



**Electoral Commission  
of Namibia**

**PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT  
AND POST-ELECTION REPORT**

**2019**  
**Presidential and  
National Assembly  
Elections**

**27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**





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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACHPR</b>	African Charter on Human and People's Rights
<b>AFIS</b>	Automated Fingerprint Identification System
<b>APP</b>	All People's Party
<b>AUEOM</b>	African Union Election Observer Mission
<b>BEL</b>	Bharat Electronics Limited
<b>CERC</b>	Central Elections Results Centre
<b>CVE</b>	Voter and Civic Education
<b>ECF-SADC</b>	Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries
<b>ECN</b>	Electoral Commission of Namibia
<b>ELCIN</b>	Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia
<b>EMVs</b>	Electronic Voting Machines
<b>FLC</b>	First Level Checks
<b>HR</b>	Human Resources
<b>IEC</b>	Independent Electoral Commission
<b>LA</b>	Local Authority
<b>MVRKs</b>	Mobile Voter Registration Kits
<b>MWT</b>	Ministry of Works and Transport
<b>NBC</b>	Namibian Broadcasting Corporation
<b>NEFF</b>	Namibia Economic Freedom Front
<b>NUDO</b>	National Unity Democratic Organization
<b>OMAs</b>	Offices, Ministries and Agencies
<b>PR</b>	Proportional representation
<b>PVR</b>	Provisional Voters Registers
<b>PLWDs</b>	People Living with Disabilities
<b>RC</b>	Regional Council
<b>RDP</b>	Rally for Democracy and Progress
<b>RO</b>	Returning Officer
<b>SEOM</b>	SADC Election Observer Mission
<b>SRV</b>	Supplementary Registration of Voters
<b>UDF</b>	United Democracy Front
<b>VVDs</b>	Handheld Voter Verification Devices
<b>VVPAT</b>	Voter Verification Paper Audits Trial
<b>WRP</b>	Workers Revolutionary Party

# PREFACE BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF NAMIBIA

In terms of Section 116 of the Electoral Act No.5 of 2014 the ECN is obligated to conduct a performance assessment in respect of electoral processes and publish a **Performance Assessment and Post-Election report** not later than six months after the conclusion of any election conducted in Namibia. The purpose of requiring ECN to publish a post-election report is designed to ensure that all the electoral processes are conducted in a transparent manner.

In the fulfilment of this noble objective, the Commission is honored to confirm that we conducted the post-election performance assessment in respect of the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections from 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at the Windhoek Country Club and Resort, with the ECN management team. The final copy of the post-election will be submitted to the Speaker of the National Assembly for scrutiny and further distribution and public display, as required by the Act.

Historically, elections in Namibia have been peaceful and are conducted without any major incidence of violence or intimidation. In this regard, the Commission is pleased to note that the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections were no exception. Generally, all stakeholders, including political parties, adhered to the Code of Conduct, which requires all participants and contestants to conduct their election campaigns and political rallies in a peaceful and tolerant manner. Most importantly, the 2019 elections have underlined the importance of the constitutional and legal framework in the management and execution of the ECN mandate. In this regard, the 2019 elections will mainly be remembered for matters surrounding the constitutional and legal framework, especially where provisions and principles were subject to more than one



**Adv. Notemba Tjipueja**  
Chairperson

interpretation. The contentious issues highlighted included the following principles and provisions:

- i) The Principle of Separation of Powers between the three main organs of State - the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary;
- ii) The transparency and credibility of elections of the Electoral System;
- iii) Provisions for Independent Candidates and
- iv) Qualifications of candidates to be nominated as Members of the National Assembly

Firstly, the principle of the **Separation of Powers** between two of the three main organs of State, became the bone of contention just a few days after Election Day, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The nation's collective attention was once

more refocused to the founding principles of our democracy, when a court case challenging the alleged violation of the principle of the Separation of Powers between the main organs of State was launched in the Supreme Court; as the court of first instance. These principles, including the Separation of Powers, are contained in Article 1 of the Constitution, and established the Republic of Namibia as:

- A Namibian State founded upon the principles of democracy, the rule of law and justice for all;
- All power is vested in the people of Namibia who shall exercise their sovereignty through the democratic institutions of State; and
- The main organs of State shall be the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary.
- The Constitution is the Supreme Law of Namibia.

The complainants, including the Independent Candidate and several opposition parties, who brought the case before the Supreme Court, questioned the constitutionality of what they considered to be a ministerial determination to suspend Section 97 of the Electoral Act, which allowed the use of EVMs without a paper trail. The Supreme Court found that the ministerial decision to suspend section 97 of the Act violated the constitutional principle of separation of powers because the determination was done by a member of the Executive, (Minister) instead of by Parliament, thereby invalidating any such ministerial determination. The Supreme Court decision is based on the argument that the use of EVMs without a paper trail compromised the credibility of elections due to a lack of transparency and, therefore, it was deemed detrimental to the public confidence in the electoral process. However, although the court case relates to the use of EVMs without VVPAT, the underlying principle is the Separation of Powers.

Secondly, in the same case, the complainants argued that, without VVPAT, the **credibility** of 2019 elections is questionable because the

transparency of the voting system is compromised. The Supreme Court also based its verdict on the argument that the use of EVMs without paper trail compromised the credibility of elections and undermined public confidence in the electoral process. However, the Commission was found not to have violated any law, since the existing electoral law allowed the use of the EVMs without VVPAT.

The calls for **resignation of the independent candidates** from political parties grew louder during the campaign period. The Independent Candidate was contesting the position of the President by virtue of Article 28(3) of the Constitution, which provides for the qualification criteria to be nominated as a candidate for the Office of President. Similarly, Section 72 of the Electoral Act duly provides for independent candidates to participate in elections if his or her nomination is supported by at least 500 registered voters per region. However, the Act is silent on whether or not an independent candidate must resign as a member of the political party he or she belonged to before being nominated as an independent candidate. Although this is largely an intra-party matter, the ambiguity of the constitutional and legislative framework has affected the overall election atmosphere in a negative way.

The commission ensured that, the qualification for the nomination of candidates to become members of the National Assembly was strictly enforced during the 2019 elections. Articles 46 and 47 of the Constitution provide for the **qualifications for nomination of candidates for election to the National Assembly**. Similarly, Section 77 of the Electoral Act provides for the councillors or any civil servant who is on the government payroll to resign their seats in order to qualify for nomination as candidates for National Assembly elections. Some political parties and affected councillors interpreted and construed Section 77 to mean that they may only resign their council seats after the results of the elections are known.



They argued that resignation of their current positions is a matter of bread and butter for the affected councillors.

Although most of the affected councillors resigned before the elections, one (1) councilor only resigned after the election results were announced. The resignation of councilors also resulted in the conduct of five (5) by-elections to fill the vacant positions. Holding multiple by-elections is a costly undertaking, which the country could ill-afford, especially during the economic downturn being experienced. However, the commission was obliged to implement the supreme provisions of the constitution.

Lastly, the analysis of the election results revealed that the participation in the electoral process and the **voter turnout** in the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections was notably lower than in previous elections despite extensive voter education.

The Commission would like to express its gratitude and satisfaction to the stakeholders for ensuring that the overall campaign period leading up to the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections was largely peaceful and free from violence and intimidation.

The Commission is also appreciative of the utilization of courts as a preferred recourse by disaffected stakeholders to resolve election-related conflicts. It is indicative of the fact that Namibians have confidence in the **conflict resolution mechanism** in place to adjudicate electoral matters in a peaceful manner. In hindsight, the court cases served to reassure, confirm and remind us that:

- 1) The Namibian State is indeed founded on the principles of democracy, the rule of law and justice for all;
- 2) The Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Republic;
- 3) The independence of the Judiciary to uphold the separation of powers between the Legislature and the Executive; and
- 4) That transparency and credibility of the voting system in Namibia is jealously guarded.

The report provides an honest account of the critical activities carried out for the elections under review and the ECN will continue to remain committed to conduct free, fair, transparent and credible elections.

**Adv. Notemba Tjipueja**

Chairperson

October 2020

# PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND POST-ELECTION REPORT

The Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report of the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections is a statutory requirement in terms of Section 116 of the Electoral Act. This section obliges the ECN to conduct a performance assessment in respect of any electoral process and publish a post-election report in respect of the election concerned.

The Electoral Act of 2014 (No. 5 of 2014) is prescriptive of the content of the post-election performance assessment report. The following issues must be covered in the report:

- Constitutional and electoral issues;
- Systems and logistics, including infrastructure;
- Training of staff members or temporary staff members (electoral officials) and their performance;
- Voter and Civic Education;
- The voting processes and analysis of results;
- Possible recommendations of amendments to any electoral legislation;
- Any other matter which the Commission may deem necessary.

The Post-Election Performance Assessment Report must be submitted to the National Assembly. This is to be done by the Chairperson of the Commission within six (6) months after an election.

The Act is also explicit on how the Speaker of the National Assembly should deal with the report. It requires the Speaker to cause the National Assembly to discuss and consider the report. The Speaker is further required to refer and distribute the report to the President, Chief Justice, the Chairperson of the Electoral Court, the Chairperson of the Magistrates Commission and the Chairperson of the Law Reform and Development Commission. The Speaker is similarly required to make the report available for public inspection.

Section 116 of the Act is clearly meant to solidify accountability, build confidence in the electoral process and to deepen democracy. This publication constitutes the performance assessment report for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections which were held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

# CHAPTER ONE: PRE-ELECTION PHASE

The Electoral Act (No 5 of 2014) defines the pre-election phase as the period prior to polling day. In order to assess the pre-election phase in its entirety, this section gives a brief assessment of the legal framework governing the Presidential and National Assembly elections, the election system, election administration, voter registration and the election campaign.

## PART A: LEGAL FRAMEWORK

### 1. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

In keeping with the Electoral Cycle, the Legislative Framework matters are dealt with during the Pre-Electoral Phase. The Pre-Electoral Phase represents the first phase of the three phases of an Electoral Cycle, namely, the Pre-Election Phase (Preparations), Electoral Period (Operations) and the Post Electoral Phase (Strategies). In simple terms, the Pre-Electoral Phase can, therefore, be regarded as the period prior to the polling day. Five (5) major preparatory electoral processes are undertaken, including i) Review of Legal Framework, ii) Planning and Implementation, iii) Training and Voter Education, iv) Registration and Nomination and v) Electoral Campaign. Under the Legislative Framework, matters related to Constitution, legislation, electoral system and boundaries and the Code of Conduct are considered. In Namibia, the Constitution and the Electoral Act of 2014, Act No. 5 of 2014 provide the legislative framework in relation to the powers and functions of the ECN.

#### 1.1 Constitutional Provisions

The Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Republic, and it provides for and guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms of the citizens to participate in elections. These guarantees, as contained in Chapter 3, in particularly Articles 17 on political activities, Article 21 on the fundamental freedoms, and Article 131 on Entrenchment of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, are crucial to the integrity of the election process. In line with

Namibia's international obligations and democratic principles, the Constitution further provides for freedom of expression, freedom of association, freedom of assembly and freedom of movement. The key aspects to these Articles and Chapter 3 can be summarised as follows:

- i) An electoral process in democracy cannot be separated from the electorate's right to vote, neither from the pursuance of fundamental rights and freedoms. To be credible elections must take place in a conducive political environment and atmosphere that promotes equality, freedom of choice, the secrecy of vote and respect for human dignity.
- ii) Namibian citizens shall have the right to participate in peaceful political activities. This fundamental right and freedom cannot be denied to Namibians;
- iii) All citizens shall have the right to form and join political parties and such formations are necessary in a democratic society, and
- iv) A democratic society such as Namibia has the constitutional right and freedom to participate in the conduct of public affairs, whether directly or through freely chosen representatives.

These fundamental rights and freedoms are such that they cannot be taken away from Namibians as they are entrenched in terms of Article 131 of the Constitution which deals with the Entrenchment of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms. Most importantly, the Third Constitutional Amendments of 2014 strengthened the mandate of the ECN by making it a constitutional entity and safeguarding of its independence.

The Constitutional mandate of the ECN emanates from Article 94B of the Namibian Constitution. 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.

The Commission reports to the National Assembly through the Speaker of the National Assembly and must submit, among others:

- (i) An Annual Report in respect of its activities performed during the preceding year; and
- (ii) A Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report after each election conducted, of which 2019 is the year concerned for this post-election report.

## **1.2 Electoral Framework**

The Electoral Act is the primary law governing all aspects on the management of elections in Namibia, at all levels – local, regional and national levels. It provides for the rights to vote, the registration of voters, the nomination of candidates, the polling procedures etc. According to the Electoral Act, the mandate of the ECN is to organize, direct, supervise, manage and control the conduct of elections and referenda in a free, fair, independent, credible, transparent and impartial manner as well as to strengthen constitutional democracy and to promote democratic electoral and referenda processes. Elections are indispensable to representative democracy.

## **2. ELECTORAL SYSTEMS & BOUNDARIES**

### **2.1 Electoral Systems**

The Namibian electoral law provides for two systems for electing representatives through democratic elections conducted at three levels, namely, national, regional and local council levels. The Presidential elections are conducted every five years and the presidential candidate is elected for a maximum of two five-year terms through the plurality system. The Presidential candidate needs more than 50 per cent of the total votes in order to be declared duly elected.

On the other hand, the parliamentary candidates are elected for a five-year term through a Proportional Representation (PR) system or a party list system.

### **2.2 Clarification of Boundaries**

In terms of Article 104 (1) of the Namibian Constitution, the demarcation and re-demarcation

of the country into regions and constituencies is the mandate of a Boundaries Delimitation and Demarcation Commission.

