



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (22/05/2014)

Stakeholders Meeting with MEC on the latest status on Result Management

In its quest to enhance transparency and accountability in the electoral process, the Commission had a meeting with political parties under the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD), civil society organisations under the Malawi Electoral Support Network (MESN), and the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC).

The Commission updated stakeholders that voting was still going on in some centres in Lilongwe and Blantyre and that this process was expected to end today. The Commission thanked the political parties and all stakeholders for their patience and understanding.

The Commission also informed stakeholders that it was facing challenges of slow transmission of the results on the result management system from the Constituency Returning Officers to the National Tally Centre. In order to speed up receiving of results, the Commission was adding extra measures that include fax system and the physical movement of forms.

The Commission assured stakeholders of the credibility of the results and that when the forms are received at the National Tally Centre, political parties shall be given an opportunity to verify the data received.

The Commission further assured stakeholders that the results management system had not been compromised and the results that are being transmitted are secure.

Notwithstanding the preceding, the Commission assured the nation that it was doing everything possible to ensure that the results to be announced would be credible and released within the statutory period of eight days from the last day of polling.

The Commission committed itself to continue providing regular updates and engage political parties as would be necessary.

The Commission appealed to the media to preserve peace. Those announcing results to always put a disclaimer that they are unofficial and that the official results would be determined and announced by Malawi Electoral Commission.

The stakeholders were requested not to declare themselves winners before the official results are announced by Malawi Electoral Commission.

The Commission also undertook to consider and resolve all complaints made and substantiated by evidence before announcing the final official results.

Signed this 22nd day of May, 2014

Justice Maxon Mbendera SC

Chairman,

MEC.....

Ambassador Sophie Kalinde

Chairperson

MHRC.....

Kizito Tenthani

Executive Director

CMD.....

Steve Duwa

Chairperson

MESN.....

Endorsed by:

- Political Parties
 - Mafunde Party
 - Democratic Progressive Party
 - New Labour Party
 - United Democratic Front
 - Peoples Party
 - Chipani Cha Pfuko
 - Malawi Congress Party
 - United Independence Party
- Constitutional/Statutory Bodies
 - NGO Board
 - Malawi Human Rights Commission
- Civil Society Organisations:
 - Centre for Multiparty Democracy
 - Malawi Electoral Support Network
 - Council for Non-governmental Organisations (Congoma)
- Observers
 - Zimbabwe High Commission