



UPDATE 07: DETERMINATION OF RESULTS AND COMPLAINTS HANDLED

BY MEC CHAIRMAN, JUSTICE DR CHIFUNDO KACHALE

26.06.2020

- My Fellow Commissioners
- The MEC Chief Elections Officer, Mr Sam Alfandika
- Brigadier General Blaise Saenda from the Malawi Defense Forces
- Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr Noel Kayira
- Representatives of Various Political Parties
- UNDP Resident Coordinator, Madam Maria Jose Torries
- Acting British High Commissioner, Mr Dave Beer
- Members of the Diplomatic Missions accredited to Malawi
- Commissioners of the Malawi Human Rights Commission
- members of the clergy
- Representatives of Civil Society organisation

- Members of the Press
- Staff from the Malawi Electoral Commission
- My fellow Malawians

The Commission is once again before you to give an update on the confirmation and determination of results for the Fresh Presidential Election. After the briefing yesterday night, the Commission continued sitting to examine the Complaints Log books from the polling stations, examine the null and void votes and also to determine on the results brought to the National Tally Centre by Returning Officers.

Complaints received so far

From the last update up to 10.00am this morning, the Commission has not received any new complaint.

In accordance with section 113 of the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act (PPEA), the Commission provided Electoral Complaints Logbooks as required under section 70 (h) of PPEA. As explained before, complaints lodged at a polling station must be resolved by the Presiding Officer. However, if the complaint is not resolved at that level, the Commission is required to examine and determine the same.

The Commission has so far reviewed Electoral Complaints Logbooks from the following districts:

NTHISI

Out of the total 172 Electoral Complaints Logbooks, 111 have no recorded complaints. Complaints were recorded in 61 logbooks. All complaints recorded were resolved at the Polling Station by the Presiding Officer and no complaint has been referred to the Commission for determination as an appeal.

MANGOCHI

Out of the total 480 Electoral Complaints Logbooks, 366 do not have any recorded complaints. Complaints were recorded in 110 Logbooks. All complaints recorded were resolved at the Polling Station by the Presiding Officers and no complaint has been referred to the Commission for determination as an appeal.

RUMPHI

Out of the total 150 Electoral Complaints Logbooks, 99 do not have any recorded complaints. Complaints were recorded in 51 Logbooks. All complaints recorded were resolved at the Polling Station by the Presiding Officers and no complaint has been referred to the Commission for determination as an appeal.

CHITIPA

Out of the total 138 Electoral Complaints Logbooks, 93 do not have any recorded complaints. Complaints were recorded in 45

Logbooks. All complaints recorded were resolved at the Polling Station by the Presiding Officers and no complaint has been referred to the Commission for determination as an appeal.

Handling of null and void votes

According to Section 97 of the PPEA, the Commission is required to review and confirm the Presiding Officer's determination of null and void votes. The Commission has gone through the null and void results from the councils above and has found out that some votes were wrongly classified as null and void and will add them to the totals of the candidates as follows:

NTCHISI

The Commission has examined a total of 880 null and void votes from the district. The Commission has confirmed 815 as null and void, has corrected 65 votes which have which have been classified as valid votes as follows:

- Lazarus Chakwera, MCP: 55 votes
- Peter Dominico Sinosi Driver Kuwani, MMD: 2 votes
- Arthur Peter Mutharika, DPP: 8 votes

MANGOCHI

The Commission has examined a total of 5002 null and void votes from the district. The Commission has confirmed 4,951 as null and void, has corrected 51 votes which have been classified as valid votes as follows:

- Lazarus Chakwera, MCP: 5 votes
- Peter Dominico Sinosi Driver Kuwani, MMD: 2 votes
- Arthur Peter Mutharika, DPP: 44 votes

RUMPHI

The Commission has examined a total of 319 null and void votes from the district. The Commission has affirmed 313 as null and void, has corrected 6 votes which have been classified as valid votes and have been given to Lazarus Chakwera.

CHITIPA

The Commission has examined a total of 238 null and void votes from the district. The Commission has confirmed 229 as null and void, has corrected 9 votes which have been classified as valid votes as follows:

- Lazarus Chakwera, MCP: 8 votes
- Peter Dominico Sinosi Driver Kuwani, MMD: 1 vote

The corrected votes will be added to the final tally of each candidate at the end of this results determination process.

Determined results

The Commission continued to look at the results and make its determination. This morning the Commission is pleased to release results for the following districts:

(Refer to results sheets)

Please that advised that these district summary results will change when the reclassified null and void votes are added at the end of the determination exercise.

Also be informed that the results are also available on MEC website: www.mec.org.mw .

Appeal for patience and calm

As stated before, the Commission appreciates how important it is to release the final results and we are doing everything possible we can to ensure that this process is concluded in time. However, this will not be done at the expense of legality of the process and quality controls. Where the public feels that we are not moving at a faster pace than expected, our appeal is that you should be patient and understand that the Commission does not wish to be faulted on procedure and legality. The Commission expects that all stakeholders will appreciate this and stand with us.

The Commission will be back later with more updates.

May God Bless you and bless our country