The Fourth Delimitation Commission was commissioned on 07<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and submitted its report to the President of the Republic of Namibia, in June 2014. The publishing of the recommendations of the Delimitation Commission in the Government Gazette No 5261 of 09<sup>th</sup> August 2013, signalled the ECN to start with the preparations for the clarification of new boundaries. It is imperative that the ECN conducts elections within the pre-defined boundaries for the various constituencies and political regions of the country.

As part of the Supplementary Registration of Voters (SRV) which took place in July 2019, the Division Planning and Registration undertook a mission to all 14 regions of the country. The mission's objectives were the verification of registration points and the clarification of constituency boundaries. Two (2) teams were assembled and tasked with the responsibility of completing the mission within three weeks, from 10<sup>th</sup> March - 04<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

The boundary clarification exercise had two main objectives. Firstly, the mission sought to engage stakeholders in the regions in reviewing the list of registration points that were used in the last 2015 Regional Councils (RC) and Local Authority Councils (LA) elections in order to ensure that the list reflects the realities on the ground. In practice, this meant adding or removing some registration points from the lists, taking cognizance of the development and extension of town land boundaries, and re-arranging the order of sequence of registration points in order to avoid zigzag movement of mobile registration teams during the registration process. Secondly, the two teams sought to sensitize all the key stakeholders on the importance of boundary clarification, and to identify and resolve any boundary disputes that may exist between constituencies, thereby ensuring that the ECN and stakeholders speak the same language concerning constituency boundaries.

The verification of registration points and the clarification of boundaries is a statutory requirement designed to ensure that voters are registered in their respective constituencies in which they ordinarily reside. In addition, the exercise ensured that an accurate and credible voters' register for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections.

## PART B: BUDGETING, PROCUREMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCE

### 3. BUDGETING

The ECN is fully financed through funds appropriated through the Appropriation Act and were allocated N\$ 69,287,000.00 by Treasury for the 2019/2020 financial year for non-personnel expenditure. The Commission had submitted a budget request of N\$ 350,161,000.00 for the conduct of the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly Election, of which there was a shortfall of N\$ 280,874,000.00. Subsequent to the budget cut, the Ministry of Finance was engaged, and the remainder of the initial request was allocated. The budget execution rate for the 2019/20 Financial Year as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 were reported as follows:

Programme Budget Expenditure Percentage	Budget	Expenditure	Percentage
01 – Administration of Elections	N\$ 238,045,611.00	N\$ 237,357,943.00	99.71%
02 – Voter Education and Information Dissemination	N\$ 48,910,049.00	N\$ 48,557,382.00	99.28%
03 – Policy Coordination and Support Services	N\$ 63,205,340.00	N\$ 62,403,247.00	98.73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>N\$ 350,161,000.00</b>	<b>N\$ 348,318,572.00</b>	<b>99.47%</b>

#### 3.1 Procurement

All procurement of registration and election materials were completed by following laid down procedures in terms of the Public Procurement Act and Regulations and Treasury Instructions.

During the preparations of 2019 Election, some of the materials acquired included:

Date	Items received	Quantity	Price	Total
14.10.2019	Bulb extension	1,800	N\$ 495.00	N\$ 891,000.00
02.09.2019	Chairs folding green	2,000	N\$ 499.00	N\$ 998,000.00
	Generators	5	N\$ 9,200.00	N\$ 46,000.00
30.10.2019	Jerry cans	400	N\$ 329.95	N\$ 131,980.00
08.07.2019	Tents 5x5	10	N\$ 9,100.00	N\$ 91,000.00
08.07.2019	Tents 5x10	10	N\$ 14,723.00	N\$ 147,230.00
02.09.2019	Voting booths	1,000	N\$ 680.00	N\$ 680,000.00
30.10.2019	Water Containers	500	N\$ 97.00	N\$ 48,500.00
	First Aid Kits	1,000	N\$ 380.00	N\$ 380,000.00
02.09.2019	Table folding	1,000	N\$ 599.00	N\$ 599,000.00

#### 3.2 Human Resources and Training

Sections 18 (17), 24 and 65 of the Electoral Act empowers the Commission to appoint all temporary categories of election officials in order to execute its mandate. The Commission must ensure that the various appointed officials are well trained and have passed a numeracy, literacy and eligibility test determined by the Commission before assuming duties.

### 3.3 Recruitment

The vacancies for election officials for both SRV and polling were advertised in the print and social media platforms on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Applications for the aforementioned vacancies closed on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The ECN received a total of more than 53 000 applications. For the first time, and as per a directive by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the ECN only employed unemployed Namibians with the appropriate qualifications and experience. The ECN also allocated a quota (10%) to the recruitment of people living with disabilities (PLWDs), and the marginalized communities. The recruitment process commenced with the selection and recruitment of Regional Managers, i.e. supervisors of registration/returning officers, which was undertaken by the Commission supported by the Secretariat. These officials performed their electoral duties at 1,410 fixed and 2,831 mobile polling stations throughout the country.

The recruitment statistics are represented in the table below:

Position	Number of Officials
Regional Coordinators (RCs)	14
Assistant Coordinators(ACs)	28
Supervisors of Registration/Returning Officers (ROs)	122
Team Leaders (SRV)	671
Registration Officials (inclusive of 163 PWDs, and 145 Marginalised)	2674
Youth Ambassadors	94
IT Support HQ	10
Regional IT	14
Regional Logistics Officers	59
Logistics Assistants HQ	12
IT Field Support Staff	324
HR Assistants/Administrative Officers	10
Foreign Missions	68
Transport Officers	2
Polling officials	11 365
Presiding Officers	2 273
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 740</b>

### 3.4 Training

The standing practice is that training of electoral officials is cascaded in terms of the hierarchy of the appointed officials. The training of regional and assistant coordinators and supervisors of registration for SRV commenced from 16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019, at Out of Africa Lodge in Otjiwarongo facilitated by officials from the ECN Head Office. This was followed by the training of registration officials from 28<sup>th</sup> June – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019, conducted by the supervisors of registration overseen by the regional coordinators in the respective regional clusters.

The training of election officials for the Presidential and National Assembly elections, at regional and constituency levels, commenced with a one (1) week extensive training of the regional managers, i.e., the Regional Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators during the period 07<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> October 2019. This was followed by another one (1) week training of Returning Officers, which was conducted over the period 21<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.



The training for polling officials commenced immediately after the completion of the training of regional managers and constituency supervisors. Training of polling officials was cascaded to cluster training in the respective regions and this was conducted by Returning Officers and supervised by the Regional Coordinators during the period 15<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The election officials were trained on all aspects of the polling process, including the respective duties and responsibilities of different officials, theory and legal provisions of the Electoral Act as well as the technical and practical training on handling and operating various equipment and devices. Most of the practical training focused on the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), Handheld Voter Verification Devices (VVDs), Administrative forms (Elect Forms) and the counting process.

### 3.5 Challenges

- The disbursement of funds in terms of ceilings given by the Ministry of Finance during an election year makes it difficult for the ECN to execute its mandate.
- Inconsistent execution of the Procurement Act and Regulations.
- The process of payments of election related expenditure on the ECN payment system hosted by MoF through SILNAM IT Solutions makes it difficult to make payments in the shortest possible time.
- ECN employs a huge number of unemployed officials during election periods who in many cases do not have the necessary active bank accounts, resulting in the delay of processing payments on time or rejected payments.
- Applicants for electoral positions are encouraged to apply in constituencies where they reside, however, it has been the experience that individual applicants submit multiple applications in more than one constituency. This makes the selection and recruitment process cumbersome and challenging.
- The absence of experienced government officials in the electoral process at critical levels such as Team Leaders/Presiding Officers, Supervisors of Registration/Returning Officers was felt on the ground, impacting the process adversely.

Returning Officers are appointed by the Commission in terms of the Electoral Act which also requires a proclamation by His Excellency the President to be published in the Government Gazette. The appointing authority which is the Commission, may by virtue of the Electoral Act replace any category of electoral officials including Returning Officers for various reasons. The process of proclamation of the names of Returning Officers in the Government Gazette is cumbersome. This process is not responsive to timeous replacement of Returning Officers on short notice.

- Unresponsive organizational structure to cascade training to various levels of electoral officials.
- Training a large number of electoral officials, police officers and political party agents in one training venue compromises the quality of the process.

### 3.6 Recommendations

- Timely engagement by the Commission with the Ministry of Finance for exemption on the release of funds earmarked for an election year unlike the current practice of monthly ceilings.
- Training of staff on the execution and compliance of the Procurement Act.
- Introduction of an online recruitment system for the appointment of all categories of election officials to reduce multiple applications.
- The need to do away with the announcement of Returning Officers by way of proclamation and introduction of notification of appointment as the Commission may determine.
- Introduction of a supportive organizational structure to support the execution of mandate.
- Reduce the number of participants per training session by cascading training into different sessions.
- Review efficiency of ECN payment system in consultation with MoF and SILNAM IT Solutions.
- Consultation MoF to consider other methods of payment e.g. eWallet, PayPulse, etc.

## 4. VOTER AND CIVIC EDUCATION

Voter and Civic Education is one of the core functions of the ECN. Currently, the ECN employs temporary Voter Education Officers in all 14 regions of the country, providing voter and civic education to the populace on a daily basis. Civic and voter education is considered as the most efficient manner of strengthening democracy through education and information. The Electoral Act, (Act 5 of 2014), obliges that the Commission be supervising, directing, controlling and promoting voter and civic education amongst others:

1. Pursue the objective to make the meaning and purpose of elections well understood by the electorate;
2. Create public awareness on elections, democracy building and political tolerance;
3. Design a multi-media campaign strategy that identifies information channels;
4. Encourage civic organisations, the media and political parties to support the voter and civic education program of the Commission and;
5. Ensure that voter and civic education particularly addresses the young population.

In addition to this, voter and civic education aims to:

- Encourage and promote partnership and collaboration with stakeholders such as political parties, government ministries, non-governmental organizations and the civic society and,
- Encourage popular civic participation in the electoral processes, before, during and after any electoral activities (registration of voters, polling, boundary clarifications of constituencies and regions, amongst others, etc.)

In view of the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections, the ECN recruited youth ambassadors, including people living with disabilities (PLWDs) and marginalized communities in the regions with the aim to strengthen and ensure inclusive participation of the electorate in electoral processes. The voter educators in the

regions made efforts to ensure that communities and the electorate in particular, have opportunities to practice the use of EVMs during the meetings and sessions, especially the first-time voters and the voters in general before the Election Day. This was a mammoth task to the voter educators as there were more demands from key stakeholders mainly the constituency councillors and communities. The voter educators had to respond timeously to these demands by working irregular hours to ensure that everyone was offered an opportunity to experiment on the EVMs before the polls.

### 4.1 Design and production of voter education materials

The ECN considers voter and civic education a function that calls for a multi-sectoral approach. As such, the Division Democracy Building in partnership with stakeholders and media houses came up with comprehensive voter education materials such as audio visuals, radio/newspaper advertisements, posters, fliers, pamphlets, billboards, banners among others targeting eligible voters to ensure that the citizenry were well informed about the electoral processes, through various voter and civic education programmes. ECN took greater cognizance of the scope of the youth population during the lead up to the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections, and together with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) worked on a voter education drive using social media and print media, aimed at encouraging participation of first time voters (18-25) to vote during November 2019. The objective of this campaign was to ensure that young people were given voter education information through platforms that were easily accessible to them.

### 4.2 Conduct of voter education and EVMs demonstrations

The voter education programme throughout the country was intensified when the voter education materials were produced and dispatched to the regions for further distribution in the months of October, prior to the polling date on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The electorate was mostly keen on practicing



how to use the EVMs, but also on getting the information on the polling venues where to cast their votes in their respective constituencies. In order to make this a reality, reinforcement of voter education in the regions was necessary. In this regard, staff from ECN Head Office were sent to Kavango West, Omusati, Otjozondjupa, Erongo, //Kharas, Oshana, Omaheke and Hardap regions. The reinforcement alleviated pressure on the regional teams, especially when the demand was high in terms of distributing voter education materials in the regions.

The voter education programme experienced challenges in terms of low turnout at information-sharing sessions. 2019 was a year of devastating drought and as a result, communities were more concerned about how they could survive the drought with their livestock/animals. This affected the communities immensely and community leaders shared these experiences with voter educators in order to make them understand the impact of social dynamics on communities.

However, despite the challenges experienced by voter educators in the course of providing the much needed information to the communities, the voter education programme was concluded peacefully without any incidents of a political nature. In this respect, the entire political environment and the conduct of the members of the communities was commendable. We are indebted to members of public at large, and to the media, community leaders, church leaders, and political parties, for the support provided to the ECN and to voter education officers, in particular, while performing the electoral activities for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly Elections.

## 5. SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Section 38 (1) read together with Section 25 (2) of the Electoral Act, (No. 5 of 2014), provide for the SRV process to be conducted before any election. The SRV is aimed at registering persons who qualify to be registered as voters and could not

have registered during the last registration of voters in preparation of the voters register. The purpose of SRV before holding an election is to include in the voter's register persons:

- Who have since turned 18 years of age after the last registration;
- Who have moved from one constituency to another; or
- Whose voter registration cards are reported lost or destroyed; and
- Any other applicant who qualify for registration in terms of section 22(1) of the Electoral Act.

The ECN conducted the SRV between 8<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and was successfully concluded with a primary figure of 271,193 eligible voters registered, inclusive of Namibians who registered abroad at Namibian Diplomatic Missions. Of these, 123,448 were new applicants and 147,745 were voters making corrections to their details. The National Voters Register before the conduct of the SRV as at 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 stood at 1,235,020 registered voters. The Provisional Voters Register (PVR) was displayed for inspection from 02<sup>nd</sup> – 06<sup>th</sup> September 2019 as per Government Gazette Notice no 6980 published on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019. This process was conducted in accordance with Section 31 and 32 of the Electoral Act which requires the ECN to prepare, publish and display a PVR for public scrutiny and objections against the names of persons included therein. The Commission is pleased to note that no objections were reported during this period.

