tenets in a democratic society. The stakeholders implemented CVE under the general direction and supervision of the Commission.

8.2 Civic and Voter Education Strategy

A Civic and Voter Education (CVE) Strategy was reviewed to guide the Commission and stakeholders in the delivery of CVE for the 2019 Tripartite Elections.

The overall goal of the 2019 CVE was to contribute to the successful delivery of free, fair, inclusive, and credible Tripartite Elections which are an important factor in the consolidation of democracy in Malawi.

In line with the Commission’s Strategic Plan, the Civic and Voter Education Strategy specifically sought to achieve quality delivery of programmes, maintain a high level voter turnout and less than 3.5% null and void votes by 2023, promote socially excluded vulnerable groups in the society and promote smooth and peaceful conduct of elections.

8.3 Civic and Voter Education Focus

The CVE for the 2019 elections focused on motivating and mobilizing eligible citizens to register and turn out in large numbers to vote, provision of specific voter information on the various electoral processes and promoting issue-based civic education.

The Commission organized a voter education awareness launch on 29th March, 2019 in Mzuzu under the theme **“Conducting free and non-violent voter education campaign”**. During the launch of voter education, the Commission distributed CVE materials and interacted with various stakeholders who wanted to know more about Commission’s role in civic and voter education in general and elections in particular.



INFOTAINMENT: A citizen participates in a dancing competition during an outdoor voter mobilisation activity.

8.4 Implementation Methodology

The Commission also recruited 193 CCVEAs who were employed to assist in the coordination and implementation of CVE activities at constituency level. Each CCVEA was provided with a bicycle to ease mobility.

The Commission held more than 900 meetings at traditional leaders' headquarters involving more than 25,000 village headmen to mobilize people to register and to vote in their respective wards prior to the registration and polling processes respectively. Chiefs and their subjects, religious leaders, CSOs leaders and government officers attended the meetings.

Furthermore the Commission used edutainment techniques of road show promoters using activation trucks, songs, comedies, question and answer competition, games, music concerts, and loudhailer vehicles to mobilize eligible voters during registration and polling processes which proved to be a handy and low-cost strategy of mobilizing people. The purchase of five land cruisers and eight sets loudhailer equipment by the Commission tremendously contributed to the conduct of voter education.

Radio and television programmes were aired on over 34 radio and 4 TV Stations. The jingles were produced in five main languages namely; Chewa, Lhomwe, Tumbuka, Sena and Yao in order to reach out to a larger section of people in the country. Ballot education, polling processes and steps were featured on both radio and TV.

The Commission also distributed promotional and printed materials. In that regard, over 1,000,000 posters, 840,000 brochures, 400,000 stickers, 400,000 flyers, 5,000 sample ballot papers in Chewa and English languages were distributed. A total of 4000 MEC branded Cloth, 3,500 T-shirts, 2000 Golf shirts, 2,000 caps, 5,000 MEC branded pens, 800 MEC

branded umbrellas, 150 flash disks, 5,000 wrist bands, 10 roll up banners, 140 banners that were hanged in councils and were also used by roadshows, 4,000 gift bags which were used as give aways and 300 back pack bags and were also distributed.

Various strategies were used which included accreditation of 121 interested CSOs and 187 Drama Groups/Dance troupes who had responded to a call for expression of interest to conduct CVE; printing, dissemination and distribution of 7,000 copies of the 2019 CVE Strategy and 3,000 copies of CVE training manuals for CCVEAs and other stakeholders was produced and distributed to stakeholders.



READY FOR WORK: A civic and voter education officer captured on an Audio-Visual van from Ministry of Agriculture.

The Commission used a voter educative flip chart that illustrated the polling procedure, sample ballot paper and the use of an A1 sample ballot paper on PVC materials.

Short Message Service (SMS) to mobile phone subscribers' facility for voter registration was also employed as part of the CVE efforts. SMSs were sent using Telekom Networks Malawi and Airtel Malawi to inform the general public about the voter registration phases. With the geo-mapping technology by the telecom operators it was possible to target only districts covered in the particular voter registration phase. An electoral theme song was produced and distributed to all radio stations and other stakeholders.

Video documentaries on registration and polling procedures were produced and beamed in all the 193 constituencies during voter registration and polling periods. The beaming of the video documentaries to the electorate were done through community cinemas and dialogues in liaison with Centre for Community Development (CDC), one of the accredited CSOs. Cinemas were beamed in all the 462 wards having 2 shows per ward. The documentary for registration was shot in Dowa district while the one for polling was done at TA Maganga in Salima. The polling documentary was done in collaboration with the Ministry of Civic Education, Culture and Community Development and Ministry of Information Communication and Technology.



Commissioner Bishop Mary Nkosi captured during a soccer bonanza with footballs and trophies

The Commission also specifically targeted marginalized, vulnerable and special interest groups like prisoners, women, youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities. The Chichiri Prison Dance Troupe was engaged to promote the participation of prisoners countrywide on the electoral processes such as voter registration, inspection and polling.

People with disabilities, persons with albinism, women, youth and the elderly were targeted in CVE through community meetings, TV sign languages and CVE materials printed in Braille.

The Commission distributed Braille voter education materials to people with visual impairment through Malawi Union of the Blind (MUB).

For the first time in history, the Commission circulated a video Whatsapp clip, painted strategic rocks in various districts and branded MEC buses and vans during polling exercise. The Commission also conducted soccer bonanzas and awarded a trophies soccer balls and cash prizes to the winning teams. In other areas the Commission conducted Gule Wamkulu dancing fairs to spread electoral messages. Local musicians and roadshow performers were also engaged to conduct performances throughout the electoral process.

8.5 Achievements

There were several achievements based on the strategies employed as evidenced by the following outcomes:

- a. A large turn out on registration. A total of 6,859,570 million voters were registered against the MEC projected target of 8 million which was 80.4 percent of the projected target.
- b. The Commission maintained high voter turnout of 74.27 percent. In 2014 elections it 70.7 percent.
- c. There Commission achieved 1.54 percent of null and void votes which is below 3.5 percent commendable international standards.
- d. There was an adherence to violence-free CVE messages resulting into violence free and issue-based campaign as stipulated by the CVE Strategy.



GO AND VOTE: *The electorate participate in a voter registration outreach activity*

8.6 Challenges

The Commission faced a number of challenges in the implementation of CVE activities:-

1. Only a few of the accredited CSOs managed to source funding and carry out civic and voter education programmes. And even of the few CSOs that were funded, their focus was mainly on issue-based civic education. The implication was that voter education and information was largely left to the NICE Trust. This created a huge CVE gap.
2. Some CSOs were failing to recognize the Commission's efforts on the ground as if there was nothing that the department was doing on ground;
3. The public had a feeling that there was no need for them to go for voter registration since they had a national identity which they thought would be used for voting.
4. There were also other organisations conducting registration and public campaigns like the National Census, Know Your Customer (KYC) by telecommunication companies, farm input subsidy programme by Ministry of Agriculture, male circumcision, campaign registration that was going around disturbed CVE sensitization.
5. Deployed teams for sensitization encountered resistance in areas that had chieftaincy and electoral boundary issues;
6. Some suppliers provided poor quality voter materials against the specifications provided. Because there was no time, the Commission had just to accept the material instead of rejecting them.

7. Effecting changes on printed materials contributed to the delay of production of materials; the problems was with colours that were affiliated with political parties;
8. Branding of vehicles, painting of rocks and developing a whatsapp video clip were done very late;

8.7 Conclusion

In conclusion, CVE plays a vital role as it is necessary to have well informed voters who in turn add to the credibility and inclusivity of the vote thereby enhancing democracy. With the electoral cycle approach the Commission will continue to explore other strategies and technologies in order to reach out to as many people as possible with electoral messages.

The civic and voter education for 2019 elections was successful having achieved over 70% voter turnout and null and void votes at 1.5% of the total votes cast.



FOR HARD-TO-REACH AREAS: Voter inspection staff are transported in a tractor in Neno.

CHAPTER NINE

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

9.1 Introduction

Communication between the Electoral Commission and stakeholders is key in creating transparency and instilling confidence and ownership in the electoral cycle. The Commission sought to ensure improved public image and awareness of its activities and events.

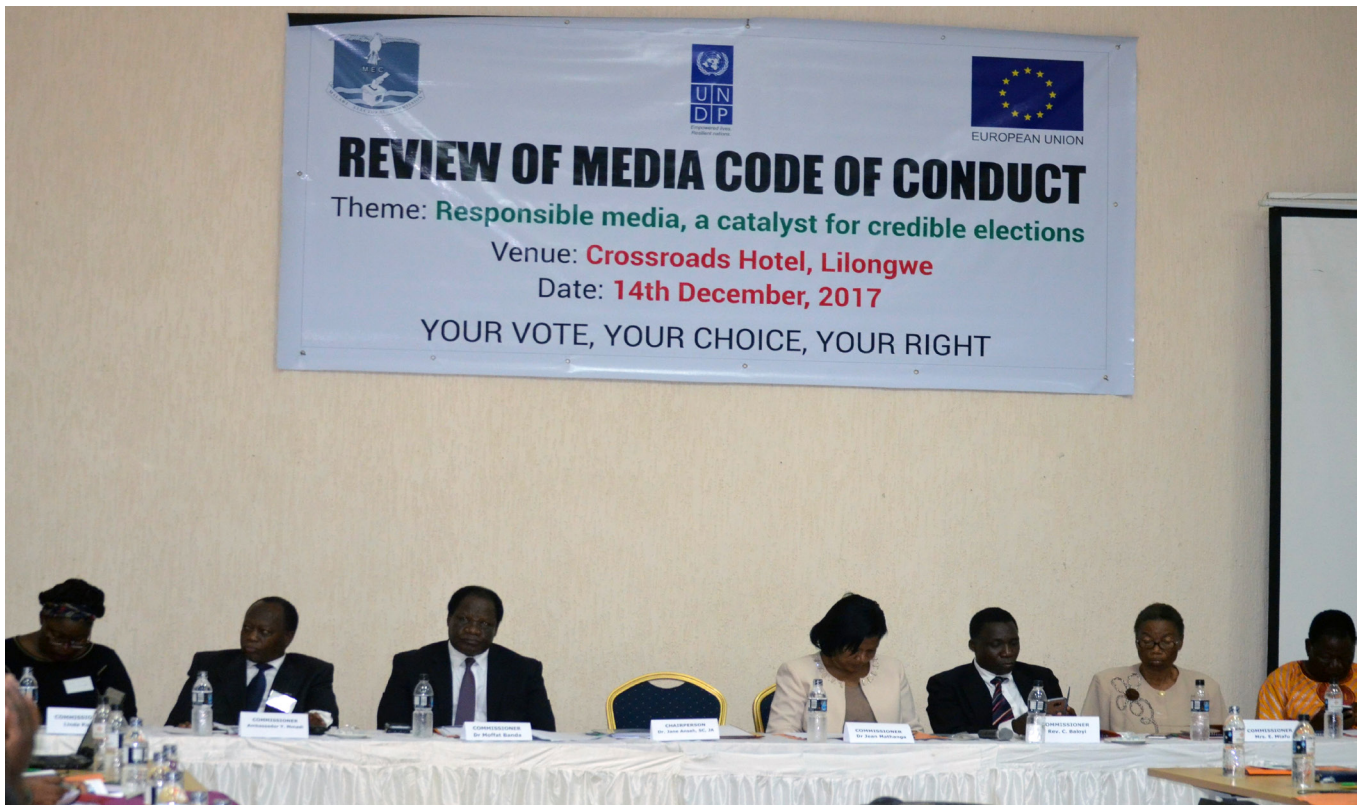
The Commission used several methodologies to achieve its goals as outlined in this section of the report.

