



SIXTEEN PARTIES' TUSSLE FOR BY-ELECTION



ELECTION CYCLE

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Criteria to register as a voter

Citizenship by Descent

Any person born outside the United Republic on or after union day is deemed to be a citizen of United Republic by descent if one of his parents is a citizen of the United Republic of Tanzania by birth or naturalisation. This means that if that person's parents were citizens by descent during the time of his birth, that person does not qualify to be the citizen of Tanzania by descent.

Citizenship by naturalisation

According to Section 8 and 9 (1) of the Citizenship Act, Chapter 357 (Revised Edition of 2002) and its Regulations of 1997 any person who is not a citizen of Tanzania whether by birth or by descent may apply for Tanzania citizenship by naturalisation to the Minister responsible for citizenship matters.



Sixteen political parties' tussle for by-election

By. Our Reporter

A total of 16 political parties took part in the by-election at Amani Constituency located in Mjini District, Mjini Magharibi Region, Zanzibar and seven (7) Wards of Tanzania Mainland.

The election was conducted on 17th December, 2022 and involved 104,728 voters in 266 polling stations.

According to Amani Constituency Returning Officer, Ms. Safia Iddy, candidates who were nominated to vie for the vacant position of a Member of Parliament with their political parties in bracket include Ms. Hidaya Hassan Ameir (Demokrasia Makini), Mr. Bashiri Katabu Said (NLD), Mr. Barik Ali Omar (UPDP), Mr. Mashavu Alawi

Haji (UMD) and Mr. Pandu Haji Pandu (TLP).

Others include Ms. Lela Omar Salim (CCK), Mr. Abdul Yussuf Maalim (CCM), Mr. Khalfani Kheir Simai (NRA), Ms. Naima Salum Hamad (UDP), Mr. Azani Awesu Azani (SAU), Mr. John Charles Mboggo (ADC), Mr. Mohammed Khamis Mohammed (ACT WAZALENDO), Mr. Musoma Emanuel Musoma (DP) and Mr. Abdi Abdalla (CUF).

On the part of Councilors' by-election, prior the nomination process over 12 wards were expected to conduct elections but after the nomination procedures and the verdict on objections and appeals the election was conducted in seven Wards of Tanzania Mainland.

Wards in which election were conducted with their respective district councils in bracket include Majohe (Dar es Salaam City Council), Mndumbwe (Tandahimba District Council), Njombe Mjini (Njombe Town Council), Dunda (Bagamoyo District Council), Mwamalili (Shinyanga Municipal Council), Mnyanjani (Tanga City Council) and Vibaoni (Handeni Town Council).

The rest did not conduct elections because candidates were elected unopposed, they include Dabalo (Chamwino District Council),

Ibanda (Kyela District Council), Misugusugu (Kibaha Town Council) and Kalumbeleza (Sumbawanga District Council).

According to a statement issued by the National Electoral Commission, campaigns for by-election were conducted from 1st to 16th December, this year and election was conducted on 17th December, 2022.

In a statement, the Commission called on the voters who had lost their voting identification cards to use alternative IDs on a condition that the names in those Cards were similar to the ones in the missing Voter's Card, the alternative IDs included Passport, Driving License or a National Identity issued by the National Identification Authority (NIDA).

The statement insisted that only those who registered in the Permanent Voters Register (PVR) and their names were in a respective polling would be allowed to use alternative IDs.

By-election in Amani Constituency was held following the demise of the then Member of Parliament, Hon. Mussa Hassan Mussa on 13th October, 2022.



Be efficient: Election executives urged

By. Our Reporter

The National Electoral Commission urged election executives in Amani Constituency of Zanzibar and 12 Wards of Tanzania Mainland to carry out their duties in accordance with the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, Electoral Laws and its Regulations, Election Code of Ethics and Commission's instructions.

The directives were issued during training of election executives ahead of a by-election in Amani Constituency and 12 Wards of Tanzania Mainland which was conducted on 17th December, 2022. Trainings were held in three different venues in Unguja, Morogoro and Iringa.

Speaking in Unguja, the Commissioner of the National Electoral Commission,

Ambassador Omari Ramadhani Mapuri said election executives must adhere to professionalism.

He added that election is the process that include various steps and procedures to follow which are the prerequisite for a decent, efficient, free and fair election.

Various presentations were made in the three-day trainings ranging from the challenges that may emanate at all stages of elections, thus Ambassador Mapuri called on experienced election executives among the trainees to seize the opportunity and add more knowledge while asking the fresher ones to learn quickly.

"Despite the experience some of you have in conducting elections, I urge you to pay attention to instructors in this training and shun the business as usual syndrome," he said adding;

"You have been nominated because the Commission has faith on your ability to do this work. What is required of you is to have confidence and be professional. In the execution of your duties, you should adhere to the Constitution of United Republic of Tanzania, Election Laws and its regulations, Election Code of Ethics and various guidelines issued by the Commission".

On his part the Commissioner of the National Electoral Commission,

Justice (Rt), Hon. Thomas Mihayo speaking during election executives' training conducted in Iringa Region called on the trainees to make sure that they are well conversant with their areas of duty.

"You should identify polling stations and their special requirements to ensure smooth undertaking of elections," he said adding;

"I urge you to employ capable presiding officers and try as much as possible to avoid appointing incompetent staff in the guise of nepotism".

Speaking in Morogoro Region, the Commissioner of the National Electoral Commission, Adv. Magdalena Rwebangira called on election executives to incorporate political parties in the process of elections.