The preparation of the final voters' register required the execution of several integrity checks which included the Automatic Fingerprints Identification System (AFIS) to remove duplicate entries and the manual adjudications and removal of deceased persons.

In terms of the statistics of eligible voters that were registered during the SRV, the total number of registered voters increased from 1,235,020 to 1,358 468. Following the SRV the total figure included, 717,809 females and 640,659 male eligible voters.

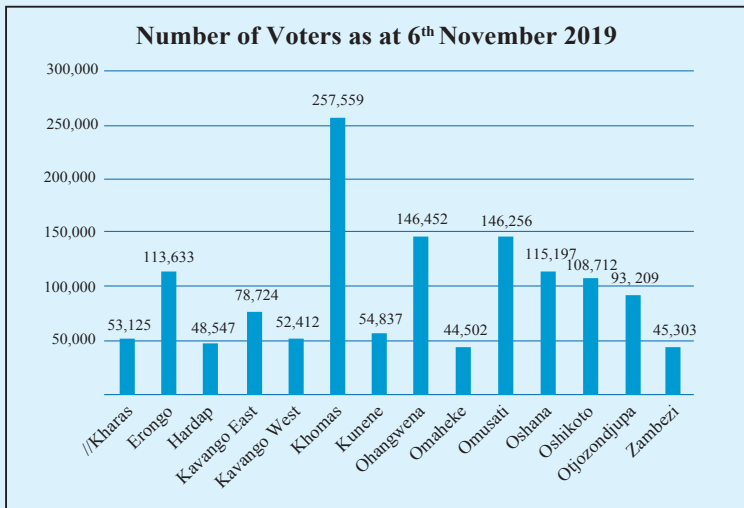
Born frees (born 1990 onwards) make up 403,106 of the registered voters. The three (3) regions with the highest registered voters are Khomas (257,559), Ohangwena (146,452) and Omusati with (146,256). The regions with the lowest number of registered voters are Omaheke (44,502), Zambezi (45,303) and Hardap with (48,547).

## 5.1 Statistical Representation

The following statistics provides an overview of the number of registered voters, gender breakdowns per region and constituency, as well as the generational breakdown as at 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### Number of Registered Voters in Namibia

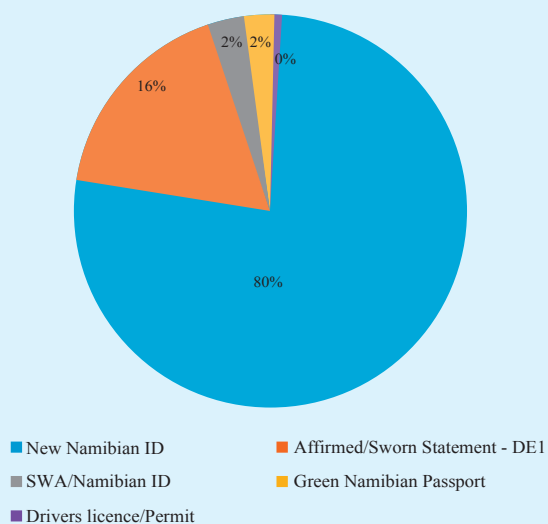
Region	Female	Male	No. of Voters
//Kharas	24,303	28,822	53,125
Erongo	50,887	62,746	113,633
Hardap	23,871	24,676	48,547
Kavango East	45,040	33,684	78,724
Kavango West	29,540	22,872	52,412
Khomas	128,790	128,769	257,559
Kunene	27,300	27,537	54,837
Ohangwena	85,441	61,011	146,452
Omaheke	20,609	23,893	44,502
Omusati	87,159	59,097	146,256
Oshana	66,244	48,953	115,197
Oshikoto	60,036	48,676	108,712
Otjozondjupa	43,333	49,876	93,209
Zambezi	25,256	20,047	45,303
<b>Register Total</b>	<b>717,809</b>	<b>640,659</b>	<b>1,358,468</b>



The registered voters are broken down by region with a column graph indicating differences in numbers and indicating the total number of voters registered per region.

### Proof of Identity

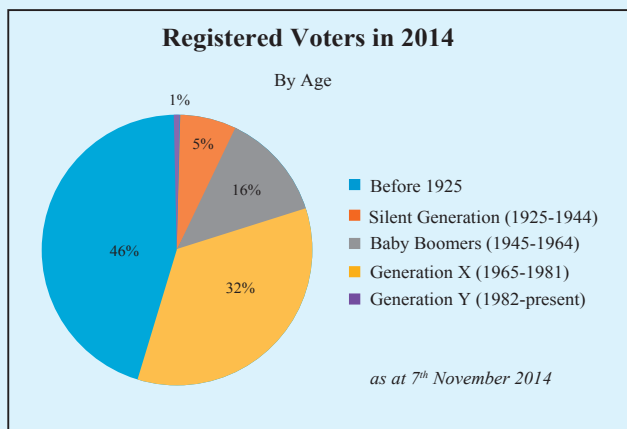
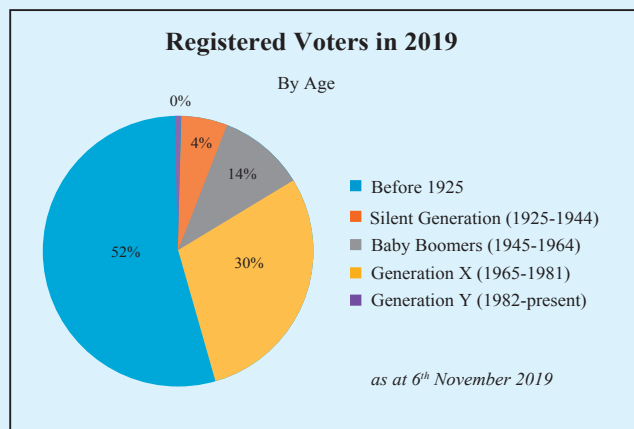
#### Identity Document used for Proof of Identity



## Registered Voters by Generation

This graph shows the change in percentage of the different age groups of registered voters. It also indicates the number of Born-Frees, Millennials, and those who turned 18 since the previous registration.

	2019	2014
Before 1925	5,846	8,349
Silent Generation (1925-1944)	55,699	65,271
Baby Boomers (1945-1964)	192,877	200,271
Generation X (1965-1981)	403,398	402,597
Generation Y (1982-present)	700,648	564,706
<b>Total Voters</b>	<b>1,358,468</b>	<b>1,241,194</b>

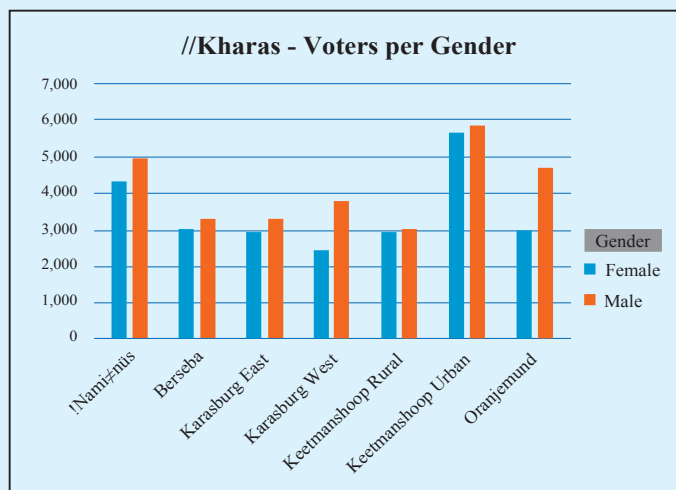


## Voters per Region, Constituency and Gender

The gender breakdown indicates the relationship between the genders in the make-up of a Regional and Constituency total.

### //Kharas

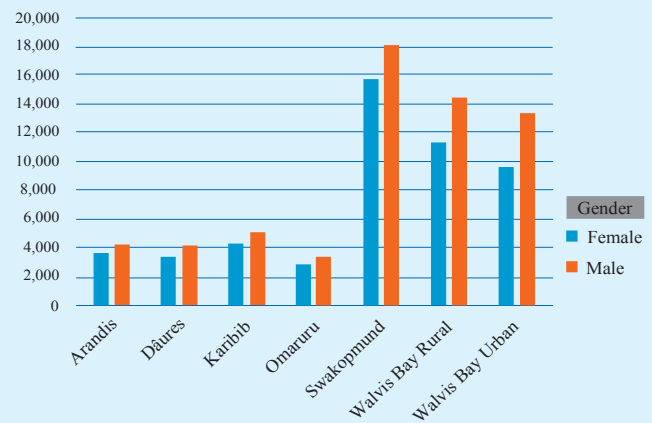
Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
!Nami#nūs	4,322	4,955	9,277
Berseba	3,033	3,299	6,332
Karasburg East	2,924	3,298	6,222
Karasburg West	2,432	3,777	6,209
Keetmanshoop Rural	2,929	2,956	5,885
Keetmanshoop Urban	5,670	5,848	11,518
Oranjemund	2,993	4,689	7,682
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24,303</b>	<b>28,822</b>	<b>53,125</b>



### Erongo

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Arandis	3,641	4,253	7,894
Dâures	3,334	4,165	7,499
Karibib	4,243	5,094	9,337
Omaruru	2,924	3,392	6,316
Swakopmund	15,743	18,082	33,825
Walvis Bay Rural	11,333	14,341	25,674
Walvis Bay Urban	9,669	13,419	23,088
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>50,887</b>	<b>62,746</b>	<b>113,633</b>

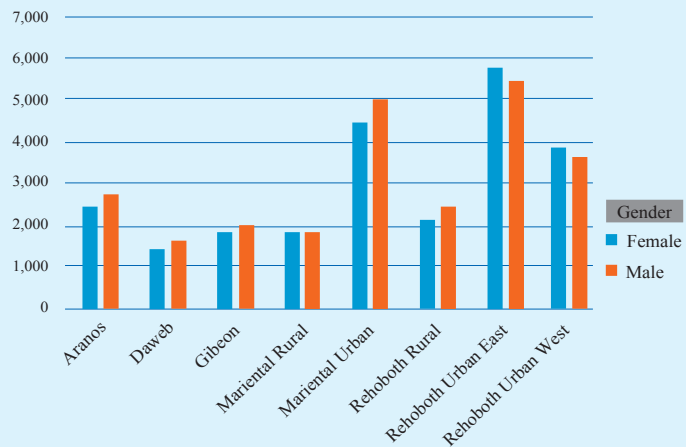
#### Erongo - Voters per Gender



### Hardap

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Aranos	2,523	2,705	5,228
Daweb	1,452	1,621	3,073
Gibeon	1,806	1,950	3,756
Mariental Rural	1,836	1,862	3,698
Mariental Urban	4,502	5,031	9,533
Rehoboth Rural	2,073	2,437	4,510
Rehoboth Urban East	5,774	5,466	11,240
Rehoboth Urban West	3,905	3,604	7,509
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,871</b>	<b>24,676</b>	<b>48,547</b>

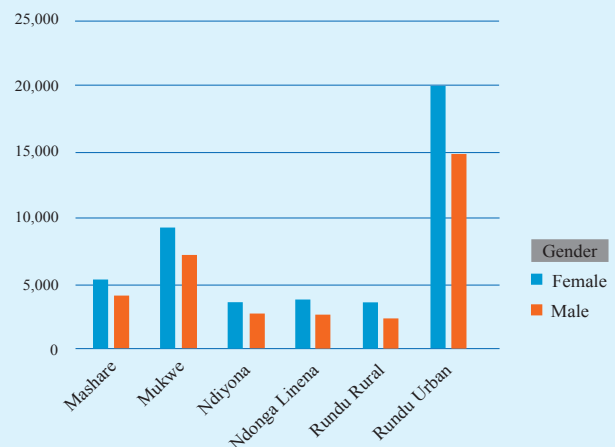
#### Hardap - Voters per Gender



### Kavango East

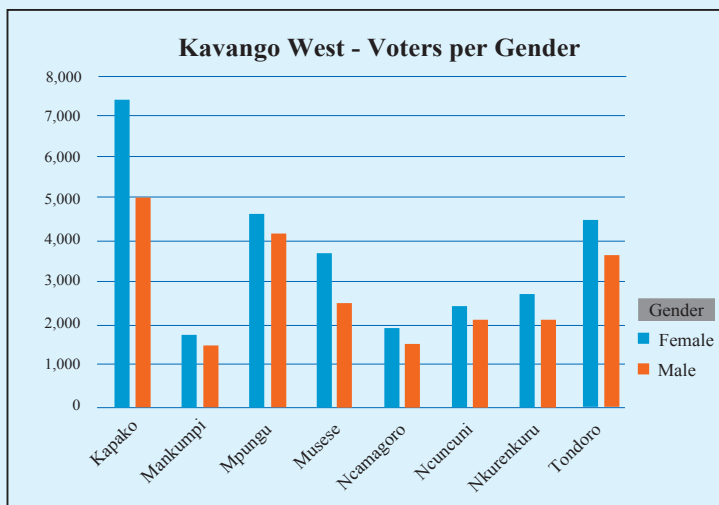
Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Mashare	5,087	3,962	9,049
Mukwe	9,107	7,255	16,362
Ndiyona	3,524	2,582	6,106
Ndonga Linena	3,766	2,641	6,407
Rundu Rural	3,549	2,387	5,936
Rundu Urban	20,007	14,857	34,864
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>45,040</b>	<b>33,684</b>	<b>78,724</b>