9.2 Review of the MEC Communication Strategy.

The Commission, with support from the UNDP, reviewed the MEC communication strategy that builds on the previous (2015 – 2019) strategy to align it with the new MEC Strategic Plan(SP) covering the 2018 – 2022 period.

The Commission launched the new Communication Strategy on 19th March, 2019. The overall goal of the Communication Strategy was to guide the MEC in the fulfilment of the Constitutional provision and the Malawi Electoral Laws under Section 8 (j) of the Electoral Commission Act (ECA) which mandates the MEC to “promote public awareness and other appropriate and effective means and to conduct civic and voter education on such matters.”

9.3 Review of the Media Code of Conduct.



Commissioners captured during opening of the Media Code of Conduct Review workshop in Lilongwe.

The Commission, with support from UNDP finalized the review of the media code of conduct for elections on 15th December, 2017 during a NECOF meeting in Lilongwe. The code ensured that the media effectively cover the electoral process in an ethical, accurate, fair, balanced and in an impartial manner.

9.4 Media Houses Visits.

The Commission visited all licensed media houses operating within Malawi with the aim of sharing with them the plans the Commission had in terms of publicizing the electoral activities for the 2019 Tripartite Elections. The visits were also aimed at negotiating for concessional rate on election activities adverts and programmes.

To this effect the Commission managed to get concessionary rate from some of the media houses. The media houses also came up with elections programme that highly featured officials from MEC. Some media houses also gave free airtime to the Commission for airing radio and television jingles.

9.5 Accreditation of Media service providers

9.5.1 Advertising agencies

The Commission accredited 10 advertising agencies whom it engaged in production of public relations materials. The advertising agencies underwent a materials development workshop organized by the Commission.

9.5.2 Media houses,

The Commission also accredited media houses that expressed interest to cover the tripartite elections. Apart from the accreditation, the Commission also facilitated allocation of space for media houses that mounted their studios at the National Tally Center.

9.5.3 Journalists

The Commission processed accreditation for journalists to cover the polling and results counting. The Commission finished all accreditation before the end of the campaign period. The names of the journalists were submitted by the media managers while for freelance journalists they were asked to apply through the media houses they corresponded for.

9.6 Production of Public Relations Programmes

As one way of keeping the electorate informed, the Commission collaborated with media houses to air sponsored and unsponsored programmes on radio and television stations on elections. The programmes included radio/television drama, talk shows and one on one interviews. These were mostly attended by the MEC Commissioners. The Commission also facilitated recording of MEC Chairperson's television and radio special messages on major electoral activities.

The Commission also constantly placed print adverts mostly press releases in the most circulated national newspapers. Further, the Commission also used online media. In that regard the Commission designed banners, posters and scrollers that were uploaded on online media namely Nyasatimes, Nation online, Malawi 24 and Malawi Voice.

9.7 Media Coverage of Electoral Activities

The Commission ensured that all electoral activities were adequately covered by the media. Where necessary the Commission arranged media tours to areas where there were activities such as voter registration and inspection of the voters register.

The Commission also arranged press briefings whenever there was need for clarification by the Commission on issues of national importance. For purposes of record keeping the department ensured that major events by the Commission have been captured by professional photographers and videographers.

9.8 Recruitment and deployment of stringers

Immediately after the launch of the 2019 Tripartite Elections, the Commission recruited 34 stringers who were deployed to all councils to facilitate media coverage of electoral activities. The stringers attended training sessions on electoral reporting and the Commission monitored their coverage through the stories they were sending to media houses.

9.9 Placement of Billboards in Strategic Places

As part of advertising, the Commission also planted billboards on strategic places with messages on electoral activities. the billboards were planted in Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Machinga.



BUILDING CAPACITY: Fergus Lipenga of MACRA makes a presentation during a training for journalists on elections reporting.

9.11 Development of a New MEC Website

The Commission with support from the UNDP revamped the MEC website to enable real-time updating of information and enhance accessibility of persons with visual impairment. The development also ensured that website content is linked to MEC's other online platforms such as Facebook, and Twitter. Furthermore, the website maintains already existing content such as previous elections statistics and publications.

9.12 Social Media Campaigns

The Commission also was involved in various social media campaigns during the voter registration period. This included online posters and video clips that were on social media and television. Social Media and TV campaign on voter education during the tripartite elections. Videos, online posters and banners and TV ads. There was also a Social media campaign disseminating the *2019# USSD platform for voting stream information and verification during the election.

In terms of reach, the Champion through the social media campaign managed to reach an estimated total of 982,659. These were reached through Facebook, Instagram, twitter, Nyasatimes, Nyasashowbiz, Entertainment Malawi, Times online, Malawi-music Facebook page and website and WhatsApp. This is a cumulative figure of different posts made on all social media platforms. This included reach through the communication materials produced for the 2019 voter registration campaign and also reach through articles by various online sites on the same.

9.13 Website elections results portal

The Commission with support from the UNDP facilitated the development and hosting of the Elections Results Portal. Which was part of the results management system for 2019 elections.

9.14 No official broadcaster for elections results

Since 2009 the Commission has always been appointing a media house to be the official broadcaster for the election results. In 2009 it was Zodiak Broadcasting Station (ZBS) while in 2014 the Commission appointed ZBS as official broadcaster for radio and then appointed Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (TVM) as official broadcaster for television.

For 2019, it was the opinion of the Commission that the broadcasting industry has undergone a metamorphosis to an extent that the factors warranting appointment of an official broadcaster were not there. So there was no official broadcaster for the results. However, the Commission provided all the support to the broadcasters to enable them broadcast the results from the main tally centre by providing space. No media broadcaster was meant to pay for the space they occupied within the tally centre.

9.15 Challenges

The major challenges observed in relation to media and public relations business related to biasness of some media houses and proliferation of fake news and disinformation particularly through social media.

9.16 Conclusion

The media performed well in disseminating and raising awareness of election activities to the masses during the Tripartite Elections. The approaches implemented by the Commission to ensure good partnership with the media proved to be effective.

CHAPTER TEN

POLLING

10.1 Background

Presidential elections took place in all the 193 constituencies while parliamentary elections took place in 192 constituencies. In one constituency, Lilongwe South, elections were postponed due to death of a duly nominated candidate. For the Local Government race, elections took place in all 462 wards.

10.2 Establishment of Polling Stations

The Commission established 5002 polling stations in all registration centres. Satellite polling stations were also established in all prisons to afford eligible prisoners the opportunity to vote. Additional satellite polling stations were established to cater for voters affected by floods in Chikwawa and for voters in isolated places in Mzimba, Mzuzu and Nkhata Bay.

Polling Stations with more than 800 voters were divided into streams with a maximum of 800 voters each stream. There were a total of 11,095 polling streams established across the country. Each polling station was headed by a Presiding Officer while streams were under the charge of Assistant Presiding Officer.

10.3 Distribution of Polling Materials



Some of the voter materials used during the elections.

The distribution of non-sensitive polling materials, such as generators, gas lamps, ballot booths, ballot boxes, furniture, tents and polling materials kits, from Blantyre main warehouse and regional warehouses to councils started on 23rd April, 2019. The MEC had 2,500 gas lamps in stock and acquired 12,000 gas lamps from Cathaya International (Hong Kong) Co. Ltd in China.

The Commission also made available in polling stations two voters registers per stream and an additional reference voters register for each polling station.

Sensitive polling materials were distributed from 16th May together with ballot papers to polling stations through constituency tally centres.

10.4 Printing and Distribution of Ballot Papers

Ballot paper templates were designed immediately upon completion nomination process and the process of printing ballot papers started with inviting tenders from local and international printing companies. The Commission conducted a due diligence including visits to the printing companies and upon completion of reviewing the tender bids, a printing company in Dubai in the Republic of United Arab Emirates known as Al Ghurair Printing Company was selected and awarded the tender.

Political parties were allowed to monitor the printing and packaging of ballot papers in Dubai. The DPP, MCP and UTM sent their representatives to monitor the processes in Dubai.

Ballot papers were delivered to Malawi on 13th and 14th May, 2019 through Kamuzu International Airport in Lilongwe. The ballot papers were packaged according to constituencies. Air Cargo Limited was identified as suitable company to provide warehousing and handling of ballot papers and results sheets upon arrival. Ballot papers and results sheets were dispatched using lorries destined for respective constituencies via Council offices from 16th May, 2019. At the councils they were received by DEST and stakeholders before proceeding to constituencies and handed over to CROs for onward dispatch to Presiding Officers in polling stations on 17 and 18 May, 2019.