"Make sure you integrate political parties and other election stakeholders in your areas on matter of election that they are required to know," she said.

She called on election executives to verify all tools, make sure such tools reach presiding officers on time, make sure all the polling stations are opened at 7:00am on election day and contact with the Electoral Body in case of any hiccup.

The Electoral Body announced by-elections in one constituency and

twelve (12) wards of Tanzania Mainland. According to the schedule issued by NEC in a statement signed by the Director of Elections, Dr. Wilson Mahera Charles, aspirants took and returned nomination forms from 24th to 30th November, 2022 and the nomination was on 30th November, 2022. Campaigns commenced on December 1st to 16th, 2022 and by-election was conducted on 17th December, 2022.

By-election in question was held in Amani Constituency located in Mjini District, Mjini Magharibi Region in Zanzibar and wards that featured in this by-election with

their respective districts in bracket includes Majohe (Dar es Salaam City Council), Dabalo (Chamwino District Council), Ibanda (Kyela District Council), Mndumbwe (Tandahimba District Council).

Others include Njombe Town (Njombe Town Council), Misugusugu (Kibaha Town Council), Dunda (Bagamoyo District Council), Kalumbeleza (Sumbawanga District Council), Mwamalili (Shinyanga Municipal Council), Mnyanjani (Tanga City Council), Lukozi (Lushoto District Council) and Vibaoni (Handeni District Council)





Southern Africa Electoral Bodies counseled on integrity

By. Our Reporter

Over 60 participants among them Commissioners and Senior Officials of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) from nine (9) member states of Electoral Commissions Forum of Southern African Development Community

(ECF-SADC) have attended a capacity building workshop in Dar es Salaam recently aimed at boosting integrity, professionalism, transparency and accountability in electoral process.

The four-day workshop was organised and sponsored by ECF-SADC, the National Electoral Commission (NEC) and International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA).

Delivering opening speech at the workshop which was organised to orient new commissioners and senior staff of ECF-SADC, the Chairman of the National Electoral Commission, the Court of Appeal Judge, Jocobs Mwambegele advised EMBs to ensure adherence to fundamental guiding principles in electoral management.

He named the guiding principles as including independence, impartiality, integrity, transparency, efficiency, professionalism, service-mindedness and sustainability.

"It is my hope that this orientation workshop, organised in collaboration with the National Electoral Commission of Tanzania, will contribute to the improvement of the conduct of elections in our

countries and greatly enhance our capacities in electoral management. All these efforts are aimed at accelerating sustainable democracy in the region and beyond," he said.

He added "I must admit that with your recent appointment to election management portfolios, you are no longer viewers but actors and our society expects you to deliver credible elections".

The seminar goal was to orient newly appointed Commissioners and Senior Executives to ease their work by giving them a better understanding of electoral norms and the general knowledge that would enable them execute their duties efficiently, professionally and transparently.

The nine (9) SADC member states represented in the workshop include Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Seychelles, Namibia, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania.





Call to improve the conduct of elections

By. Our Reporter

The government has called on Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) from the Electoral Commissions Forum of Southern African Development Community (ECF-SADC) to improve the conduct of elections in their respective countries to boost

the growth of democracy in the region.

Speaking at the closure of the workshop for the ECF-SADC new commissioners and senior staff in Dar es Salaam recently, the Permanent Secretary in Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs and

Coordination) Dr. John Jingu said while executing their duties EMBs must focus on improving conditions in the coordination and supervision of elections.

“As we go back to our respective countries to deliver on our mandates as EMBs, we are obliged to improve the conduct of elections in our countries and enhance our capacities in electoral management. We should aim at accelerating sustainable democracy in the region and beyond,” he said.

Dr. Jingu pointed out that election is a crucial instrument of security and peace in any country, thus EMBs must ensure they conduct elections that are acceptable by all stakeholders to avoid chaos.

Participants hailed from nine EMBs from SADC member states which include Botswana, Lesotho, Seychelles, Namibia, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The capacity building workshop was organised purposely to orient new commissioners and senior officials of the EMBs about the electoral laws, good practices and contemporary issues in management of elections.

Commenting on the benefits of the training in question, the Commissioner of Electoral Commission of Tanzania, Judge of High Court, Hon. Asina Omari said it was of great importance as it has shaded light on key issues including among others the importance of ICT, use of social media and the importance of stakeholders' involvement in electoral process.





Ulingo members mourn death of Mwanilwa

By. Our Reporter

Some of the members of the Tanzania Women Cross-Party Platform (TWCP-ULINGO) have visited the National Electoral Commission (NEC) Offices in Dodoma recently to convey their condolences following the recent demise of Gerald Mwanilwa who was the Director of

Administration and Human Resources Management at NEC.

They were received by the Acting Director of Election of NEC, Mr. Nassoro Shemzigwa accompanied by the Director of Public Information and Voters' Education, Ms. Givness Aswile.

Speaking on behalf of fellow members, Ms. Saumu Rashid said they were compelled to visit because they are a part of a wider range of Electoral Management Body's stakeholders who have worked closely with the late Mwanilwa.

"We came in Dodoma to attend a meeting of CCM women wing following an invitation that was extended to us, after the meeting we found it necessary to also pass by and convey our heartfelt condolences following the loss of your co-worker who also worked

with us closely especially in the course of previous General Election," she said.




Speaking on behalf of the National Electoral Commission, Ms. Aswile thanked the visiting guests for their compassion and the decision to take they time to visit and console the management and staff.

The visitors had an opportunity to tour the NEC Headquarter premises and were also given copies of the 2020's General Election Report.



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