#### Kavango East - Voters per Gender



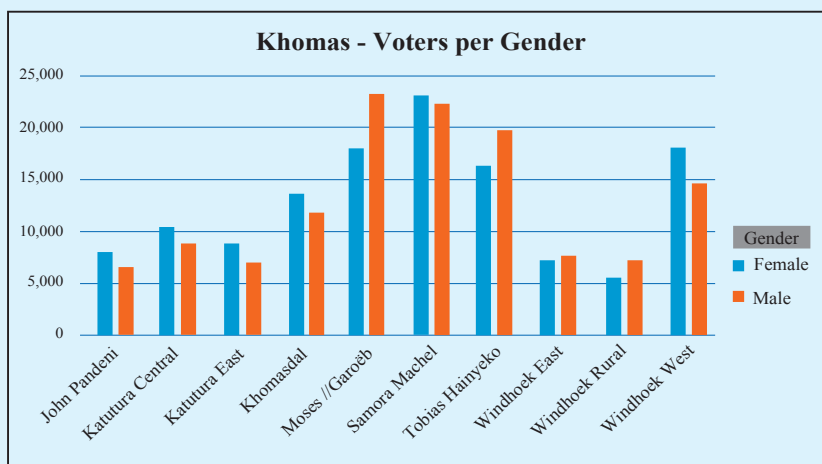
### Kavango West

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Kapako	7,531	5,002	12,533
Mankumpi	1,827	1,530	3,357
Mpungu	4,654	4,209	8,863
Musese	3,774	2,585	6,359
Ncamagoro	1,960	1,575	3,535
Neuncuni	2,487	2,148	4,635
Nkurenkuru	2,746	2,126	4,872
Tondoro	4,561	3,697	8,258
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29,540</b>	<b>22,872</b>	<b>52,412</b>



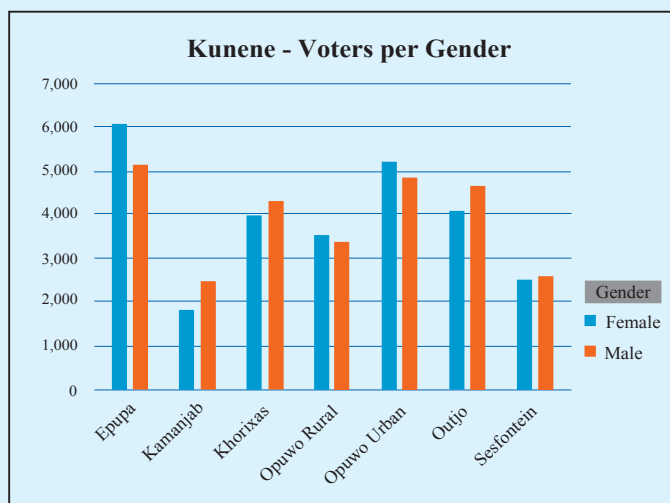
### Khomas

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
John Pandeni	8,081	6,631	14,712
Katutura Central	10,514	8,719	19,233
Katutura East	8,803	7,033	15,836
Khomasdal	13,587	11,898	25,485
Moses //Garoeb	17,921	23,162	41,083
Samora Machel	23,068	22,342	45,410
Tobias Hainyeko	16,325	19,692	36,017
Windhoek East	7,047	7,610	14,657
Windhoek Rural	5,368	7,193	12,561
Windhoek West	18,076	14,489	32,565
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>128,790</b>	<b>128,769</b>	<b>257,559</b>



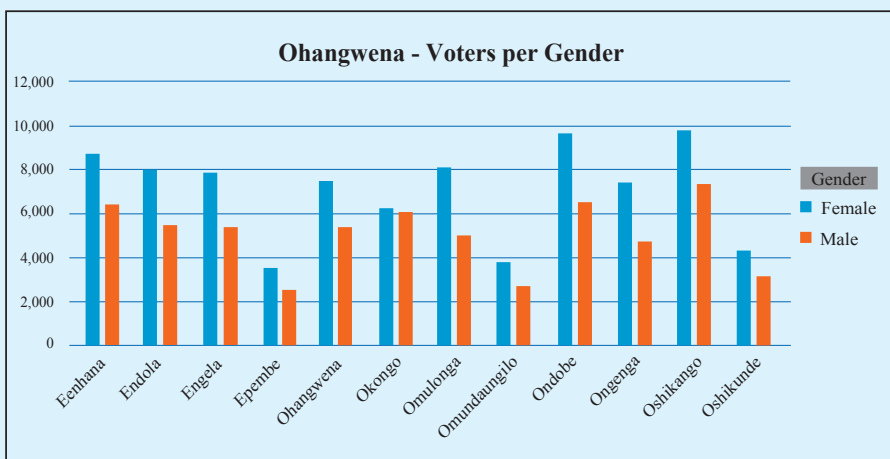
### Kunene

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Epupa	6,069	5,181	11,250
Kamanjab	1,847	2,485	4,332
Khorixas	4,049	4,309	8,358
Opuwo Rural	3,528	3,412	6,940
Opuwo Urban	5,214	4,855	10,069
Outjo	4,090	4,693	8,783
Sesfontein	2,503	2,602	5,105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27,300</b>	<b>27,537</b>	<b>54,837</b>



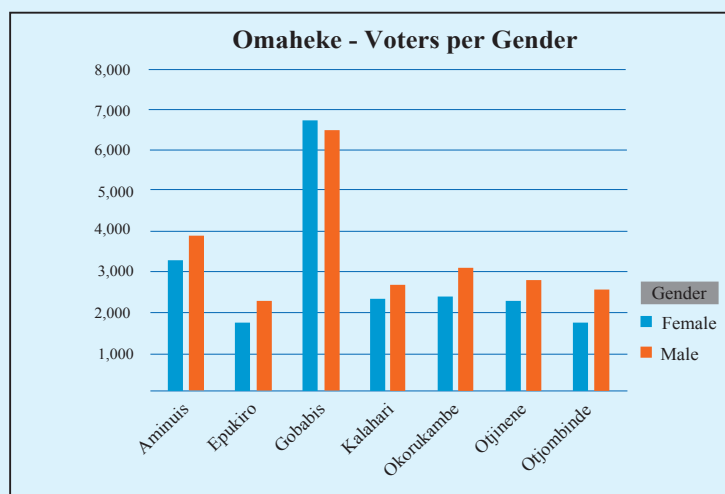
## Ohangwena

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Eenhana	8,747	6,420	15,167
Endola	8,048	5,468	13,516
Engela	7,917	5,409	13,326
Epembe	3,558	2,555	6,113
Ohangwena	7,536	5,429	12,965
Okongo	6,249	6,095	12,344
Omulonga	8,146	5,052	13,198
Omundaungilo	3,826	2,696	6,522
Ondobe	9,728	6,571	16,299
Ongenga	7,489	4,763	12,252
Oshikango	9,834	7,381	17,215
Oshikunde	4,363	3,172	7,535
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>85,441</b>	<b>61,011</b>	<b>146,452</b>



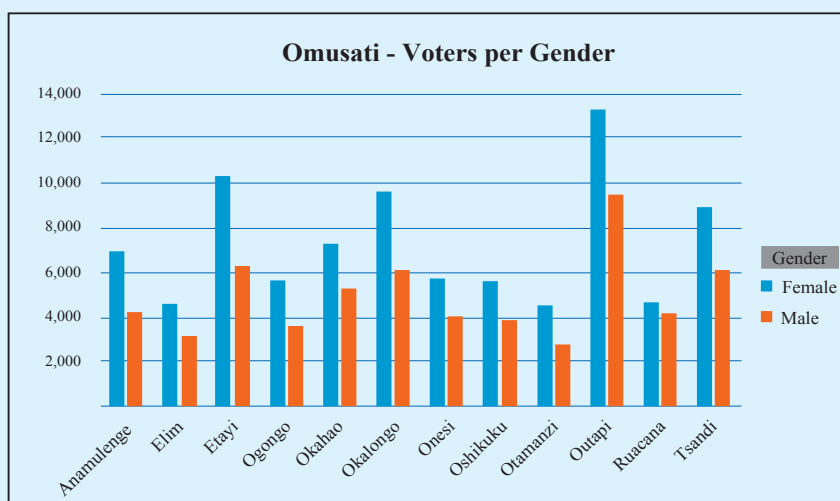
## Omaheke

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Aminuis	3,304	3,896	7,200
Epukiro	1,730	2,325	4,055
Gobabis	6,729	6,538	13,267
Kalahari	2,416	2,699	5,115
Okorukambe	2,380	3,080	5,460
Otjinene	2,303	2,785	5,088
Otjombinde	1,747	2,570	4,317
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>20,609</b>	<b>23,893</b>	<b>44,502</b>



## Omusati

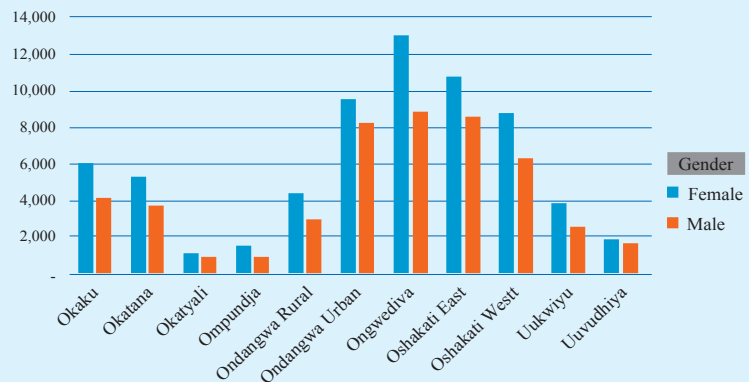
Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Anamulenge	6,947	4,236	11,183
Elim	4,627	3,170	7,797
Etayi	10,284	6,272	16,556
Ogongo	5,673	3,591	9,264
Okahao	7,315	5,287	12,602
Okalongo	9,636	6,120	15,756
Onesi	5,745	4,013	9,758
Oshikuku	5,573	3,847	9,420
Otamanzi	4,538	2,783	7,321
Outapi	13,292	9,476	22,768
Ruacana	4,638	4,192	8,830
Tsandi	8,891	6,110	15,001
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87,159</b>	<b>59,097</b>	<b>146,256</b>



## Oshana

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Okaku	6,084	4,132	10,216
Okatana	5,299	3,728	9,027
Okatyali	1,100	894	1,994
Ompundja	1,535	949	2,484
Ondangwa Rural	4,423	2,990	7,413
Ondangwa Urban	9,516	8,264	17,780
Ongwediva	13,002	8,837	21,839
Oshakati East	10,776	8,609	19,385
Oshakati West	8,782	6,329	15,111
Uukwiyu	3,869	2,577	6,446
Uuvudhiya	1,858	1,644	3,502
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>66,244</b>	<b>48,953</b>	<b>115,197</b>

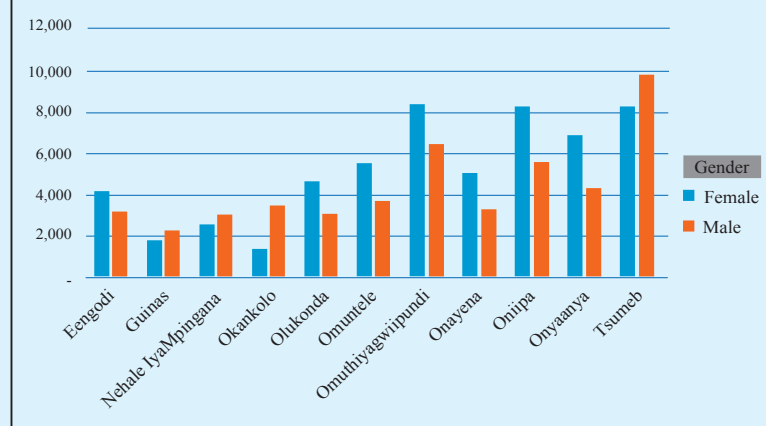
Oshana - Voters per Gender



## Oshikoto

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Eengodi	4,207	3,242	7,449
Guinas	1,866	2,325	4,191
Nehale IyaMpingana	2,636	3,064	5,700
Okankolo	4,666	3,532	8,198
Olukonda	4,241	3,120	7,361
Omuntele	5,584	3,746	9,330
Omuthiyagwiipundi	8,384	6,457	14,841
Onayena	5,079	3,358	8,437
Oniipa	8,263	5,646	13,909
Onyaanya	6,874	4,368	11,242
Tsumeb	8,236	9,818	18,054
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>60,036</b>	<b>48,676</b>	<b>108,712</b>

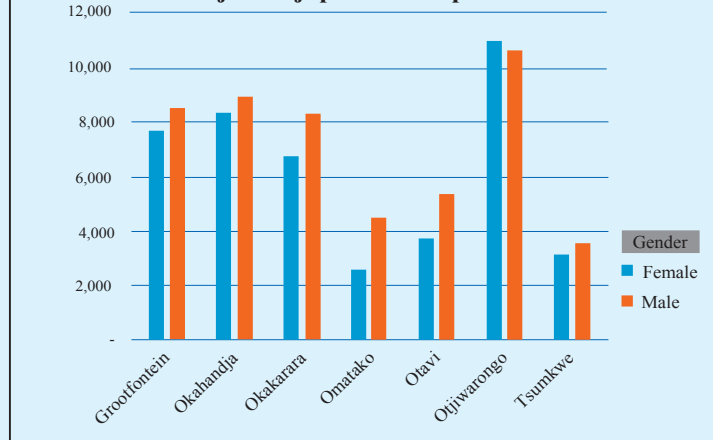
Oshikoto - Voters per Gender



## Otjozondjupa

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Grootfontein	7,665	8,499	16,164
Okahandja	8,354	8,946	17,300
Okakarara	6,801	8,331	15,132
Omatako	2,603	4,496	7,099
Otavi	3,780	5,374	9,154
Otjiwarongo	10,989	10,655	21,644
Tsumkwe	3,141	3,575	6,716
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>43,333</b>	<b>49,876</b>	<b>93,209</b>

