

OBSERVER MISSION

Observer Mission

Election observation is the process of gathering information related to the electoral process in a systematic way, and issuing of reports and evaluation on the conduct of the electoral process based on information gathered by the accredited observers without interference in the process itself.

Roles of observer mission

- Promote free and fair elections.
- Identify malpractices and bring them to the attention of the electoral body and write reports.
- Provide information that can be used in the improvement of an electoral system.
- Highlight pertinent issues unique to certain electoral rules.
- Influence future policies governing an electoral system.
- Identify instances of voters and human rights violation.

Types of observers

- Local organization e.g. CANGO
- Foreign missions and organization e.g. SADC ECF, SEOM, SADC Parliamentary Forum, COMESA etc.
- Individual persons accredited by various interest groups but no personal vested interest in the political process.

Accreditation of Election Observers

Observer mission must be accredited by the Commission to access polling station. An accredited observer mission will identify by:

- Accreditation badge
- Oath of secrecy

Rights and Privileges

- May scrutinize the voters list
- Enter polling station
- Enter places appointed for counting votes
- Seek information and clarification from the EBC officials.
- Enter and leave the polling station at will