The Commission arranged that all Presiding Officers should pre-check all election materials, including ballot papers, on 19th May 2019.

Political parties and local monitors were given the opportunity to monitor the distribution process as well as the pre-checking of the election materials in polling stations.

10.5 Recruitment and Training of Polling Staff

The process started with the engagement of 200 Constituency Returning Officers from among Primary Education Advisers (PEAs). After training, each CRO was assigned a constituency and took responsibilities for all electoral activities in the constituency.

This was followed by recruitment of Presiding and Assistant Presiding Officers and polling officials who were mostly teachers except in areas where polling stations were not located in schools. A total of 5002 Presiding Officers were recruited to manage the polling stations. About 75,836 poll workers and over 12,000 security personnel were deployed at the 5002 polling stations to operate slightly above 11,095 polling streams.

The Commission suspended and replaced all presiding officers who had been initially recruited for Chiradzulu East Constituency to preserve the integrity of the electoral process.

This was done following investigations which proved that the presiding officers in question had received gifts in form of bicycles. Presiding and Assistant Presiding Officers together with the rest of poll staff were trained by Master Trainers assisted by CROs from 17th to 18th May, 2019.



HONING SKILLS: A MEC staff member trains presiding officers ahead of polling for the Tripartite Elections.

10.6 Security Arrangements

The Malawi Police Service and the Malawi Defence Force provided security during storage and transportation of all polling materials. Multiparty Liaison Committees (MPLCs) were also vigilant in ensuring safety of the polling materials.

Police Officers were deployed, two at each polling station, with an additional Police Officer per additional polling stream to provide security.

10.7 Accreditation of Political Party/Candidates monitors and CSO Observers

In terms of Section 72 (1) of PPEA, political parties and independent candidates had the opportunity to appoint two persons per polling stream. The Commission advised all political parties and independent candidates to submit the names of monitors to the respective councils. The Commission also accredited CSOs as observers during the polling process.

A handbook containing rights and duties of agents to guide them in the monitoring of the electoral processes at polling stations was produced and distributed.

Partry/ candidate agents were encouraged to attend the training of polling staff to familiarize themselves with the voting and counting procedures.



SERIOUS BUSINESS: Party representatives and observers take down serial numbers for seals of a ballot box before start of polling.

10.8 Challenges

There were a number of challenges during the polling exercise which were continuously being addressed.

- Drivers demanding adjustment of allowances threatening to go on strike and affecting logistical arrangements. Adjustments were effected accordingly and this averted the derailment of distribution of election materials.
- Some Presiding Officers did not follow instructions on pre-checking of election materials.
- Some polling stations are overcrowded or not conveniently located e.g. Tax Office and Chirimba Primary School in Blantyre and Area 25 City Site Office in Lilongwe.

10.9 Conclusion

The 2019 Tripartite Elections polling exercise was conducted successfully. Polling took place in all the polling stations for presidential elections while in Lilongwe South where polling was postponed due death of a duly nominated candidate parliamentary elections were postponed.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

VOTING PROCESS AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT

11.1 Organization of Polling Stations

The Commission established polling stations in all the 5002 Registration Centres. About Seven officials were designated to manage each polling stream of up to 800 voters and consisted of:

- a) Presiding Officer/Assistant Presiding Officer
- b) Identification Clerk,
- c) Inking Clerk,
- d) Local Government Elections Ballot Paper Issuer
- e) Parliamentary Elections Ballot Paper Issuer,
- f) Presidential Elections Ballot Paper Issuer
- g) Usher/Usherette
- h) Security personnel

Each polling station was headed by a Presiding Officer assisted by an Assistant Presiding Officer for each extra stream. Further, polling stations with very large numbers of registered voters were structured into “streams”, each to service a maximum of 800 registered voters. The voters were clustered into streams in accordance with the alphabetical order of surnames. This arrangement guided the Commission’s focus on order and expedite the voting process. Two political party/ independent candidates’ representatives monitored the operations at each polling station/stream. Local and International Observers were also present at polling stations.

11.2 Voting



MY RIGHT: Registered voters queue to cast their vote in the Tripartite Elections.

Voting started at 6.00 am and ended at 6.00 pm. The order of voting started with Local Government, Parliamentary and Presidential elections respectively.

Extensions of voting time were allowed at some stations which opened late. A few polling stations opened later than 6 am such as Kapoka School in Chitipa and therefore the closing time was extended to ensure the polling station was open for 12 hours.

11.3 Special Needs Voting

The Commission trained polling staff on how to assist people living with disabilities in voting in accordance with the provisions of the electoral law. Further, provisions were made for the visually impaired to vote independently and in secret through tactile ballot guides which had been produced together with ballot papers. For the first time tactile ballot templates had also braille option. Polling staff were also advised to give priority to the elderly, the sick and expectant mothers.

11.4 Counting of Votes

Counting of ballots at each polling stream started immediately after close of voting. Counting and recording of votes was undertaken in stages following elaborate procedures established by the Commission.

These procedures relate to the emptying of the ballot box, exhibition of the box after emptying, counting of each ballot, checking against original ballot paper quantity and reconciliation of the totals. Votes were consolidated at the polling station level in the presence of the polling staff, monitors from each of the streams as well as international and local observers.



EVERY VOTE COUNTED: Polling staff count votes casts in the presence of party representatives and observers.

11.5 Verification and announcement of results

After counting, the Presiding Officer or his / her Assistant prepared and signed the results sheet which was then countersigned by the monitors. A copy of the signed results sheet was given to each monitor and another copy was pasted at the polling stream for public information. The polling stream results were then aggregated to polling station result with monitors signing and copies distributed and a copy displayed and announced for public information.

11.6 Constituency and District Tally Centres

The Presiding Officer then delivered the polling station results secured in tamper-evident envelopes to the Constituency Returning Officer (CRO) who was stationed at the constituency tally centre. During the delivery of the polling station results, party agents were allowed to escort the Presiding Officer using their own means of transport.

At the Constituency Tally Centre each PO presented their polling station result sheet to the CRO who proceeded to confirm the result and passed on the result sheet to the External Auditor. The External Auditor recorded the result as received then passed the result to Polling Equipment Operators (PEO) for the data capture processes.

When done with capturing processes the PEO produced a print out of what had been captured which was then given to the External Auditor to cross-check and verify physically and electronically in the system. The PEO then transmitted the result together with a scanned copy of the original result to the NTC through a secure VPN link.

Afterwards the CRO took the results to the District Commissioner in line with the requirements of the electoral law. The DC then compiled:

- a summary of all constituency results in his/her district
- aggregate presidential results in his/her district

Monitors were also allowed to be present at the district tally centre (4 for each party/candidate).

11.7 National Tally Centre (NTC)

The National Tally Centre was established at Chichiri International Conference Centre Hall to provide a central venue with adequate communication infrastructure, where the Commission would receive the results from the Constituency Returning Officers located at the constituency tally centre.

Determination of the national results for the tripartite election by the Commission also took place at the National Tally Centre.

The result management transmission system functioned efficiently and effectively during the transmission of results from the Constituency tally centres to the National Centre. At the NTC the results were displayed periodically at 35% then 75% and 100% as received and confirmed by the Commission. At the end of the transmission the Commission received 100% of the polling station results for all the 3 elections.

In addition, all media houses were provided with space to establish broadcasting studios at the NTC. Enough space was also provided to all representatives of political parties and independent candidates, international and local observers and

members of the diplomatic corps.

11.8 Determination and Announcement of Results

The Commission had up to 29th May to announce election results. There was a court injunction restraining the Commission from announcing Presidential elections results. The Commission announced the results for the Parliamentary Elections results for 192 constituencies on 25th May, 2019. Upon lifting of the injunction Presidential elections results were announced on 27th May, 2019. Local Government Elections results for 460 wards were announced on 28th May, 2019 while results for the remaining 2 wards were withheld pending resolution of complaints received by the Commission. Eventually the results for the affected wards namely: Ngokwe in Machinga South East and Mkumbiza ward in Mulanje Bale constituency, were announced on 27th June 2019 upon resolving the complaints.

Table : Results of the 2019 Presidential Election

VOTES FOR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Serial No.	Name of Candidate	Affiliation	Voters Polled	Individual %
1	LAZARUS MCCARTHY CHAKWERA	MCP	1,781,740	35.41
2	DR. SAULOS KLAUS CHILIMA	UTM	1,018,369	20.24
3	PROFESSOR JOHN EUGENES CHISI	UP	19,187	0.38
4	REVEREND HADWICK KALIYA	IND	15,726	0.31
5	PETER DSD KUWANI	MMD	20,369	0.40
6	ATUPELE MULUZI	UDF	235,164	4.67
7	PROF. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA	DPP	1,940,709	38.57

Notes: Total registered voters- 6,859,570

Total Valid votes – 5,031,264

Null and Void – 74,719

Total Votes Cast- 5,105,983

Percentage of Valid Votes against Registered Voters –

Percentage of null and Void Against Total Votes cast – 1.09%

Percentage Voter Turnout -74.44%

Table : Results of the 2019 Parliamentary Elections – elected members of the National

Assembly by sponsoring party and gender.

Serial No.	Sponsor	Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
1	AFORD	1	0	0
2	DPP	44	18	62
3	IND	41	14	55
4	MCP	46	9	55
5	PP	5	0	5
6	UDF	8	2	10
7	UTM	3	1	4
Total		148	44	192

11.9 Challenges

There were a number of challenges during voting and results management of the 2019 TPE as follows:

Some Presiding Officers demonstrated incompetence as it was observed that a good number of presiding officers had problems with arithmetic and there were cases of erasures and in some cases correctional fluid was used which was not standard supply. It was not easy to establish authenticity especially where there were erasures or overwritten figures. This delayed the process as MEC had to rectify the anomalies and establish the authentic figures. In some cases Presiding Officers used incorrect results sheets and forms.

The process of determination and announcement of results also faced challenges with respect to court injunction restraining the Commission from proceeding with the announcement of presidential elections results.