Otjozondjupa - Voters per Gender

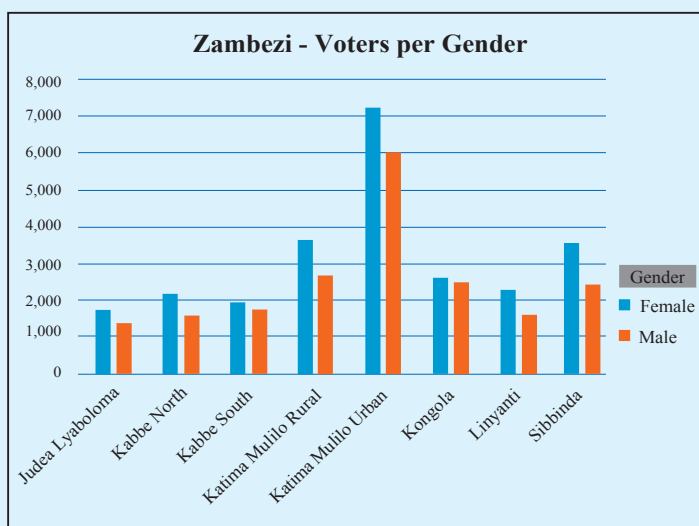




## Zambezi

Region	Female	Male	Grand Total
Judea Lyaboloma	1,748	1,374	3,122
Kabbe North	2,169	1,613	3,782
Kabbe South	1,932	1,730	3,662
Katima Mulilo Rural	3,659	2,692	6,351
Katima Mulilo Urban	7,243	5,983	13,226
Kongola	2,643	2,555	5,198
Linyanti	2,289	1,647	3,936
Sibbinda	3,573	2,453	6,026
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>25,256</b>	<b>20,047</b>	<b>45,303</b>

Source: ECN, 2019



## 5.2 Issuance of duplicate voter registration cards in the regions

The decision by the ECN to decentralize the issuance of duplicate voter registration cards to the regions was welcomed by the electorate. This initiative enabled the electorate whose voter cards got

damaged or lost to acquire duplicates before polling day. However, the number of staff members sent to the regions were not sufficient (one data staff and an IT) to cater for the demands from members of the public especially in Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, and Oshana regions.



ECN IT official presenting a voter with a duplicate voters card.



The reinforcement of voter education officers and Head Office staff came to the aid of the beleaguered team members. A total of 15,547 duplicate voter registration cards were issued as per table below:

//Kharas Region	Total
Damaged Cards	55
Lost Cards	335
<b>Total</b>	<b>390</b>
Erongo Region	
Damaged Cards	365
Lost Cards	1,114
Not issued last registration	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,481</b>
Hardap Region	
Damaged Cards	77
Lost Cards	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>
Kavango East Region	
Damaged Cards	79
Lost Cards	384
<b>Total</b>	<b>463</b>
Kavango West Region	
Damaged Cards	31
Lost Cards	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>
Khomas Region	
Damaged cards	1,008
Lost Cards	3,710
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,718</b>
Kunene Region	
Damaged	252
Lost Cards	573
<b>Total:</b>	<b>825</b>

Omaheke Region	
Damaged Cards	111
Lost Cards	282
<b>Total</b>	<b>393</b>
Ohangwena Region	
Damaged Cards	275
Lost Cards	835
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,110</b>
Omusati Region	
Damaged Cards	697
Lost Cards	870
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,567</b>
Oshana Region	
Damaged Cards	704
Lost Cards	1,949
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,653</b>
Oshikoto Region	
Damaged Cards	188
Lost Cards	406
<b>Total</b>	<b>594</b>
Otjozondjupa Region	
Damaged Cards	164
Lost Cards	456
<b>Total</b>	<b>620</b>
Zambezi Region	
Damaged Cards	69
Lost Cards	265
<b>Total</b>	<b>334</b>

## 6. ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS AND MEDIA

### 6.1 Accreditation of Observers

Election observation is a valuable tool for improving the quality of elections. Observers help build public confidence in the integrity of electoral processes. Observation can help promote and protect the civil and political rights of participants in elections. It can lead to the correction of errors or weak practices for any future election of a particular country. It further serves to deter manipulation and fraud, or expose such problems if they do occur.

In terms of Section 55 of the Electoral Act, the Commission may out of its own motion invite organizations, institutions and persons to observe any election or referendum. It is universally recognized that election observers play an important role in enhancing the transparency, credibility and the acceptance of election results.

When observers can issue positive reports, it builds trust in the democratic process and enhances

the legitimacy of the governments that emerge from elections. Election observation by domestic groups encourages civic involvement in the political process. Following elections, reports and recommendations by observer groups can lead to changes and improvements in the national law and practice and securement of free, fair, and credible elections.

In keeping with international best practice and the provisions of the Electoral Act, the ECN extended invitations to both foreign and local election organizations/institutions to apply for accreditation to observe the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections. The observer accreditation process commenced in August 2019. A total number of nineteen (19) observer missions were accredited for the 2019 General Elections. Four (4) of these were foreign observer missions, seven (7) local observation teams and eight (8) from the Diplomatic Corpse represented in Namibia, respectively.



Accredited Regional, International and Local observers for the Presidential and National Assembly election.

Name of Organization	Date of approval	Number of Observers Deployed	Head of Mission
<b>Regional and International</b>			
African Union	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	40	H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma – former President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
SADC Electoral Observer Mission	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	56	Hon. Mrs. Oppah C. Z. Muchinguri-Kashiri – Minister of Defence and War Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe
Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	15	Mr. Emmanuel Magade – Deputy Chairperson, Zimbabwe Electoral Commission
Commonwealth Secretariat	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2019	7	Hon. Musa Mwenye, Former Attorney General Zambia
<b>Local</b>			
Institute for Public Policy Research	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	7	Mr. Graham Hopwood – Executive Director
Namibia Institute of Democracy	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	90	Ms. Naita Hishoono – Executive Director
Namibia Democracy Trust	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	2	Mr. Metusalem Neib – Executive Director
Namibia Non-Governmental Forum Trust (NANGOF)	18 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	17	Mr. Sandie Tjizamejuva Chairperson NANGOF Trust
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung	08 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	4	Mr. Thomas Keller – Resident Representative
Hans Seidel Foundation	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	6	Dr. Clemens von Doderer – Resident Representative
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	3	Mr. Heiner Neumann – Resident Representative
<b>Diplomatic Missions</b>			
United States of America	08 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	28	H. E. Mrs. Lisa Johnson – Ambassador
European Diplomatic Watch	28 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	27	H.E. Antila Sinikka – Ambassador-Designate
Embassy of Japan	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	7	H. E. Mr. Hideaki Harada – Ambassador
Embassy of Zimbabwe	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	4	H. E. Mrs. Rofina Chikava – Ambassador
Embassy of Angola	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	4	H.E. Jovelina Alfredo A. Imperial e Costa – Ambassador
British High Commission	28 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	6	H.E. Kate Airey – High Commissioner
Ghana High Commission	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	1	H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Salamatu Forgor – High Commissioner
Embassy of Botswana	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	4	H.E. C. Tshenolo Modise – High Commissioner

### 6.1.1 Observer Reports, Findings and Recommendations

In terms of Section 62 of the Electoral Act, all accredited observer missions are required to submit reports of their findings to the Commission within one month after the official announcement of the results. The Commission is pleased to report that the majority of the observer missions have submitted preliminary statements and final reports are still expected.

Observer Missions congratulated the people of Namibia for the peaceful conduct of the 2019 General Elections. The Missions further reported that based on the findings that the elections were conducted in compliance with the national laws and in accordance with international standards. Some of the general observations reported include:

#### 6.1.1.1 Legal Framework

- Observer Missions noted that the legal frameworks are generally in line with international, continental and regional norms and standards. However, no regulations or processes are in place in relation to members of political parties who would like to contest in an election as Independent Candidates.
- The concerns raised by the electorate and stakeholders regarding the suspension of the clause of the law that requires the provision of the VVPAT were noted.
- The electoral laws do not make provisions for campaigns and campaign periods, with the exception of the Code of Conduct that do not allow campaigning within a 500-meter radius of a polling station on election day.
- Consider amending the law with the aim of enhancing representation of special interest groups, including women, youth and PLWDs in the National Assembly.
- The announcement of polling stations results for Special Voting was noted with concern. An amendment to the legal framework was recommended to ensure that votes from special voting are counted together with those from the main election in order to minimize

speculation and undue influence on voters. Furthermore, it was recommended that special voting takes place closer to the date of the main elections.

#### 6.1.1.2 Political Party Funding

- Concerns from stakeholders regarding the allocation of funds to political parties on the principal of proportional representation based on Section 155 of the Electoral Act were noted; It is recommended that political party funding modalities be considered with the aim of ensuring a level playing field.

#### 6.1.1.3 EVMs

- The persistent perceptions, among the electorate and some political stakeholders that the EVMs were not secure and could be hacked or manipulated were observed.
- Reports and concerns regarding missing EVMs by stakeholders have been noted.
- It is recommended that the Commission consider the introduction of the VVPAT component to the EVMs with the aim of improving transparency and building trust in the voting process.
- Taking into consideration the delays observed with the opening of some polling stations, it is recommended that the time for the pre-poll testing of EVMs should be revisited such that it does not affect opening of polls.
- It is recommended that there be a process of training and technology transfer to build local capacity for supporting the EVM system. This would enhance capacity and enable timely interventions in the event of technical challenges.



#### 6.1.1.4 Voter Education

- Concerns about misinformation circulating through the media particularly social media platforms were observed.
  - It is recommended that ECN consider strengthening voter education initiatives. Increased activities to familiarize voters with the EVMs through regular voter education
- that allows for regular interface with the voting machines; broad involvement of civil society and faith-based organizations in these initiatives could further strengthen civic and voter education.
- Visible display of information on voting procedure were people are queuing.



ECN voter education officers educating voters on the EVM.

#### 6.1.1.5 Stakeholder Engagement

- Stakeholders, mainly CSO and media sector, bemoaned the lack of access to information in general by both the electorate and stakeholders regarding the electoral process; concerns were raised that no formal channel or platform for information dissemination was in existence;
- Observer missions encouraged both the ECN and political parties to strengthen the consultative process of the PLC to promote dialogue on matters of mutual interest such as

the code of conduct for political parties;

- It is recommended that ECN should strive to build trust and confidence in the electoral processes in order to dispel negative perceptions and to address speculations in the build up to elections;
- Noted concerns raised by CSOs regarding lack of funding of their activities, which hampers effective participation in electoral processes, including the deployment of citizen observers



Stakeholder engagement with political parties.

#### 6.1.1.6 Voter Registration

- ECN should consider mechanisms to continuously update the voters register to ensure that voter have valid voters' cards;
- Consider limiting the number of voters per polling station through considering the use of polling station segmented voters register.

#### 6.1.1.7 Nomination

- Ensure transparency in the nomination process through regular and timely interface with political parties whenever the conduct of the process deviates from previously established processes;

#### 6.1.1.8 Voting and announcement of Results

- Encourages ECN to continue compliance with Schedule 4 of the Namibian Constitution that provides for all participating political parties and candidates to be represented at all material stages

of the electoral process including the CERC;

- Observer missions identified the need for a clear delineation of the roles of polling staff and police officers at polling stations to avoid possible confusion of roles; it is recommended that ECN considers recruiting additional staff to manage voter queues with a view to relieve the police from such duties;
- The size of the tents used for polling stations raised concerns. The ECN is advised to consider increasing size of tents;
- The Commission is encouraged to consider benchmarking with other SADC countries on handling of diaspora ballots, in particular the counting process;
- It is recommended that ECN considers extending the categories qualifying for special voting to accommodate polling staff and other essential services;



- ECN should consider evaluating the functionality of mobile polling stations with a view of maintaining their original purpose;
- Revisit the voting procedures (e.g. verification of voters, inking to voting booth) with a view to reduce the voting time per voter;
- It is recommended that the voting process be improved by considering;
- Reducing number of listing and signatures of voters on paper lists.

Better preparation/checks of the functioning of the equipment and more replacement equipment for case of failures.

## 6.2 Media Accreditation

The media is essential in the conduct of democratic elections. A free and fair election is not only about casting a vote in proper conditions, but also about having adequate information about parties, policies, candidates and the election process itself, so that voters can make an informed choice. Once the polls have opened, the role of the media changes from what it was during the campaign period - and specific rules may be devised to govern this shift.

The ECN accredited journalists and reporters that would cover the electoral process at the polling stations as well as those who would make use of the Central Election Results Centre (CERC) from 08<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Journalists and reporters were required to be issued with an ELECT 12 form as prescribed in terms of Section 94(1)(c) of the electoral act to enter polling stations and were required to preserve the integrity of the electoral process and the security of the vote whilst inside polling stations. Furthermore, journalists were also accredited for admission to the CERC. The CERC served as a single focal point, bringing together key stakeholders in an election under one roof to observe the aggregation and determination of the final results at national level and it was situated at the ECN Head Office in Windhoek. The Commission accredited a total number of one hundred and twenty-one (121) journalists and reporters from across the country and five (5) foreign journalists for the 2019 national

elections. To qualify for accreditation, journalists and reporters had to provide a valid media card or accreditation issued by the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology and a headshot photograph.

