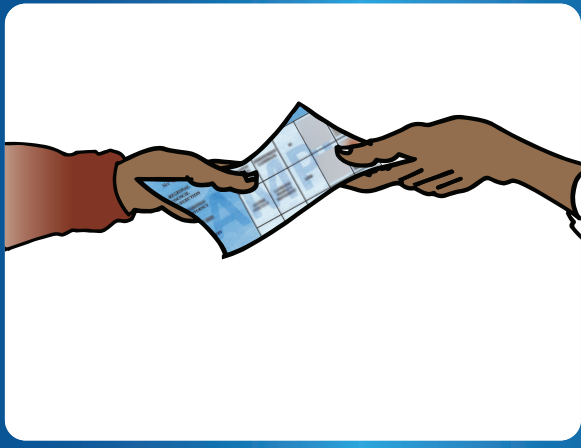
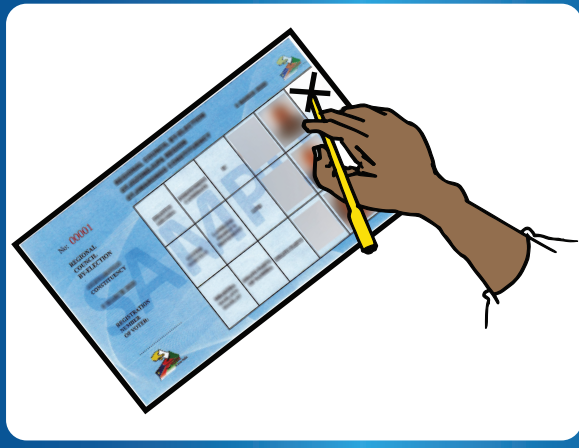


# HOW TO VOTE USING A BALLOT PAPER

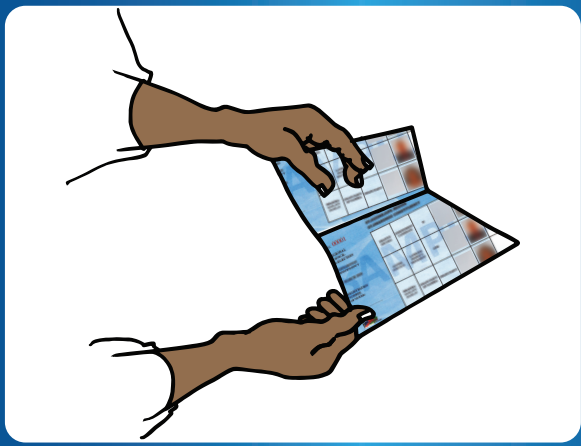
The Polling officer issues a ballot paper to the voter.



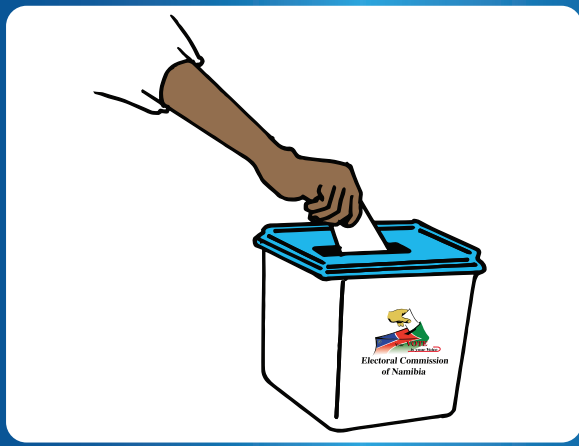
The voter marks X on the ballot paper next to the candidate, party or organisation of their choice.



The voter folds the ballot paper.



The voter deposits the ballot paper into the ballot box, thus casting a vote.



## GO VOTE, YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



**Electoral Commission  
of Namibia**

# NAMIBIA VOTES 2020

## REGIONAL COUNCIL AND LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

# 25 NOVEMBER 2020

The mandate to conduct Regional Councils and Local Authority elections emanates from the Namibian Constitution (Article 94B) supported by the Electoral Act (Act 5 of 2014). This Article establishes ECN as a constitutional body, exclusively mandated to direct, supervise, manage and control the conduct of elections and referenda, subject to the Constitution. This constitutional injunction is given greater content in the Regional Councils Act (No. 22 of 1992) and the Local Authority Councils Act (No. 23 of 1992) respectively.

In terms of the Namibian electoral calendar Regional Councils and Local Authority elections are conducted every five (5) years. To this end, the Namibian nation went to the polls on Friday, 27 November 2015 to elect their representatives for five years. Accordingly, the Commission is expected to conduct the Regional Council and Local Authority elections in November 2020.

### **Regional Council elections**

Regional Council elections are conducted according to the majoritarian or first-past-the post electoral system. According to this system, the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner of the elections. In practical terms, this means that the candidate who receives the most votes per constituency will be elected to the Regional Council. During Regional Council elections, voters can only vote in the constituency in which they are registered.

A person may be nominated as a candidate for election as a member of a regional council as a member of a registered political party, by the political party or as an independent candidate whose nomination is supported by at least 150 registered voters in the constituency for which the nomination is intended.

### **Local Authority elections**

Local Authority elections are conducted in terms of the proportional representation system. During these elections, registered voters vote for the political party, organization or association of their choice. The party, organization or association appoints its representatives to the local authority on the proportional list system. Seats onto the local authority council are allocated in proportion to the number of votes received. Thus, the more votes received by the party, organization or association contesting in the elections, the more seats it will receive onto the local authority council.

### **DETERMINATION OF SEATS**

The formula used to calculate the number of seats a political party/association has obtained is the following:

#### **Step 1. Determine Quota**

= Total number of valid votes counted, divided by the number of seats available.

**FOR EXAMPLE** - The number of votes counted in respect of a Local Authority election is 8350 and there are 7 seats for allocation, the quota shall be: 8350 divided 7 which would equal 1193 votes per seat.

**Step 2.** Divide total number of votes recorded for each political party/organization or association by the quota in order to determine the seats available for each party.

**NB: Some parties may not get a seat during the first round when this calculation is done.**

Surplus is what is left after the total number of votes recorded per party has been divided by the quota. If for example the Local Authority has 7 seats and the number of seats allocated is only 6, the surplus votes determine to which party, organization or association the last seat is allocated to.

The party, organization or association with the next highest surplus votes in descending order are allocated the remaining seat(s).

## **GO VOTE, YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

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