Some stakeholders alleged that their monitors were not given copies of polling stream and station results sheets.

11.10 Conclusion

The voting and the results management processes for the 2019 TPE went on very well. A number of challenges were experienced, however, these did not affect the results of the votes as announced by the Commission.

CHAPTER TWELVE

ELECTORAL OBSERVATION AND MONITORING

12.1 Introduction

In the interest of enhancing transparency of the electoral process the Commission invited election observers both international and local as well as encouraging political parties/candidates to place monitors during different phases of the electoral processes including during registration of voters, inspection of the voters register, polling, counting and determination of results.

12.2 Accreditation of International Observers



African Union Observer group meets with the Malawi Electoral Commission for briefing on state of preparedness.

The Commission invited international institutions to come and observe the 21st May, 2019 Tripartite Elections in January 2017. This gave international observers more than a year to mobilise resources and decide to come and observe the elections.

The Commission also advertised in the press calling on all local and international organizations resident in the countries who were interested to observe the elections to apply for accreditation as observers. The Commission accredited all the short and long term international and local observers for the Tripartite Elections. The commission waived the accreditation fee payable by international observers and also negotiated with the government to waive visa fees to encourage their participation.

Although no international observers (coming from outside Malawi) came for the voter registration exercise, the local organisations and political parties managed to place monitors and observers for the exercise.

The Commission also made presentations to various international observers upon their arrival on the state of preparedness (The List of Local and International Observers is in Appendix).

12.3 Accreditation of Monitors during Registration and Inspection of the Voter Register

The Commission had set April 10, 2018 as the deadline for submission of names of Roving Monitors and Station Monitors for the voter registration process. By the deadline no single political party had managed to submit all the requirements.

The Commission extended the period for the receipt of names of monitors to 11th May 2018.

12.4 Monitoring of Printing of Ballot Papers

The Commission engaged Al Ghurair Printing and Publishing of Dubai to print ballot papers and results sheets. Political parties and CSOs were invited to monitor the process in Dubai at their own cost. The printing exercise went on smoothly and three political parties namely DPP, MCP and UTM sent monitors for the printing process.

Monitors of Political parties were also to monitor the arrival and distribution of the ballot papers on arrival on 13th and 14th May, 2019 through Kamuzu International Airport in Lilongwe from where distribution took place to respective Councils and constituencies.

12.5 Polling Station Monitors and Observers for Polling and Results Processing

In preparation for polling, the Commission made a resolution on 1st June, 2018 that only candidates and political parties contesting in the election would have their representatives accredited as monitors while the rest would fall under the observer category.

The Commission advised candidates, political parties and civil society organisations to submit the names of their monitors and observers to the District Offices. Every contesting political party or candidate was allowed a maximum of two monitors per polling stream. The Commission shared list of all streams in the country with all electoral stakeholders to facilitate their planning and allocation of monitors and observers.

Each political party or independent candidate and CSO was allowed to place up to two observers per stream and two per Constituency Tally Centre. This was aimed at avoiding congestion in the tally centres because in most cases TDCs are usually small. Accreditation of all these was processed at the MEC District Offices.

NICE and MESN were the largest local observer groups that were able to observe more activities by being present at most registration centres and polling stations.

For the District Tally Centre, every political party and independent candidate contesting in the presidential elections were allowed a maximum of four (4) monitors. For the national tally centre every political party and independent presidential candidate was allowed a maximum of ten (10) monitors.

12.6 Roving Monitors and Observers

Every independent candidate and political party as well as CSOs were allowed to place up to four monitors and/or Roving Observers within a constituency. The monitors needed not to provide pictures but just names which were put on the accreditation card. Accreditation of all these was processed at the MEC District Offices.

All roving monitors and observers that crossed constituency boundaries, their accreditation was processed at the MEC head offices. They were required to submit electronic passport photos.

Political party monitors got purple identities while observers including the media got the pink identities.

The Commission prepared an observers' information pack which contained all codes of conduct published by the Commission, lists of all candidates, list of district tally centers, annual report, list of streams, list of accredited institutions, distance sheet and electoral laws among other documents. The information pack was posted on the website.

The Commission also created a mailing list for all observers that came which was used for sharing updates and inviting them to briefings.

12.7 Submission of Observation Reports

A good number of the International Observers and also local observers issued reports and made statements about the elections before polling and after polling.

12.8 Challenges

- International and local observers were not sharing their reports with the Commission
- Sporadic requests by observers for briefing sessions
- Some CSOs have complained on their status of observer during elections

12.9 Recommendation

It should be made a requirement for observers to submit their observation reports to the Commission. The reports offer the Commission an opportunity to get important recommendations for improvement of future electoral processes.

12.10 Conclusion

Accreditation of observers was done on time and efficiently because they were invited more than a year in advance. International observers were also allowed to apply for accreditation of their members in advance which reduced congestion.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

13.1 Introduction

The Commission put in place a number of mechanisms to ensure effective and efficient collaboration with stakeholders as a means of averting conflict and complaints which could easily arise due to lack of information and involvement of stakeholders.

On the hand the Commission established mechanisms for receipt of complaints at all levels and dealing with the same. As per the provisions of the electoral law those not satisfied with the Commission responses are availed with the opportunity of appeal to the courts or by way of petition where necessary.

13.2 Stakeholder Collaboration

The Commission arranged from time to time to engage stakeholders through the National Elections Consultative Forum (NECOF) which is a gathering of key stakeholders in the electoral process including political parties, security institutions, media, the academia and civil society organisations.

The Commission also utilised the Multiparty Liaison Committees at district level to reach to political parties at the local level. MPLCs were also important in mitigating and resolving conflicts at the local level.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: Ms Rose Anthony, Secretary General for Mafunde Party makes a contribution during a NECOF meeting.

13.3 Complaints

As required by PPEA and the LGEA, the Commission established a complaints handling and resolution mechanism to analyze and resolve all complaints before the determination of the results. In accordance with section 97 of the PPEA and section 81 of the LGEA the Commission must at the beginning of determining the national result take decisions on all matters which have been subject of complaints alleging irregularities. A summary of the complaints received and how they were resolved by the Commission has been presented in the Appendix

13.4 Appeals and Petitions

In the event of Complainants not being satisfied with the decisions of the Commission rejecting or confirming the existence of irregularities, there is a provision of a right to appeal to the High Court against the decisions of the Commission.

In the instance where the complaint is an allegation of undue return or undue election of a person as member of the National Assembly or to the office of President by reason of irregularities or other reasons, complainants may present a petition directly to the High Court.

The 2019 TPE Elections was faced with both appeals against the decisions of the Commission and petitions lodged directly with the High Court.

13.4.1 Presidential Election

Two petitions were lodged directly with the High Court by Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera and Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima. Both petitions alleged undue return and undue election of Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika. It was observed that the two petitions were based on the same facts and that they were raising the same legal questions. As such the two petitions were consolidated and heard together by the Court .

On 3rd February 2020, the Court delivered judgment on the consolidated matter nullifying the presidential election limb of the 2019 Tripartite Election. As a consequence of the nullification, it was ordered that a fresh presidential election be held with 150 days from the delivery of the judgment of the Court.

13.4.2 Parliamentary Election

Several petitions and appeals were also lodged with the High Court in respect of decisions of the Commission in the conduct of parliamentary elections. However, only 27 were served and pursued by the petitioners.

A summary of the petitions, outcome and status of these petitions has been presented in the Appendix.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2019 Tripartite Elections were a significant step in the sustenance of democracy in Malawi as they incorporated a number of improvements in the management of elections including a credible voters' register that was produced from the use of a national Identity Card as the primary source of identification.

However, it is important to note that at the time of writing the report the Presidential election had been contested in court.

The challenges faced in the conduct of the elections are very important lessons for the conduct of future elections.

The recommendations contained in this report and other observer reports will be reviewed and form part of the planning for future elections.

The report identifies areas that require enhancement and these areas are highlighted below by way of recommendations:

- The Commission should identify and submit proposed recommendations which are outstanding but still relevant as well as any other new recommendations arising from the recent elections.
- The Commission needs to enhance its planning based on lessons learnt and wide consultations with stakeholders.
- There is need for the Commission to be in full control of funds for implementation of the elections budget
- MEC should seek autonomy to make payments from its bank accounts rather than the CPO as is this case currently.
- The Commission should conduct comprehensive demarcation of constituencies and wards as a matter of priority with involvement of Ministry of Local Government to take care of issues to do with administrative boundaries.
- The Commission should enhance its demarcation guidelines
- The Commission should plan to procure appropriate and adequate equipment as well as enhance mechanisms to ensure proper equipment management and security
- The Commission should revise its remuneration packages for its staff based on prevailing market value
- The Commission to conduct research to establish the trends and factors affecting or impacting on voter registration and verification
- The Commission to enhance the strategies used in the recruitment processes for registration staff
- The Commission should explore possibilities of utilising appropriate technologies for accessing nomination forms e.g. downloading from MEC website, distribution by e-mail or WhatsApp.
- It should be made a requirement for observers to submit their observation reports to the Commission. The reports offer the Commission an opportunity to get important recommendations for improvement of future electoral processes.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1- MEC Management

NAME	DESIGNATION
Sammy Alfandika	Chief Elections Officer
Harris S. B. Potani	Deputy Chief Elections Officer (Operations)
Phanuel Hamsini	Deputy Chief Elections Officer (Finance & Administration)
Henzily Munkhondya	Director of Electoral Services
Muhabi Chisi	Director , Information, Communication and Technology
Khumbo Phiri	Director of Finance
Felix Malunga	Director of Administration and Human Resources
Lydia Luwanika	Director of Civic & Voter Education
Sangwani Mwafulirwa	Director of Media & Public Relations
Geoffrey Mbawala	Director of Internal Audit
David Matumika Banda	Director of Legal Services
Wellington Katantha	Deputy Director Electoral Services
Ebony Msikawanthu	Deputy Director of ICT
Duncain Jumbe	Deputy Director of Finance
Edingtone Chilapondwa	Procurement Manager
King Norman Rudi	Regional Elections Officer (South)
Tennyson Singini	Regional Elections Officer (North)
Kate Mjojo	Regional Elections Officer (Centre)
Deverson Makwete	Warehouse Manager