## 7. ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNS

Elections in Namibia have historically been peaceful, without any major incidents of violence or intimidation before, during and after the elections. In this regard, the campaign period of the 2019 elections was no exception. The existence of a Code of Conduct for political parties is often cited as one major contributing factor which ensured that the electoral campaigns and political rallies were generally conducted in a peaceful and tolerant manner. Sections 145 and 146 makes provision for the publication of a Code of Conduct for political parties, organizations and independent candidates.

The ECN organized a ceremony of the signing of the Code of Conduct for political parties on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Windhoek. However, political parties were critical of the Commission for not engaging stakeholders before the signing ceremony. As a result, only two (2) political parties signed the Code of Conduct, namely, the SWAPO Party and the National Democratic Party of Namibia.

The Code of Conduct is however a voluntary agreement which seeks to create an atmosphere which lends itself to the conduct of free, fair and peaceful elections. In line with the principles of the ECNs commitment to the conduct of credible elections, the symbolic signing of the Code of Conduct for political parties remained open to any political party and or Independent Candidate who have yet to sign it. Accordingly, political parties such as the United Democratic Front of Namibia (UDF), Workers Revolutionary Party (WRP), National Patriotic Front of Namibia (NPF), South West Africa National Union of Namibia (SWANU), Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF) and the Christian Democratic Voice Party (CDV) visited the ECN offices and signed the Code of Conduct

for political parties before the national elections. It is worth noting, that the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), during the campaign period availed free broadcast time to all political parties participating in the elections on its television and radio services.

## 8. LOGISTICS

Logistics planning is an essential support function for ensuring that equipment, staff, and communications methods are in place in time for the successful conduct of the entire electoral process. The section briefly highlights some of the daunting logistical challenges the ECN had to surmount to deliver the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections in the most efficient, transparent and credible manner possible.

### 8.1 Election Materials and Distribution

Non-sensitive election materials were procured three (3) months in advance following the Annual Procurement Plan and Needs Assessment. Other non-sensitive materials were not acquired due to sufficient stock at hand such as date stamps, polling station banners, boundary strips and finger bowls.

The ECN had established a total number of 34 polling stations at Namibia's foreign missions abroad and a further 154 polling stations were established across the 121 constituencies countrywide for special voting.

The voting materials for foreign missions were distributed from 06<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019. All materials were dispatched by air with the exception of Angola (Menongue and Ondjiva) which were escorted to the borders by road. The dispatching of voting materials to the regions commenced as early as 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 until 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Sensitive and non-sensitive election materials were distributed with the escort of the Namibian Police. In preparation for the distribution of electoral materials, nineteen (19) trucks were requested from different OMAs.

### 8.2 Challenges

- Unresponsive organization structure to execute mandate, i.e. continuous registration of voters

and issuance of duplicate voter registration cards.

- Voter education officers are sometimes denied access to private farms/properties due to lack of prior engagement.
- Denial of access for accredited observers/media to enter polling stations by presiding officers due to misinterpretation of requirements as provided for in the Electoral Act.
- The Electoral Act does not make provision for the commencement and conclusion of an electoral campaign period.
- Shortfall of tents and generators especially in respect of the Khomas and Omusati regions.
- Suppliers of fuel did not meet statutory requirements as contemplated in the Procurement Act.

### 8.3 Recommendations

- Introduction of a supportive organizational structure and establishment of regional and constituency offices to support execution of functions and responsibilities.
- Prior timely engagement of privately owned land for access to conduct electoral processes.
- There is need for clear requirements in terms of access to polling stations by accredited observers and media. Update training manual to be consistent in terms of requirements of the Electoral Act.
- There is need to define the commencement and conclusion of electoral campaign period in the Electoral Act.
- ECN should consider the possibility of hiring generators from local suppliers instead of buying and maintaining ECN owned generators.
- Strict adherence and compliance and execution of Procurement Act.

## 9. TRANSPORT

The enormous task of registration and polling processes requires the acquisition of a huge number of vehicles to assist in the execution of these processes. The first approach is to secure Government vehicles through the Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT) and secondly, private vehicles through the general public, which is normally the last option referred to as Plan B.



During the 2019 general elections, ECN employed the same approach, but could not secure the requisite number of vehicles through MWT and opted for the hiring of private vehicles on a contractual basis. This approach once again proved to be successful and ensured the smooth functioning in terms of transport needs. Unfortunately, exercises of this magnitude brought with it several challenges and risks such as vehicle accidents. It has been reported that four (4) accidents occurred during the registration period.

ECN is indeed indebted to all private individuals who availed their vehicles to the Commission during the 2019 Election period. Their generosity ensured the provision and availability of a sufficient number of vehicles before, during and after the elections. Sincere

gratitude and appreciation is extended to all OMAs for availing their fleet for this mammoth task. This level of assistance and cooperation ensured that no transport related problems were experienced on Election Day. The sections below provide a detailed outlay of the transport operations for both registration and polling processes.

### 9.1 Registration Period

During the SRV, a total number of 906 vehicles were deployed for a period of two weeks which resulted in a financial expenditure of N\$12, 784, 800. The table below provides a summary of the number of vehicles requested and availed by the government garages for the SRV exercise as well as private vehicles that were contracted in mitigation of the shortfall:

Region	ECN Needs	GRN Vehicles Availed	Shortages	Private
//Kharas	69	10	59	33
Hardap	122	12	110	32
Omaheke	70	11	59	20
Khomas	142	13	129	42
Omusati	187	14	173	47
Oshana	130	20	110	79
Ohangwena	143	22	121	23
Oshikoto	242	50	192	70
Zambezi	124	60	64	24
Kavango East	89	19	70	43
Kavango West	72	16	56	48
Erongo	32	18	14	42
Kunene	129	70	59	12
Otjozondjupa	90	30	60	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1641</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>541</b>

In addition, a total number of four (4) vehicles were involved in road accidents as summarized in the table below:

No.	Region	User	Make	Nature of Accident
1	Zambezi	Assistant Coordinator	Toyota D/C	Collide with cow, no injuries
2	Oshikoto	Constituency Supervisor	Mazda S/C	Overturn, no injuries
3	Oshikoto	Regional IT	Toyota S/C	Overturn, no injuries
4	Khomas	Constituency Supervisor	Toyota Corolla	Collide with private kombi, no injuries

### 9.2 Polling Period

During the polling period, a total number of 2311 vehicles were deployed for a period of five (5) days which resulted in a financial expenditure of N\$ 9,506,400.00

The table below provides a summary of the number of vehicles requested and availed by the government garages for the polling exercise as well as private vehicles that were contracted in mitigation of the shortfall:

Region	ECN Needs	GRN Vehicles Availed	Shortages	Private
//Kharas	97	3	86	86
Hardap	106	12	88	88
Omaheke	80	2	71	71
Khomas	132	5	122	122
Omusati	164	6	153	153
Oshana	200	11	179	179
Ohangwena	163	9	153	153
Oshikoto	281	10	263	263
Zambezi	144	32	102	102
Kavango East	275	13	250	250
Kavango West	209	14	186	186
Erongo	215	14	195	195
Kunene	176	10	164	164
Otjozondjupa	160	10	148	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,402</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>2,160</b>

No accidents were recorded during the polling period.

## 10. PRINTING OF BALLOT PAPERS

All EVM Ballot papers and manual ballot papers for voting at Diplomatic Missions abroad were printed at Solitaire Press under the eagle watch of Political Parties, the Independent Candidate representative, the Namibian Police and the Electoral Commission personnel.

### The following total number of ballot papers were printed for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly Elections:

- Presidential Election - 92 books equal to 9,200 manual ballot paper for the election abroad.
- National Assembly Election - 92 books equal to 9,200 manual ballot paper for the election abroad.
- Presidential Election - 250 EVM ballot papers for Special Voting.
- National Assembly Election - 250 EVM ballot papers for Special Voting.
- Presidential Election - 3,000 ballot papers for the Election Day, on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

- National Assembly Election - 3,000 ballot papers for the Election Day on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

An additional 1,000 mock ballot papers for the National Assembly as well as 1,500 mock ballot papers for the Presidential elections were printed to be used for electoral campaigns by the political parties and voter education purposes.

After printing of all the ballot papers, proper records and physical counting was conducted by all political parties and the Independent Candidate by recording the serial numbers of the ballot papers for the national elections. Ballot papers were then stored in boxes and the details of the specific boxes were recorded. The police escorted the ECN staff to Head Office for the safe-keeping of the ballot papers in a strong room. For transparency and safe-guarding, all the keys for the strong room were handed over to the CEO in the presence of the Namibian Police and political party representatives until the time of the EVM candidate setting.

## 11. FIRST LEVEL CHECKING AND PREPARATIONS OF EVMS

The conduct of the First Level Checks (FLC) of the EVMs is a legal requirement in terms of the regulations on the use of EVMs. The purpose of the FLC is to ensure that any voting machine and tabulator used during an election is in working order.

In terms of the EVMs regulations, the Commission must ensure that the FLC is performed by a person designated by the manufacturer of the voting machines or a person appointed or designated by the Commission. For this purpose, the Commission secured the services of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) which released fourteen (14) engineers to supplement ECN IT staff.

The FLC took place at the ECN Head Office in Windhoek from 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in the presence of political party representatives and the Namibian Police.

## 12. NOMINATIONS

The submission of nominations of candidates for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections took place during 01<sup>st</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Article 46 of the Constitution provides for the composition of the National Assembly. Article 47 of the Constitution provides for the disqualification of members of the National Assembly. In particular, Article 47 states that no persons may become members of the National Assembly if they:

- Are remunerated members of the Public Service of Namibia; or
- Are members of the National Council, Regional Councils or Local Authorities.

Section 77(4)(a) of the Electoral Act similarly excludes such persons from nomination on the list of candidates for the National Assembly, as this exclusion is consistent with the Constitution.

In practical terms, this exclusion was interpreted that such persons had to resign their positions in order to qualify for nomination as candidates for the National

Assembly. In this regard, all registered political parties were consulted and reminded of the provisions stipulated in a meeting held on 09<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and a subsequent letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016, which was collaborated by the legal opinion sought from legal practitioners. Furthermore, the nominations of candidates for the Presidential elections as well as members of the National Assembly is governed by Sections 72, 73 and 77 of the Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014.

The consequence of the above provisions resulted in the resignation of five (5) constituency councillors from the Khomasdal, Keetmanshoop Urban, Walvis Bay Urban, Gobabis and Oshikuku constituencies. The resignation of councillors resulted in the occurrence of vacancies in the aforementioned constituencies that in terms of Section 10 of the Regional Councils Act must be filled within a period of three months (90 days) from the date the vacancy occurred. This posed a major challenge to the Commission amidst the ongoing preparations of the Presidential and National Assembly elections. This also resulted in the need for additional financial resources.

A proclamation announcing the publication of the nomination period by the President was published in the Government Gazette on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 as per Section 64 (1)(a) (i) of the Electoral Act.

The 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019 was determined as the final date on which the Commission received the submission of nominations of candidates for the President and members of the National Assembly at a sitting by the Commission, while the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 was determined as the date for submission of nominations for independent candidates intending to contest the election. Consequently, the Chairperson of the ECN convened a public sitting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the ECN Headquarters in Windhoek from 09h00 – 11h00 to receive the submission of nomination of candidates for the Presidential election and party lists for members of the National Assembly as per sections 72, 73, and 77 of the Electoral Act.

The Chairperson received nominations from fifteen (15) political parties to contest the National Assembly Elections and eleven (11) presidential candidates to contest for the position of President.

The table below shows the particulars of the persons who were nominated as presidential candidates by their respective political parties and Independent Candidate supported by the requisite number of voters.

No.	Surname	First Names	Name of Political Party
1.	Auchab	Apius	United Democratic Front of Namibia (UDF)
2.	Geingob	Hage G.	SWAPO Party of Namibia (SWAPO)
3.	Iijambo	Tangeni C.	SWANU of Namibia (SWANU)
4.	Itula	Panduleni F. B	Independent Candidate (IC)
5.	Kavekatora	Kamboto R. M	Rally for Democracy and Progress (RDP)
6.	Mudge	Henry F.	Republican Party of Namibia (RP)
7.	Muinjangu	Esther U.	National Unity Democratic Organization (NUDO)
8.	Mukwilongo	Jan M. E	Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF)
9.	Shixwameni	Ignatius N.	All People's Party (APP)
10.	Swartbooi	Bernardus	Landless People's Movement (LPM)
11.	Venaani	McHenry	Popular Democratic Movement (PDM)

Two (2) of the Presidential Candidates (Republican Party of Namibia (RP) and Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF) submitted requests for the withdrawal of their nominations after the printing and certifying of the ballot papers. However, the Electoral Act does not make provision for any withdrawal after the close of nomination referred to above and the candidates were informed accordingly.

Furthermore, for the first time in the Namibian history, a female was duly nominated as a Presidential candidate.

Registered political parties that intended to participate in the National Assembly elections were to submit their list of candidates to the Commission to ensure compliance with the relevant sections of the Electoral Act. The minimum number of candidates which may be nominated was 32 and the maximum number 96. The candidate lists were to be submitted in writing as of the 01<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at the ECN Head Office in Windhoek.