Appendix 2: Accredited Drama Groups for the 2019 TPE

No	Name of Drama Groups
1	Upile Drama Group
2	Logos Arts Theatre
3	Kwathu Drama Group
4	Amazon Theatre
5	Women in Theatre
6	Magagula and CheJali
7	Chopwicho Arts
8	Mwambo Arts
9	Kumvera Drama Group
10	BAHECE Drama Group
11	Bwalo Drama Group
12	Zatelere Drama Group
13	Young Travellers
14	Zawo Performing Arts
15	Tudyaliwe Drama Group
16	Thandizo Drama Group
17	Muthinda Drama Group
18	Tauka Arts Theatre
19	Chitsime Drama Group
20	Ben Theatre
21	Mpemba Youth Group
22	Mzati Theatre
23	Mdimas Usaka Drama Group
24	Emancipation Theatrical
25	Lifidzi Drama Group
26	Rise and Shine Arts
27	Halu Drama Group
28	Amodzi Drama Group
29	Azizi Travelling Theatre
30	Tithandizane Drama Group
31	Tilorerane Drama Group
32	Bantu Arts Theatre
33	Young Ambassadors
34	Ticheze Drama Group
35	Chair and Noriega
36	Mdoka Travelling Theatre
37	Dyeratu Drama Group
38	Lower Shire Arts Theatre
39	Mtayamoyo Drama Group
40	Chitsa Drama Group
41	Aini Drama Group
42	Soniso Drama Group
43	Yalero Tisatengedwe Drama Group

44	Mwazona Drama Group
45	Mangochi Drama Group
46	Madzanje Drama Group
47	Inter alliance for Umunthu
48	Kakhuta Drama Group
49	Zomba Prison Drama Group
50	Apawo Drama Group
51	Takumana Drama Group
52	N'gona Arts Travelling Theatre
53	Zomba Community Highlights
54	Tilipo Drama Group
55	Auze Drama Group
56	Fortune Ensemble Theatre
57	Exodus Drama Groups
58	Tayamba Drama Group
59	Destiny Theatre
60	Armagedon Drama Group
61	Masamba Drama Group
62	Likulezi Drama Group
63	COCOA Theatre
64	Tsogola Drama Group
65	Likhonyowa Youth Drama Group
66	Nampeya Drama Group
67	Nandumbo Drama Group
68	Zatonse Drama Group
69	Takondwa Youth Club
70	Molere Drama Group
71	Pantondo Drama Group
72	Chisomo Drama Group
73	Dygo Cultural Troupe
74	Judges Dance Troupe
75	Sambang'oma Dance Troupe
76	Kachere Dance Troupe
77	Chiyamba Drama Group
78	Reformation Arts Theatre
79	Storm Arts
80	City Public Awareness
81	Tafika Drama Group
83	Walemede
84	Nasadi
85	Lilongwe Arts
86	Ulendo Drama
87	Aleri Drama Group
88	Tithandizane Theatre for Development
89	Theatrics Intervention

90	Chimwemwe Drama
91	Chenjezo Drama
92	Nkhutukumve Drama
93	Chindime Theatre Company
94	Ashimo Drama Group
95	Khalidwe Drama Group
96	Mlaza Drama Group
97	Tivine Cultural Troupe
98	Mtendere Dance Troupe
99	Ngunga and Kalibonje
100	Chichiri Heritage
101	Balaka Arts
102	Khwisa Drama Group
103	Nthache Drama
104	Hope Theatre
105	Zakhwima Drama
106	Real Arts
107	Pamodzi Drama
108	Ndikhoza Drama Group
109	Rise Arts
110	Tiyanjane Drama Group
111	Phuziro Drama Group
112	Simunkadziwa Drama Group
113	Mwezi Theatre
114	Kauni Theatre for Development
115	Masache Drama Group
116	Transformation Theatre
117	Nsalu Drama Group
118	Lukas Theatre
119	Unity Drama Group
120	Sangalasa Arts Theatre
121	Ozonewood Arts Theatre
122	Mvalenji Drama Group
123	Onenes Theatre
124	Malaza Youth Drama Group
125	Motomoto Drama Group
126	Chithozi Drama Group
127	Chimbohole Drama
128	Urunji Drama Group
129	Chakuchaku Drama Group
130	Lugo Drama Group
131	Yoida Edutainment
132	Wanawaluzi Theatre
134	Bentu Yobeba
135	Bwengu Youth Drama Group

136	Superior Arts
137	Mizu Communication
138	Timvane Drama Group
139	Nginde Theatre
140	Ndamere Educative Theatre
141	Nyangenyange Drama Group
142	Chikolopa Performing Arts
143	Pace Theatre
144	Mbakwiza Drama Group
145	Ma Afrikans
146	Sekanawo Arts Theatre
147	Dragon Arts Theatre
148	Mwelaso Drama Group
149	Chiyambi Drama Group
150	Scorpion Theatre
151	Mulambe Arts Theatre
152	Kukaya Dance Troupe
153	LPJT Drama Group
154	Mpotowafika Drama Group
155	Astrovaganza Drama Group
156	Community Communications
157	Chichiri Prison Cultural Troupe
158	Maso Kunyenga Drama Group
159	Tabwera Drama Group
160	Chifundo Drama Group

ACCREDITED ROADSHOWS

1	Ideal Advertising
2	Chichiri Prison
3	Kadali Investment
4	Solomonic Peacocks
5	Tink Promotion
6	Zenith Promotions
7	Wisewish Communications
8	Kaya Films
9	Unique Promotions
10	Dikoline Media
11	Smart Promotions
12	Nyada Media
13	Dzukani Marketing
14	Active Marketing
15	Royal Events
16	Kamia Media
17	Great Africa
18	Giant advertising
19	Florite
20	Desmac Entertainment
21	Highly Favoured Entertainment

ACCREDITED MUSICIANS

1	Lomie Mafunga and Tinyade Sounds
2	Ekanga Malu
3	Lulu and Mathumela
4	Voice of Praice
5	Katawa Singers
6	Mayaka Music
7	Luso Records
8	Tempest Studios
9	Neligo Women's Choir
10	Young Generations
11	Majestic Sounds
12	Aiwale Kwawo Banda

Appendix 3: List of Accredited CSOs/NGOs to Conduct 2019 TPE

No.	NAME OF ORGANISATION
1	Centre for Human Rights Education, Advice & Assistance
2	Byoinique Trust
3	Association of Progressive Women
4	Women's Legal Resources Centre
5	Civil Liberties Committee
6	Women for Fair Development
7	National Women's Lobby Group
8	Gender Support Programme
9	Munawwala Islamic Organisation
10	Churches Action in Relief and Development
11	Muslim Association of Malawi
12	Gospel Outreach Pentacostal Assembly
13	Miracle Foundation
14	Pentecostal and Charismatic Network of Malawi
15	Al-Haqq Islamic Trust
16	Blantyre Synod Health and Development Commission
17	Neno Active Youth in Development
18	Native Youth Animators Association for Development.
19	Youth for Development and Productivity
20	Youth Coalition for the Consolidation of Development
21	Youth Net and Counselling
22	Youth coordinating Agency in Development
23	Umodzi Youth Organisation
24	Visual Hearing Impairment Membership (VIHEMA)
25	Federation of Disability Org. in Malawi
26	Malawi Union of the Blind
27	Malawi Network for Order Persons Organisation
28	Reach Out Malawi
29	Centre for Dev. Communications
30	Action Hope Malawi
31	Mtendere Electoral Support Network
32	People's Federation for National Peace and Development
33	Malawi CARER
34	Pan African Civic Education Network (PACENET)
35	Tiphedzane Community Support
36	Malawi Electoral Support Network
37	Mother Care Foundation
38	Demokalase Yathu (SRGDI)
39	Home Vision Support Programme
40	Chagunda Community Project
41	Solomonic Peacock Theatre Company
42	National Elections Systems Trust
43	Community Voice Organisation (COVO)

44	Umodzi Organisation for Social Enhancement
45	Angaliba Foundation
46	Mbawemi Women Association
47	Youth and Society
48	Mzuzu Young Voices
49	Church and Society Programm Livingstonia
50	Wanangwa Foundation for Development
51	Phunzirani Development Organisation
52	Society for the Advancement of people
53	Community in Development Activities
54	Tube POKA Development Initiative
55	Foundation for Community Support Service (FOCUS)
56	Rights People Claim
57	Twesa In Community Development
58	Rumphu HIV and Aids Education (Rural Empowerment and Actio Platform)
59	Karonga Debate Club
60	Zeru Foundation
61	God Cares Orphan Organisation
62	Future Victory Organisation
63	SPRODETA
64	Foundation for Childrens Rights
65	World Fit for Children
66	Womens Hope For Change
67	Society For Women and AIDS In Malawi
68	NGO - Gender Coordination Network
69	Young Politicians Union
70	Christian Youth Association In Malawi
71	Forum For Concerned Young People
72	Ntchisi Organisation For Youth and Development
73	Centre For Youth Empowerment and Civic Education
74	Centre For Young Leaders in Africa
75	Youth Initiative for Community Development
76	Quadria Muslim Association of Malawi
77	Nkhoma Synod Church and Society
78	Catholic Commission For Justice and Peace
79	Catholic Social Communications (Media)
80	Evangelical Association of Malawi (EAM)
81	Ntchisi Evangelical Churches Consortium For Social services
82	Malawi Interfaith Aids Association
83	Children and Pastors Care Ministry
84	Kuthandiza Osayenda Disability Organisation (KODO)
85	National Initiative For Civic Education (NICE Trust)
86	Public Affairs Committee
87	Centre For Civil Society Strengthening
88	Governance, Gender, Justice Development Centre

89	Kasalika Community Development Organisation
90	Forum For Civic Education (FORCE)
91	Centre For Community and Youth Development
92	Centre For Legal Assistance
93	Community Initiative For Social Empowerment
94	GLOHOMO
95	Grassroots Movement For Health and Development
96	Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN)
97	Center For Human Rights and Rehabilitaion (CHRR)
98	Circle For Intergrated Community Development (CICOD)
99	Centre For Community Empowerment and Development
100	Ladder For Rural Development
101	Rights Advice Centre
102	Foundation For Community and Capacity Development
103	Child Rights Advocacy and Paralegal Aid Centre
104	Aging, Widows/Widowers and Orphans Trust
105	Malawi Human Rights Resource Centre
106	CASCOD (Collective Action for Sustainable Community Dev.
107	Malawi Alcohol Policy Alliance (MAPA)
108	Youth Association For Behavioral Change
109	Light of Youth Creative Organisation
110	Centre For Development of People
112	IGA Malawi
113	Youth to Youth Empowerment
114	Malawi Council of Churches
115	Malawi Watch
116	Institute for Policy Interaction
117	The Story Workshop
118	Centre for Conflict Management and Women Development Affairs (CECOWDA)
119	MANAD
120	Dvelopment Communications Trust

Appendix 4: List of Complaints During 2019 TPE

NO.	COMPLAINANT	COMPLAINT	ADDRESS	STATUS
1	Hon. Atupele Austin Muluzi	Against the election of Mr Ajibu Ritchard Kalitendere as MP– is allegedly to have mental disorders.	Nanthuru & Associates, 5th Floor Dev. House, Box 280, Blantyre	Dismissed
2	Concerned citizens – Blantyre South West Constituency	Against election of Kennedy Kachingwe as MP in Blantyre South west Constituency.	Blantyre City South Constituency	Dismissed
3	Hon. Atupele Austin Muluzi	Suspect fraud on result sheets in Machinga North East Constituency.	UDF	Dismissed
4	Alice Nayesa – Independent	Call for parliamentary re-run in Thyolo Thekerani Constituency	Box 20, Thekerani	Dismissed
5	Fredson Madziamodzi Lungu – Independent	Against Parliamentary election results in Thyolo West Constituency.	Sitima Vg, T/A Thomas, Thyolo - 0998556515	Dismissed
6	Oliver Katore Nakoma – Independent	Parliamentary results for Chiradzulu South were manipulated.	Chiradzulu – 0999321488	Dismissed
7	ACB	Alleged electoral fraud & corrupt practices in Blantyre Rural East Constituency.	ACB, Box 2437, Lilongwe	Dismissed
8	Monitors for UTM & IND. Candidate Themba Mkandawire	Electoral irregularities in Blantyre City Central Constituency .	Blantyre City South Constituency	Dismissed
9	Dr. John Paul – Mchinji Central Constituency	Demand for vote recounting in Mchinji Central Constituency.	C/O Ludzi Paish, Box 32, Mchinji	Dismissed
10	Icon & Co. per: Patience Maliwa on behalf of Gerald Kazembe	Electoral irregularities in Mangochi Monkeybay Constituency.	Kapeni House, Box 545, Blantyre 0999373184, 0884487 000	Dismissed
11	Hon. Chimwendo Banda	Chiradzulu West – No monitor signatures on form 66. Mulanje West – Tally sheets with excess errors. Mzimba South – voters exceeding registered voters.	P/Bag 302 Lilongwe	Dismissed
12	The Secretary – DPP Chiradzulu North	Suspected flouting of electoral laws by some contestants.	DPP- Chiradzulu North Constituency	Dismissed
13	Ms. Hellen Buluma – Nsanje South West	Conduct on results of Parliamentary elections.	There Vg, T/A Malemia, Nsanje	Dismissed
14	Roy Kachale & Francis Mphangazira – Zomba Malosa	Missinf of polling station results sheets.	Box 57, Domasi	Dismissed

15	Willard Msosa – UTM Shadow MP – Blantyre West	Recount of votes on grounds that most monitors did not participate in vote counting	UTM Shadow MP – Blantyre West Constituency	Dismissed
16	G. Kampanikiza for Concerned citizens – Dedza South Cons. Bembeke Ward	Recount of all votes in Bembeke ward and Dedza South Constituency.	Concerned citizens- Dedza South Constituency- Bembeke Ward	Dismissed
17	Bright Chilogo – Blantyre City South	Chimwankhunda tally centre officials refused to give party monitors tally sheets.	Blantyre City South	Dismissed
18	Besie Chirambo – Rumphu West			Dismissed
19	Shadow MP – George Quma – Chikwawa Central Constituency	Request to suspend announcement of results – Parliamentary – Chikwawa Central Constituency .	Box 68, Nchalo	Dismissed
20	Centre for Human Rights, Education, Advice & Assistance	Physical assault by two army officers on presiding officer- Mr Ligola at Namkumba tally centre	Box 30250, Blantyre	Dismissed
21	Henri Mumba – Independent	Electoral fraud by candidate Martha Chiuluntha-Ngwira through giving cash bribes to registered voters.	Henry Mumba – Mzimba Hora	Dismissed
22	Mulanje South West aspirant members of parliament – J. Kadewere, C.S. Banda C. Khwiliro, S.F. Mangwiro, E.T. Munseka, A.N. Chimbanga	Various electoral irregularities in Mulanje South West Constituency.	Mulanje South West Constituency	Dismissed
23	Alex Mulalo – Independent	Charles Mchacha was corrupting voters by giving them cash through his agents.	Alex Mulao – 0881767811 – Thyolo West	Dismissed
24	Darlington Ndasauka	Number of voters at Goliati & Mangunda court exceeding registered voters in Thyolo East.	Box E606, Post dot net Blantyre- 0888377000	Dismissed
25	Concerned monitors of various candidates – Nambiro tally centre through Olive Chapeta	Irregularities on vote counting process at Nambiro centre.	Phalombe South Constituency – Nambiro tally centre - 0992755830	Dismissed

26	Mc Adams Mbewe – UTM	Figures for Mbayani school in Blantyre Kabula not adding up. Change of figures at nchokera School.	Box 30690, Lilongwe	Dismissed
27	Phillip A Thondoya – MCP	Use of tippex and rewriting of figures at Nazombe tally centre in Phalombe.	MCP, Box 619, Blantyre	Dismissed
28	Kelita Moreen Kanyandula – MCP	Shifting of tally centre from Limbe TDC to Civic offices in Blantyre.	MCP Shadow MP – Bt City East	Dismissed
29	UTM tally centres monitors – Blantyre North Constituency – Mdeka Tally centre	Rigging of voting process at mdeka tally centre.	UTM monitors	Dismissed
30	UTM Monitors – Thyolo District Tally centre – Beaton Mtata, Patrick Singano, Christopher Manyungwa	Disputes over tallying of Thyolo District elections results for all constituencies.	UTM Thyolo	Dismissed
31	Hon. Cecilia Chazama – Blantyre North East	Management of parliamentary election results for Blantyre North East.	Hon. Cecilia Chazama	Dismissed
32	Shadow MPs – Blantyre South West Constituency	Demanding recount of parliamentary elections due to electoral irregularities.	Shadow MPs Blantyre South West	Dismissed
33	John Saini – Mulanje west Constituency	Conduct of Yusuf Nthenda of DPP. Demand of recount of votes at Thuchila EPA centre in Mulanje west constituency	Box 51668 Limbe	Dismissed
34	Monitor for Godfrey Mbawa – Shadow MP	Ballot paper issuer clerk for MP was misguiding voters. Supporters of Daudi Chida were bribing voters. Trimming of votes for Godfrey Mbawa.	Monitor for Godfrey Mbawa – Mulanje 0888766661 0996297676	Dismissed
35	Joseph Ntopa – MCP shadow MP – Chikwawa Central	Has trouble accepting legitimacy of results in Chikwawa Central due to various anomalies	Hoseph Ntopa 0994273507 0885126396	Dismissed
36	Samuel Office – DPP shadow MP – Chikwawa Central	Asking for a by-election in Chikwawa central constituency due to various anomalies.	Samuel Office Chikwawa Central	Dismissed

37	Ben Montfort Khuleya – DPP & Precious Alick Simbi – UTM	Election dispute and call for parliamentary re-run in Chikwawa Nkombezi constituency.	Shadow MPs B.M Khuleya (DPP) & P.A. Simbi (UTM) Chikwawa	Dismissed
38	Gerald Viola – DPP Wycliff Demba – UTM Gipison Kautale – DEPECO Sailos Malunga – IND Brian Kamchewere & Humphreys Phiso	Election dispute and call for re-run in Chikwawa South Constituency.	Shadow MPs & Shadow Councilors – Chikwawa South Constituency	Dismissed
39	Shadow MPs – Lucius Chanika (MCP), Omar Mbeta (UDF), Chipiliro Maxwell Phiri (IND), Henry Duncan Phoya (UTM)	Electoral fraud in Blantyre East Constituency and call for postponement of announcement of results.	Shadow MPs for MCP, UDF, UTM, IND	Dismissed
40	Bonney E. Sauti	Disputing election results (LGE) for Namiyango ward. Because Presiding Officer for Naizi school changed his figures.	Bonney Edward Sauti, Box 51173, Limbe. 0888835079	Dismissed
41	Susan Dossi Shadow MP, Chikwawa West	Suspicious behavior of shadow MP Kennedy Maluwa who was visiting centres on polling day.	Susan Dossi. Chikwawa West Constituency	Dismissed
42	Martha Mwapasa & Peter Sambani & Alexander Chibayo	Against University of Malawi students right to vote.	Box 280, Zomba	Dismissed
43	Smartlans Gwedemula PhD. DC for Ntcheu	Allegations of political campaigning beyond official period in Ntcheu Bwanje North Constituency.	DC Ntcheu, P/Bag 1, Ntcheu	Dismissed
44	Sherbourne Mchizi, Mzimba South West Constituency	Presiding Officer instructing voter to vote for a party of their favour.	Box 54, Ekwendeni. 0995259563	Dismissed
45	Alice Bwanausi, CR Chair NGOGCN Observer	Failure of balance results sheets by presiding officer for Chitawira School.	Box 244, Blantyre. 0991041424	Dismissed
46	Philmon Kuipa, CAN Radio & TV	Failure by MEC to provide results to Media fraternity at National Tally Centre.	Box 12, Lilongwe	Dismissed
47	Deliwe Ngoma Banda DPP – Shadow MP	Irregularities during and after campaign & voting in Mzimba Luwerezi Constituency.	Mzimba Luwerezi	Dismissed