Below are the political parties that submitted their party lists for the National Assembly election. The full list of political parties and candidates was published in the Government Gazette No. 331, dated 06<sup>th</sup> November 2019:

No.	Name of Political Party	No of Candidates
1.	All People's Party (APP)	71
2.	Christian Democratic Voice (CDV)	33
3.	Congress of Democrats (COD)	44
4.	Landless People's Movement (LPM)	68
5.	Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF)	69
6.	Namibia Patriotic Front (NPF)	84
7.	National Democratic Party (NDP)	70
8.	National Unity Democratic Organisation (NUDO)	96
9.	Popular Democratic Movement (PDM)	58
10.	Rally for Democracy and Progress (RDP)	64
11.	Republican Party (RP)	58
12.	SWANU of Namibia (SWANU)	80
13.	SWAPO Party of Namibia (SWAPO)	96
14.	United Democratic Front of Namibia (UDF)	95
15.	Workers Revolutionary Party (WRP)	73

### 12.1 Challenges

- O/M/As did not release sufficient number of the requested vehicles which lead to a shortfall.
- Some of the GRN vehicles released were not roadworthy.
- Time constraints resulted in the delayed preparation of EVMs which impacted training programmes.
- Inadequate human resources for preparation of EVMs.
- The Articles of the Namibian Constitution and Electoral Act were subject to different interpretations by relevant stakeholders in terms of qualification as members of the National Assembly.

### 12.2 Recommendations

- The Commission to initiate high level engagement to secure requisite number of government vehicles in advance.
- Introduce and enforce stricter transport systems to ensure roadworthiness.
- Proper planning and coordination as in terms of execution of programmes.
- Introduction of supportive organizational structure.
- Frequent and timeous engagement and communication with stakeholders on requirements for nomination and other pertinent electoral matters.

## 13. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Commission engaged key stakeholders at different platforms, some of which are provided for in the Electoral Act e.g. holding of scheduled Political Party Liaison Committee (PLC) meetings. The Media and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) were engaged in separate workshops. Most of the stakeholders, including the public at large, are educated through voter and civic education programmes which are conducted throughout the Electoral Cycle.

Electoral stakeholders play a vital role in any election process, therefore, maintaining a healthy relationship between the ECN and key stakeholders are critical to delivering the mandate of the Commission. In this regard, it is a standard practice of the Commission to involve all key electoral stakeholders before holding any election. For this reason, various attempts were made to involve the key stakeholders in preparation for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly election.

During November 2019, another type of stakeholder engagement was undertaken by the Regional Management Teams (RMTs), consisting of Regional Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators, who represent the Commission in the regions during electoral processes. Firstly, the regional managers were tasked to arrange meetings with Honourable Governors of their respective regions in November 2019 to discuss matters relating to the Election Calendar and to reassure them of the readiness of the regional team to conduct the electoral process. The discussions also included the arrangements relating to the Special Voting which took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Secondly, after the Honourable Governors, who are heads of their respective regions were briefed,

consultative and information sharing meetings with key stakeholders were convened by each regional management team. Information regarding the training of registration/polling officials and training venues, voting and counting processes were shared. These meetings also served as platforms for the ECN to share any foreseen problems with stakeholders. Thus, the purpose of these stakeholder meetings was:

- To share information regarding preparations for the registration/polling processes,
- solicit inputs from the stakeholders,
- lay a solid foundation for two-way communication,
- reassure the stakeholders about the ECN's readiness to conduct the electoral process at hand,
- as well as to engender confidence in the election process.

### 13.1 Challenges

- Inadequate stakeholder engagement
- Recommendation
- Frequent and timeous engagement and communication with stakeholders



## CHAPTER TWO: ELECTION DAY

The Electoral Phase refers to the actual polling process which relates to all the activities that happens on Election Day, from the opening of the polls up to the closing thereof. The assessment of this phase, must make reference to matters pertaining to the opening and closure of the polls on Election Day, measures used to prove voters' identity, the presence of the voters' register at polling stations, availability and adequacy of election material, assistance given to voters with special needs, mobile voting, voter turnout, and reflect on issues of voter intimidation or undue interference with the voting process. This chapter is aimed at reporting on these and others issues.

### 1. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

Security becomes a first priority for the Electoral Commission at the commencement of the election process. Formal engagements with the Namibian Police commenced with a high-level meeting during which the Electoral Calendar was shared with the Inspector General of the Namibian Police Force. A task-team of the Police was established to particularly deal with all election related matters. Frequent engagements between ECN and the Namibian Police were undertaken prior to the Election Day.

Strict security controls were put in place during all stages of the electoral operations, which included the

movement of sensitive equipment preparations at the ECN Head Office, including the preparation of EVMs by Returning Officers. During the EVM candidate setting exercise, only the authorized representatives of political parties and ECN staff members responsible for the setting of candidates were allowed in the hall. Political party representatives who were adorned with their party colors were not allowed in the premises.

During the process of the dispatching of election materials to the 14 regions, all EVMs and other election materials were recorded by both the Namibian Police on the Occurrence Book (OB) and on the Issue Vouchers from the Logistic Personnel. It was a cumbersome process but enforced to ensure that proper trials were kept at all times. The same method was applied after the election and no reports of any lost or misplaced sensitive electoral equipment was received.

### 2. ELECTION DAY

In terms of the Electoral Act, all elections in Namibia are conducted in one day. The 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections took place on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019. In terms of the statutory requirements, the polling day for the Presidential and National Assembly elections is a public holiday, in terms of Section 1 (3) of the Public Holidays Act, (Act No. 28 of 1990).



Voters queuing at the polling station.

### 3. POLLING STATIONS

With the exception of a few, most polling stations opened and closed at the legislated times of 07:00 and 21:00 hours respectively. All voters that were still in the voting queue by 21:00 hours were allowed to cast their votes as provided for by the law. Special efforts were made to ensure that fixed polling stations were located in places readily accessible to the public. Polling booths were also arranged in such a way to ensure the secrecy of the vote and accessibility for people with disabilities.

Long queues and delays at some polling stations in urban areas were observed due to some technical glitches, but this did not impact the voting process and all voters were able to exercise their democratic right. A peaceful atmosphere prevailed throughout the polling day and no incidence of violence or intimidation were reported.

#### 3.1 Electronic Voting Machines

The Commission continuously strives to improve the election processes as identified in terms of its strategic objectives. The introduction of electoral technologies in elections was one of the milestones of the Commission to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of electoral processes.

The in-country elections were conducted by way of EVMs. Minor challenges were reported during the pre-poll test by Presiding Officers that resulted in the delay of opening of polling stations. The ECN technicians who were strategically located at various localities around the country managed to resolve this matter and the affected polling stations were fully operational by 09h30.

The table below indicate the number of EVMs deployed:

Region	No. of EVMs		Spare Units Allocated		Total Dispatched	
	Ballot Units	Control Units				
			Ballot Units	Control Units	Ballot Units	Control Units
Special Voting	266	266	70	70	336	336
//Kharas	174	174	10	10	184	184
Hardap	146	146	10	10	156	156
Omaheke	252	252	10	10	262	262
Khomas	372	372	10	10	382	382
Omusati	514	514	10	10	524	524
Oshana	382	382	10	10	392	392
Ohangwena	540	540	10	10	550	550
Oshikoto	404	404	10	10	414	414
Zambezi	292	292	10	10	302	302
Kavango East	294	294	10	10	304	304
Kavango West	334	334	10	10	344	344
Erongo	216	216	10	10	226	226
Kunene	304	304	10	10	314	314
Otjozondjupa	330	330	10	10	340	340
TOTAL	4,870	4,554	140	140	4694	4,694

#### 3.2 Voter Verification Devices (VVDs)

Voter Verification Devices (VVDs) were used to verify and authenticate the voter cards of all voters at polling stations before enabling voters to cast their votes.



The table below indicate the number of VVDs used during the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections:

Activity	Units required	Spare units allocated	Units dispatched
Special Voting	122	122	244
Normal Voting	2,274	244	2518
<b>Total units for 2019 election:</b>			<b>2,762</b>

The VVDs contributed to the speed and accuracy of voter verification and in general the feedback was positive with most of the units functioning efficiently.

A few challenges with the VVDs were experienced such as hardware failure, which meant that at times the screens were not working, scanners and finger print readers not functioning, etc. Hardware failure can be a result of mismanagement of the devices during actual use or during transportation. Fortunately, spare units could be used in these instances.

### 3.3 Special Voting

In terms of section 64 (2) (a-c) of the Electoral Act, (No. 5 of 2014), the Special voting day is determined to facilitate voting for Namibians residing abroad, persons who are on board any vessel, any persons who are member of the Police Force, Defence Force, and Correctional Services who are required to be on duty within or outside Namibia.

As per the Electoral Act, once the Presiding Officers had posted the results at the respective polling stations for the special voting at the Namibian Foreign Missions abroad, the ballot boxes were sealed and placed in diplomatic bags for return to Namibia. The ballot boxes were opened at the ECN Head Office in Windhoek on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 after 21h00 and counted under the supervision of the CEO and political party representatives.

In terms of the in-country special voting process, the EVM used on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were placed in the safe custody of the Namibian Police in the different constituencies. Political party agents placed their party clip seals on each of the EVM

Units and carrying cases. After the polling stations closed on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the EVM units were transported to the collation centre's in the constituencies where the EVM units were used during special voting for the tabulation of results for each specific constituency.

All polling stations established abroad opened on time with the exception of Dar Es Salaam and Stockholm. The opening of the polling stations was slightly delayed due to the late arrival of election materials. However, in spite of this delay, the assigned officials managed to collect the materials, activate the polling station and enabled all registered voters who turned up to cast their votes.



Namibians residing abroad waiting to cast their votes at the Namibian Foreign Missions abroad.

## 4. CLOSING OF POLLS AND COUNTING

In terms of section 104 of the Electoral Act, (Act No. 5 of 2014), the Presiding Officer at a polling station must immediately after the close of the poll in an election and in the presence of persons entitled in terms of section 94(1) to attend at a polling station, take charge of all ballot boxes or voting machines and ensure such are sealed accordingly.

The counting of the results was done in terms of section 105 of the Act after the close of the poll. The results were posted at the polling stations and political party agents were provided with the result of the poll before moving to the collation centre where all results from all polling stations were collated and transmitted to CERC for consolidation and final announcement by the Chairperson of the Commission.

## 5. VOTER TURNOUT

The 2019 Presidential and National Assembly Elections had a number of 1,358 468 (one million, three hundred and fifty-eight thousand and four hundred and sixty-eight) registered voters. The total voter turnout for the 2019 Presidential election was 61% (sixty-one percent) and 60% (sixty percent) for the National Assembly Election. It was observed that the voter turnout was lower compared to the previous elections.

### 5.1 Challenges

- Some polling stations did not open on time due to technical glitches during the pre-poll test.
- Long queues were observed across the country

especially in urban centers.

- Delay in mobile stations from one point to the next.
- Voters being turned away from mobile polling stations especially at old age homes.
- Shortages of printers and ribbons for EVMs.
- Several cases were reported of voters' cards incorrectly displaying as deceased on VVDs.
- Minor freezing of VVDs reported at few polling stations.
- The announcement of results at polling stations for special voting and diplomatic missions' impacts on secrecy of the vote.
- Low voter turnout observed.

### 5.2 Recommendations

- Enhance training on pre-poll test.
- Introduce streams at polling stations.
- Communicate to general public and voters that Mobile polling stations designated for old age homes and police cells are established to cater only for those specific categories of voters.
- Ensure proper planning in acquisition and distribution of election materials.
- Compile comprehensive technical report on VVDS.
- Review provisions of the Electoral Act relating to special voting at diplomatic missions.
- Survey should be conducted to determine factors contributing to low turnout.

## CHAPTER THREE: POST ELECTORAL PHASE

The Electoral Act defines the post-election phase as the period during and after polling day. Further to this definition, this section reflects on the counting process and aggregation of results, the transmission thereof, the announcement and acceptance of final results. This section also briefly reflects on the post-election reviews conducted shortly after the elections. It also touches on issues relating to possible legal reform, and institutional capacity building.

### 3.1 Collation Centres

A total number of 121 collation centres were set up in each constituency across the country. The purpose of the collation centre was to serve as a central point in the constituency to tabulate and consolidate results from various polling stations.

It is also where the correctness of the returns furnished by the respective Presiding Officers are verified and recorded on Elect 19 (b) or Elect 20 (b) before the preliminary announcement of results. These functions are performed by the Returning Officer in the presence of counting, party agents and observers. After the collation of results and preliminary announcements, returns are transmitted to the CERC.

### 3.2 Central Elections Results Centre (CERC)

The CERC is a central election management platform where constituency level results from Collation centres are certified, consolidated and aggregated to national level results. CERC also

serves as a single focal point, bringing together all key stakeholders in an election under one roof to observe the aggregation, determination of final results.

#### 3.2.1 Election Results Transmission and Publishing

The accuracy of results is of paramount importance. Therefore, measures to authenticate the correctness of election results are essential to a comprehensive and reliable Results Management System (RMS).

The purpose of the CERC was to (1) certify the accuracy of the results received from the Collation centres; (2) consolidate/aggregate the constituency results received from the Collation centres into national results; (3) announce the final results.

The RMS was introduced to electronically capture, transmit and publish election results. A customized Election Results System was deployed onto two (2) different platforms namely the web (<http://elections.na>) and Android Play Store. The final results were published on ECN website as well as mobile platform once the process of validation by the CEO and Chairperson was complete.

### 3.3 Announcement of Results

The official announcement of the Presidential Election was done on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 by the Chairperson as stipulated in terms of section 109 of the Electoral Act.

### 3.3.1 Presidential Elections

These are the official results for the Presidential Elections.