48	Margaret Mkandawire	Appeal to disqualify results for MP Mzimba Central.	Box 316, Mzuzu	Dismissed
49	Everson Andrew Mukowa Mwale – Nkhotakota	Electoral malpractices by MP candidate Ibrahim Yahaya Sadala.	Nkhotakota South East Constituency	Dismissed
50	Luke Audrede Fernando – Ruo Ward	Recount of votes in Ruo Ward.	Ruo Ward – Nsanje North Constituency	Dismissed
51	Anussah Daddy Hussein – MCP	Petition against Mangochi Central Parliamentary results.	Mangochi Central Constituency	Dismissed
52	Aisha Alisa – MCP	Irregularities before and during elections.	Zomba Malosa Constituency	Dismissed
53	Davison Chatuluka Paulosi - Beatrice Nganje – Reuben Kanjama	Campaigning outside the period and giving cash to voters and carrying voters to centres.	Mangochi West Constituency	Dismissed
54	Limbani Kalilani – DPP	Seeking clarification for parliamentary results.	Lilongwe City Center	Dismissed
55	Peter Lyson Chitedze	Recount of votes for parliamentary results.	Mchinji North East Constituency	Dismissed
56	David N'jaidi, Noel Wilson Makawa and Lawrence Alumendo – Mangochi	Electoral malpractices by PO of Kasolo, Mpale, Changali & Kausi centres respectively.	Mangochi Nkungulu Constituency	Dismissed
57	Rev. W. Ndomondo – Machinga	Against Centre result sheet without monitor's signature.	Machinga South East Constituency	Dismissed
58	Rachael Gondwe – Blantyre	Wrong figures and use of tippex on result sheets.	Blantyre South West Constituency	Dismissed
59	UTM – Ntcheu	Demand for a recount of parliamentary votes.	Ntcheu North East Constituency	Dismissed
60	Ndiuzayani Samson - Mulanje	Against student voting without voter certificate – authorized by shadow councilor & Gloria Masikini (teacher).	Mulanje South West Constituency	Dismissed
61	Kafandikhale Mandevana – MCP candidate	CRO tampering with documents after closing the tally centre.	Nsanje Central Constituency	Dismissed
62	Ellock Maotch Banda – Machinga	Presidential ballot box was found with already marked ballot papers (for DPP) at Mwalasi centre.	Machinga central Constituency	Dismissed

63	Mary Muheya - DPP	Electoral irregularities in four centres of Zomba Changalume Constituency.	Zomba Changalume Constituency	Dismissed
64	Chris Tchaka - UTM	Presence of DPP candidates at Zomba tally centre .	UTM	Dismissed
65	Mary Busiley Blantyre North	Request for rerun, the votes were not accurately counted.	Blantyre North Constituency	Dismissed
66	Jabulan Manda MCP	Dispute of electoral results of Ward Councillor.	Blantyre City Central	Dismissed
67	George Guma Box 68 Nchalo	Suspension of announcement of elections results for MP.	Independent Chikwawa central	Dismissed
68	UTM - Dan Mpeleka	Rigging of voting process.	Blantyre north	Dismissed
69	F chisesele Blantyre	Recounting of votes without any reasons to do so.	Independent Blantyre north	Dismissed
70	M.R Chunda	UTM presidential votes rig	Nkhata-bay central	Dismissed
71	Dumisan Lindani DPP Zomba	Nullification of parliamentary results .	DPP Zomba	Dismissed
72	Elliot Makhamba Blantyre	Irregularities of elections results .	Blantyre south west	Dismissed
73	Lucius chakanika MCP Quan mbeta UDF Chipiliro Phiri INDE Henry phoya UTM	Serious and blatant acts electoral fraud.	Blantyre rural east	Dismissed
74	Alec J.L. Mulalo Thyolo	Fraud and mass bribery during elections.	Thyolo west	Dismissed
75	Linga Lemani zomba	Disagreements with zomba unofficial results.	Zomba Thonda	Dismissed
76	Precious .A. Chisi Mzimba	Irregularities during Elections .	Mzimba sololo	Dismissed
77	Henry Mussa DDP Chiradzulu	Serious rigging of votes in chiradzulu east.	Chiradzulu east	Dismissed
78	Tisungane namacha DPP Blantyre	Elections results were manipulated .	DPP Mulanje north	Dismissed
79	Samuel chingani mwanza	Calling for recount of votes because some centres were not accurately accounted .	Mwanza west	Dismissed
80	Madalitso Chimbangondo	Results from other centres failing to be captured at the CROs tally Machine.	Zomba Nsondoli	Dismissed

81	E.Mkaka	No signatures of monitors polling :M145 :Mpotola school .	MCP	Dismissed
82	E.Mkaka	Duplicate and no signature poling station :12127 code :Tembwe school.	MCP	Dismissed
83	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate tally sheet	MCP	Dismissed
84	E.Mkaka	Duplicate and use of tippex code :1904 :Gula scool.	MCP	Dismissed
85	E.Mkaka	Duplicate and a form without signatures Code :1112 :Kalani school.	MCP	Dismissed
86	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :19121 Matola school.	MCP	Dismissed
87	E.Mkaka	Duplicate & a form without signatures code :11052 :sleeper plant ..	MCP	Dismissed
88	E.Mkaka	Signatures on the result side & use of tippex.	MCP	Dismissed
89	E.Mkaka	Duplicate & tipex code :11034 Katete school.	MCP	Dismissed
90	E.Mkaka	Duplicate & use of tipex code : 11020:demera school.	MCP	Dismissed
91	E.Mkaka	Duplicate copy code :11024	MCP	Dismissed
92	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :18107 :Kabudula school	MCP	Dismissed
93	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code 20015: Namipingo school	MCP	Dismissed
94	E.Mkaka	Duplicate but complaint not clearly indicated to which centre or code ???	MCP	Dismissed
95	E.Mkaka	Duplicate and use of tippex code:11043	MCP	Dismissed
96	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :19128 Ndangopuma school .	MCP	Dismissed
97	E.Mkaka	Duplicate and use of tippex code :11035 Yambwe school.	MCP	Dismissed

98	E.Mkaka	Duplicate & handwritten centre code and name code:11128 Kadani School.	MCP	Dismissed
99	E.Mkaka	Duplicate but complaint not clearly indicated to which centre & code.	MCP	Dismissed
100	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :12108 Msamgala School.	MCP	Dismissed
101	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :21005.	MCP	Dismissed
102	E.Mkaka	Use of tipex code :03106 Thunda School.	MCP	Dismissed
103	E.Mkaka	Duplicate & use of tippex code :11029 Salima Central.	MCP	Dismissed
104	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate tally sheets Cde : 17068 : Sir Greenjones High School .	MCP	Dismissed
105	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate tally sheets Code :21147 Centre : chigumukire school.	MCP	Dismissed
106	E.Mkaka	Duplicate of tally sheet code : 17042 Centre : chembera school .	MCP	Dismissed
107	E.Mkaka	Duplicate code :17063 Centre : kasupe school.	MCP	Dismissed
108	E.Mkaka	Use of tipex code :01105 Centre : mpitapansi school .	MCP	Dismissed
109	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code :28028 Centre : nyanjiwa school .	MCP	Dismissed
111	E.Mkaka	Tailed district results count significantly different from MEC summary.	MCP	Dismissed
112	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate cod :17041 Centre : Mphisi School .	MCP	Dismissed
113	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11022 Centre : Mikota School .	MCP	Dismissed
114	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 19092 Centre : Mapolo School .	MCP	Dismissed
115	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code 11024 Centre : Ngowindo School .	MCP	Dismissed
116	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11055 Centre : Chigombe School .	MCP	Dismissed
117	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 15074 Centre : Kantema School .	MCP	Dismissed

118	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11102 Centre : Joni School .	MCP	Dismissed
119	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11063 Centre : Chikuwa School .	MCP	Dismissed
120	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11020 Centre : Dema School .	MCP	Dismissed
121	E.Mkaka	Use duplicate code : 11029 Centre : Mikate /Chilokoto Ground	MCP	Dismissed
122	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 15071 Centre : Madzanje School .	MCP	Dismissed
123	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11035 Centre : Yambe School.	MCP	Dismissed
124	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 28093 Centre : M'bwazi Admarc.	MCP	Dismissed
125	E.Mkaka	Use of duplicate code : 11053 Centre : Community Hall Salima .	MCP	Dismissed

Appendix 5: Parliamentary Elections Petitions

No.	Name of Parties & Nature of Application	Registry & Law Firm	Outcome
1	Aram Beza v. Electoral Commission and Henry Shaba Election Case No.21 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Matter was set for hearing on 13th June 2019. The Petitioner decided to withdraw the matter and a consent order was entered to effect that. So in essence the matter was withdrawn.
2	Limbani Kalilani v. Alfred Jiya and Electoral Commission, Election Case No. 15 of 2019-Challenging election results under s.100 PPEA	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	The matter was dismissed by the Judge on his own motion on the ground that it was brought under a wrong provision of the law.
3.	Maquenda Chunga v. EC and Emmanuel Jere Chambulanyina Election Case No. 24 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Matter was set for hearing on 13th June 2019. The Petitioner decided to withdraw the matter before it was heard.
4.	Kamuzu Walter Chibambo v. Electoral Commission, Catherine Gotani Nyahara Election Case No. 22 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Petition dismissed by the court on 9th July 2019 on the ground that the Petitioners allegations were not sufficiently proved and let alone how such allegations affected the results.
5.	Lucky Banda, Reuben Ngwenya and others v. EC, Wezzie Gondwe Election Case No.31 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Petition was dismissed by the court on 27th June 2019 for being brought outside the prescribed time for bringing election petitions.
6.	Ellen Kadango & Others v. Electoral Commission and Ulemu Msungama. Election Matter No. 6 of 2019	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	The matter was dismissed by the judge on his own motion for having been brought under a wrong legal provision.
7.	Grace Sikikito Chiumia v Electoral Commission Electoral Case No.25 of 2019-Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson & Associates	Petition dismissed for having been brought under a wrong provision of the law i.e by way of appeal instead of by a direct petition to the High Court.
8.	Dr. Ellen Esther Nakanga v. Electoral Commission, Election Case No.20 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris	Petition was dismissed for want of merit.
9.	George Quma v Salim Bagus & Electoral Commission Election Matter No.24 of 2019	Blantyre Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers	Petition withdrawn at the instance of the Petitioner after trial had already commenced.

10.	Frank Mwenefumbo v Electoral Commission, Election Case No. 28 of 2019. Petition under s.114 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Petition dismissed for want of merit.
11	Dr. Beatrice NyaKumwenda v. Electoral Commission, Jacob Hara Election Case No. 23 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Petition was dismissed for want of merit.
12.	Ralph Mhone v Electoral Commission, Election Matter No.11 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Mzuzu John Tennyson Lawyers	Matter heard and petition was dismissed for failure to provide sufficient proof to substantiate claim. Petitioner has since appealed to the Supreme Court.
13.	Promise Salima v Electoral Commission, Election Case No.19 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris Lawyers.	Judgment was entered in favour of the Petition and the Court has ordered that a fresh election be held in the Constituency
14.	Simeon Harrison v. Electoral Commission, National Assembly and Godfrey Meleka Mark Chiwondo. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Blantyre Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers.	Judgment was entered in favour of the Petition and the Court has ordered that a fresh election be held in the Constituency
15.	Foster Thipiwa, Enock Chizuzu & Kafanikhale Mandevana Election Case No. 32 of 2019	Blantyre Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers	The matter has been heard by the Court and Court is yet to deliver judgment.
16.	Gerald Kazembe v. Electoral Commission, Election Case No. 8 of 2019-Challenging election results under s.100	Zomba Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers	Matter has been heard and judgment is yet to be delivered by the Court.
16.	Gerald Kazembe v. Electoral Commission, Election Case No. 8 of 2019-Challenging election results under s.100	Zomba Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers	Matter has been heard and judgment is yet to be delivered by the Court.
17.	Dr. Ndifanji Namacha v. Electoral Commission Election Case No. 12 of 2019 -Appeal against the decision of the Commission on Complaint under s.114 PPEA	Blantyre Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers	Matter partially heard is yet to be concluded.
18.	Ben Khuleya v Electoral Commission. Election Matter No. 18 of 2019- Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris	Petition was dismissed for lack of merit.
19.	Ellock Maotcha Banda v. Malume Bokosi & Electoral Commission Election Case No.13 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Zomba Churchill & Norris	Petition was dismissed for lack of merit.

20.	Everson Andrew Makowa-Mwale and Sadala Yahard Ibrahim and Electoral Commission Election Matter No.17 of 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	Petition dismissed for want of prosecution.
21.	Reverend Kaliya v Electoral Commission Election Matter 2019. Petition under s.100 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris	No date of hearing. Indications are that the Petitioner will not pursue the matter.
22.	Hellen Bulluma v Electoral Commission Election Case No.14 of 2019- Petition under 114 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris.	Petition was dismissed for want of merit.
23.	Atupele Muluzi v. Ajibu Richard Kalitendere Electoral Commission Election Case No.29 of 2019. Petition under s.100 and s.114 PPEA.	Blantyre Churchill & Norris	The Petitioner did not pursue the petitions and has been considered closed
24.	Assiyatu Ajubu & Fredrick Billy Malata v. Madalitso Kambauwa & Electoral Commission Election Matter No. 30 of 2019	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	No date of hearing
25.	The State, Electoral Commission Ex-parte Rosemary Sadyalunda. Election Matter 36 of 2019.	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	Matter dismissed for want of prosecution.
26.	The State, Electoral Commission Ex-Parte David Kambalame Election Matter No. 37 of 2019.	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	Dismissed for want of prosecution.
27.	The State, Electoral Commission Ex-Parte Godfrey Charles Chimdzeka Election Matter No. 38 of 2019	Lilongwe Wilkinson & Associates	Matter dismissed for want of prosecution.

Appendix 6: Declaration by Political Parties.



MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Declaration by Political Party Leaders on Conduct During Campaign

We the Leaders of Political Parties representing all candidates who are contesting in the General Elections;

recognizing that the Republic of Malawi is a democratic state that guarantees political rights;

guided by the provision of the law that govern the conduct of elections and campaign in an election;

desirous of coordinating and cooperating with the Electoral Commission to guarantee the conduct of a free, fair and credible elections;

Hereby Declare that during this campaign we shall recognize that:



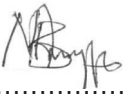
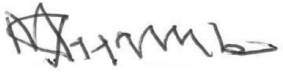

1. the period of campaign in public by every political party and candidate shall be a period of two months closing forty-eight hours before polling;
2. all political parties and candidates have the right to campaign in an election;
3. every political party, candidate and every representative, member or supporter has the right to enjoy unhindered freedom of expression and unhindered freedom of peaceful assembly in campaigning we shall therefore desists from, discourage and report all acts of violence, intimidation and intolerance;
4. we shall not use any language that is or capable of being inflammatory, defamatory or insulting or any language that constitute incitement to public disorder or insurrection;
5. we have a duty to notify the District Commissioner in writing with a copy of such notification to the officer-in-charge of Police intention to conduct campaign in public;
6. some places are prohibited for purposes of campaign and we have a duty to respect the prohibition.

Therefore, having made this Declaration, we shall not, by ourselves or through our respective political parties or through any representative or whosoever acting on our behalf seek to undermine the authority of the Commission. To this extent, we shall cooperate with the Commission in its activities and we shall contribute towards the success of the election and we shall not in any way seek to hinder such a process.

Declared this 19th day of March 2019

At Lilongwe

1. Grace Chupa.....
Secretary General, Alliance for Democracy (AFORD)
2. Kondowe Pearson.....
Secretary General, Democratic Federal Alliance
3. Nelson Nyirenda.....
Secretary General, Democratic People Alliance (DEPECO)
4. Aaron Sangala M.P.....
Secretary General, Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)
5. Steven Njobvuyalema.....
Secretary General, Freedom Party
6. Mabvuto Alfred Ng'ona.....
Secretary General, Independent Presidential Candidate Reverend Hardwick Kaliya
7. Eisenhower Mkaka.....
Secretary General, Malawi Congress Party
8. Sam Banda.....
General Secretary, Mbakuwaku Movement for Development
9. Brian Sunduza Phiri.....
Secretary General, National Salvation Front
10. Ibrahim Matola.....
Secretary General, Peoples Party

11. Bruno Zande..... 
Secretary General, Peoples Transformation Alliance (PETRA)
12. Grant Chimanya..... 
Secretary General, Tikonze Peoples Movement (TPM)
13. Bright Msuku..... 
Secretary General, Umodzi Party (UP)
14. Kandi Padambo..... 
Secretary General, United Democratic Front (UDF)
15. Patricia Kaliati..... 
Secretary General, UTM

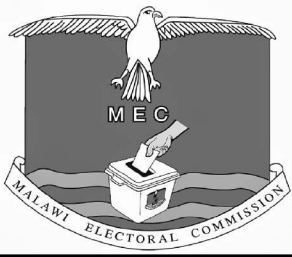
Signed before me at Lilongwe on 19th May 2019



Justice Dr Jane Ansah SC, JA

Chairperson

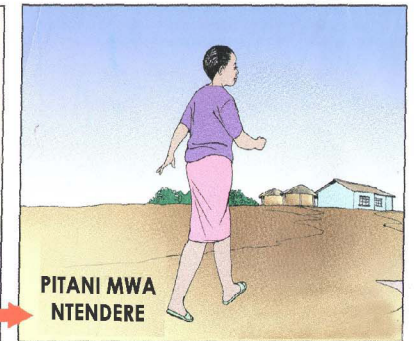
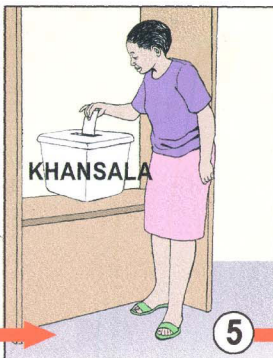
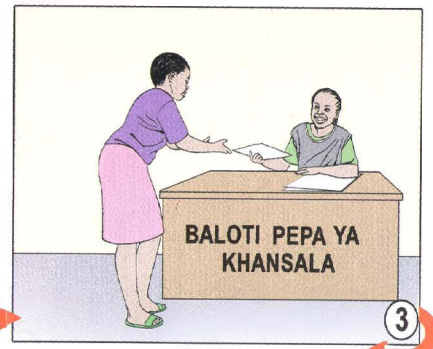
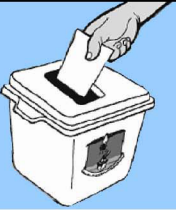
Malawi Electoral Commission



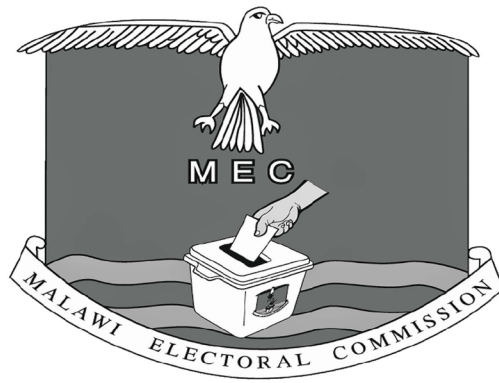
MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

CHISANKHO CHA PATATU 21ST MAY 2019

.KHANSALA . PHUNGU . PULEZIDENTI NDONDOMEKO YOVOTERA



Voti Yanu ndi Ufulu Wanu, Kusankha Kwanu, Zokhumba Zanu, Mphamvu Zanu!



YOUR VOTE

YOUR RIGHT

YOUR CHOICE



Email: ceo@mec.org.mw
Website: www.mec.org.mw
Tel: 01 822 033