	Auchab	Geingob	Iijambo	Itula	Mudge	Muinjangue	Mukwilongo	Kavekotora	Shixwameni	Swartbooi	Venaani	Total Votes	Registered
<b>//KHARAS</b>													
INami#nus	50	2633	22	2481	21	11	5	15	20	379	571	6208	9,277
Berseba	47	1107	21	172	35	14	10	18	28	1637	512	3601	6,332
Karasburg East	69	1236	47	487	45	19	21	23	29	1458	273	3707	6,222
Karasburg West	62	2380	23	943	17	7	6	11	24	218	123	3814	6,209
Keetmanshoop Rural	58	1136	22	559	37	12	16	60	41	1828	392	4161	5,885
Keetmanshoop Urban	45	2079	12	1108	54	22	5	12	37	2473	288	6135	11,518
Oranjemund	40	2029	8	2729	20	7	14	3	12	413	159	5434	7,682
<b>ERONGO</b>													
Arandis	343	2043	13	2255	91	21	8	13	12	185	365	5349	7,894
Daures	869	1613	69	266	10	297	6	41	6	54	383	3614	7,499
Karibib	362	2820	36	1053	23	141	6	22	24	220	400	5107	9,337
Omaruru	296	1979	18	739	29	119	5	17	11	42	446	3701	6,316
Swakopmund	540	6372	84	8966	253	178	18	55	29	466	1240	18201	33,825
Walvisbay Rural	189	3871	55	9002	55	58	10	26	44	264	692	14266	25,674
Walvisbay Urban	237	4339	63	8667	108	35	12	28	35	168	637	14329	23,088
<b>HARDAP</b>													
Aranos	66	1144	27	310	101	30	19	42	42	837	334	2952	5,228
Daweb	34	660	15	355	17	2	8	9	35	938	90	2163	3,073
Gibeon	32	750	16	79	5	3	8	3	27	1114	84	2121	3,756
Mariental Rural	46	1094	17	207	51	5	14	8	25	716	121	2304	3,698
Mariental Urban	65	2182	25	848	49	20	11	15	35	1562	272	5084	9,533
Rehoboth Rural	67	977	16	187	33	11	9	59	26	322	380	2087	4,510
Rehoboth Urban East	87	2520	22	724	33	13	2	17	29	534	735	4716	11,240
Rehoboth Urban West	90	756	20	518	59	10	6	30	20	358	1450	3317	7,509
<b>KAVANGO EAST</b>													
Mashare	75	3529	22	146	7	2	3	24	282	3	81	4174	9,049
Mukwe	169	4993	64	613	24	22	8	50	307	29	503	6782	16,362
Ndiyona	36	2413	18	112	4	0	9	24	129	9	64	2818	6,106
Ndonga Linena	62	2703	15	105	7	2	2	26	41	13	189	3165	6,407
Rundu Rural	67	2699	15	136	3	6	1	9	112	8	42	3098	5,936
Rundu Urban	260	13464	105	2565	52	20	18	78	328	53	459	17402	34,864

	Auchab	Geingob	Iijambo	Itula	Mudge	Muinjangue	Mukwiilongo	Kavekotora	Shixwameni	Swartbooi	Venaani	Total Votes	Registered
<b>KAVANGO WEST</b>													
Kapako	154	5391	47	410	30	12	13	19	72	27	124	6299	12,533
Mankumpi	47	1462	8	88	6	2	0	6	14	8	23	1664	3,357
Mpungu	79	5006	34	261	8	5	4	35	20	6	32	5490	8,863
Musee	56	2767	15	77	4	1	4	8	46	10	118	3106	6,359
Namagoro	41	1628	20	61	5	0	3	4	29	4	27	1822	3,535
Ncuncuni	23	1405	8	61	2	0	2	1	80	2	18	1602	4,635
Nkurenkuru	36	2723	13	494	6	1	0	6	26	1	40	3346	4,872
Tondoro	48	3823	22	133	5	2	3	14	40	9	43	4142	8,258
<b>KHOMAS</b>													
John A. Pandeni	60	2572	49	3183	26	146	10	19	14	239	410	6728	14,712
Katutura Central	103	2586	97	1735	14	673	8	42	15	326	1294	6893	19,233
Katutura East	176	4720	38	4399	24	75	5	22	15	536	367	10377	15,836
Khomasdal	135	3926	68	5393	57	411	11	55	42	752	1229	12079	25,485
Moses //Garob	168	5736	83	7810	57	94	9	63	25	105	231	14381	41,083
Samora Machel	178	6328	86	10214	77	287	20	53	38	414	729	18424	45,410
Tobias Hainyeko	124	5461	55	4704	25	34	10	34	52	120	162	10781	36,017
Windhoek East	95	5672	72	11666	473	213	16	115	46	388	1540	20296	14,657
Windhoek Rural	7328	5588	1160	832	295	217	137	98	91	61	39	15846	12,561
Windhoek West	117	6366	121	11707	322	251	18	110	31	658	1886	21587	32,565
<b>KUNENE</b>													
Epupa	39	2480	23	148	17	21	2	132	6	8	3357	6233	11,250
Kamanjab	489	1571	7	258	16	13	3	12	4	67	193	2633	4,332
Khorixas	1371	2023	14	271	9	17	4	12	9	226	245	4201	8,358
Opuwo Rural	16	704	8	78	4	457	6	128	6	5	2552	3964	6,940
Opuwo Urban	54	2986	23	751	16	186	11	190	8	13	2523	6761	10,069
Outjo	392	2565	29	480	35	40	5	58	16	202	367	4189	8,783
Sesfontein	666	1478	14	153	5	57	3	36	5	63	499	2979	5,105
<b>OHANGWENA</b>													
Ernhana	95	7420	51	3183	24	5	3	29	7	6	102	10925	15,167
Endola	103	6455	42	2530	22	3	1	57	9	5	80	9307	13,516
Engela	113	6213	60	2524	27	5	7	38	11	7	133	9138	13,326
Epembe	45	3802	15	680	10	3	0	10	0	3	19	4587	6,113
Ohangwena	118	6417	64	3380	34	7	4	39	12	9	144	10228	12,965
Okongo	83	7146	59	1544	16	9	4	38	9	6	97	9011	12,344
Omulonga	143	7166	55	2184	22	6	4	28	3	5	83	9699	13,198
Omundaungilo	74	4319	31	710	5	0	4	17	3	5	29	5197	6,522
Ondobe	140	8953	78	2410	31	4	4	43	13	8	71	11755	16,299
Ongenga	103	5909	39	2050	16	4	5	15	6	9	65	8221	12,252
Oshikango	145	7188	60	2973	24	6	5	33	10	9	119	10572	17,215
Oshikunde	39	4757	26	627	10	2	2	33	2	2	9	5509	7,535

	Auchab	Geingob	Iijambo	Itula	Mudge	Muinjangu	Mukwililongo	Kavekotora	Shixwameni	Swartbooi	Venaani	Total Votes	Registered
<b>OMAHKE</b>													
Aminius	48	1556	90	146	27	1705	15	20	18	121	198	3944	7,200
Epukiro	30	1083	120	69	5	226	0	15	1	4	379	1932	4,055
Gobabis	96	3979	89	1254	92	309	17	66	39	445	636	7022	13,267
Kalahari	90	2090	34	328	22	86	6	16	9	123	411	3215	5,115
Okarukambe	85	1966	30	208	26	52	4	19	14	81	261	2746	5,460
Otiene	17	869	40	85	6	1097	8	11	5	6	575	2719	5,088
Otiombinde	50	1002	130	100	4	140	7	22	5	19	325	1804	4,317
<b>OMUSATI</b>													
Anamulenge	82	5912	23	1618	10	6	3	5	3	5	47	7714	11,183
Elim	52	4136	27	1631	8	0	21	9	3	7	31	5925	7,797
Etayi	126	8444	61	2856	22	5	12	23	10	8	81	11648	16,556
Ogongo	66	5107	24	1422	12	2	4	8	4	8	41	6698	9,264
Okahao	126	6534	37	1759	8	2	3	13	3	4	55	8544	12,602
Okalongo	157	8465	70	2779	23	6	6	20	15	11	69	11621	15,756
Onesi	95	5612	17	1010	9	3	5	10	4	5	67	6837	9,758
Oshikuku	56	4799	31	2083	11	1	30	9	5	3	46	7074	9,420
Otamanzi	64	4215	29	915	5	0	2	7	2	3	26	5268	7,321
Outapi	142	13155	74	4543	25	3	6	20	8	9	93	18078	22,768
Ruacana	83	4656	36	1457	5	107	2	25	6	10	206	6593	8,830
Tsandi	142	9263	52	2092	9	2	4	15	11	13	97	11700	15,001
<b>OSHANA</b>													
Okaku	115	4741	63	3444	31	7	9	38	22	14	101	8585	10,216
Okatana	56	4914	35	3318	18	3	18	16	8	5	83	8474	9,027
Okatjali	23	1027	12	621	3	1	3	3	4	0	19	1716	1,994
Ompundja	23	1505	9	517	5	1	3	5	1	3	9	2081	2,484
Ondangwa Rural	76	2547	38	2854	20	5	12	28	6	6	118	5710	7,413
Ondangwa Urban	101	5276	74	8605	79	16	15	38	35	36	381	14656	17,780
Ongwediva	105	6094	50	6674	46	9	17	41	10	18	209	13273	21,839
Oshakati East	86	6181	37	5666	23	11	19	36	11	14	281	12365	19,385
Oshakati West	103	6013	47	5732	31	10	20	23	7	14	244	12244	15,111
Uukwiyu	67	2792	42	2363	28	4	3	8	10	5	53	5375	6,446
Uuvudhiya	30	2124	16	494	4	1	1	2	4	7	29	2712	3,502
<b>OSHIKOTO</b>													
Engodi	73	4950	33	1051	15	2	1	7	2	4	34	6172	7,449
Guinas	51	1570	26	405	3	3	4	11	11	25	80	2189	4,191
Nehale LyaMpingana	89	3666	42	908	12	4	5	7	6	8	46	4793	5,700
Okankolo	65	3763	38	1052	13	4	1	11	0	7	20	4974	8,198
Olukonda	61	2854	26	2893	18	5	3	18	6	11	82	5977	7,361
Omuntele	107	4646	37	2136	23	6	3	12	5	6	61	7042	9,330
Omuthiya-Gwiipundi	132	6651	77	3737	30	7	6	25	10	13	136	10824	14,841
Onayena	46	3655	41	2104	18	3	1	13	4	7	53	5940	8,437
Oniipa	92	4258	35	3424	19	8	4	16	7	7	78	7948	13,909
Onyaanya	117	5155	36	2658	28	2	5	11	9	7	59	8087	11,242
Tsumeb	130	5562	55	3803	58	35	12	25	47	77	418	10222	18,054



	<u>Auchab</u>	<u>Geingob</u>	<u>Iijambo</u>	<u>Itula</u>	<u>Mudge</u>	<u>Muinjangu</u>	<u>Mukwiilongo</u>	<u>Kavekotora</u>	<u>Shixwameni</u>	<u>Swartbooi</u>	<u>Venaani</u>	<u>Total Votes</u>	<u>Registered</u>
<b>OTJOZONDIUAPA</b>													
Grootfontein	182	5713	54	2779	63	79	13	19	78	72	458	9510	16,164
Okahandja	216	5367	63	3065	118	235	5	40	20	253	584	9966	17,300
Okakarara	36	1763	98	426	13	2300	9	33	9	14	2290	6991	15,132
Omatako	58	2451	55	1067	60	341	10	37	16	47	429	4571	7,099
Otavi	100	3250	33	1626	53	28	12	18	17	104	250	5491	9,154
Otiwarongo	276	5176	63	3186	101	138	6	36	18	136	649	9785	21,644
Tsumkwe	66	1907	25	151	5	616	12	9	7	12	250	3060	6,716
<b>ZAMBEZI</b>													
Judea Lyamboloma	20	1182	5	80	6	3	1	7	0	4	138	1446	3,122
Kabbe North	18	1777	9	145	4	4	3	13	18	14	178	2183	3,782
Kabbe South	26	1618	7	112	6	3	2	7	5	10	54	1850	3,662
Katima Mulilo Rural	35	2536	13	187	5	4	5	21	28	9	227	3070	6,351
Katima Mulilo Urban	53	5341	22	1197	22	7	5	37	32	39	996	7751	13,226
Kongola	41	1648	11	380	22	6	6	18	28	9	234	2403	5,198
Linyanti	27	1447	6	121	11	7	2	78	3	4	128	1834	3,936
Sibbinda	41	1933	23	226	11	3	5	21	6	8	493	2770	6,026
International Votes	6	574	5	601	3	10	0	4	0	12	79	1294	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22115</b>	<b>464703</b>	<b>5959</b>	<b>242657</b>	<b>4379</b>	<b>12039</b>	<b>1026</b>	<b>3515</b>	<b>3304</b>	<b>22542</b>	<b>43959</b>	<b>826198</b>	<b>1,358,468</b>

Further to the above, and consistent with Article 28(2)(b) of the Namibian Constitution and Section 109 (2) of the Electoral Act, Dr. Hage Geingob was duly elected as President of the Republic of Namibia with a total of **four hundred and sixty-four thousand seven hundred and three (464,703)** out of the total votes cast. This represents **56.3%** of the total votes cast in the Presidential race.

### 3.3.2 National Assembly Elections

The results of the National Assembly election were also announced on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 by the Chairperson as required in terms of Section 110 of the Electoral Act. This Section requires that the announcement should include:

1. The total votes cast in this election;
2. The total number of votes counted;
3. The quota that has been determined in accordance with Schedule 4 of the Constitution for the allocation of seats in the National Assembly; and
4. The number of votes recorded for each political party and the seats obtained by the respective political parties.

Further to the above, the Chairperson announced in detail and final outcome of the 2019 National Assembly elections as follows:

- Total number votes casted in this elections were **820,227**;
- The number of valid votes counted were **820,227**; and
- The quota determined for the allocation of seats in the National Assembly was **8,544**.

Given the above, the outcome and seat allocation for the 2019 National Assembly was announced as follows:

	APP	CDV	CoD	LPM	NEEF	NDP	NPF	NUDO	PDM	RDP	RP	SWANU	SWAPO	UDF	WRP	Total Votes	Registered
<b>//KHARAS</b>																	
INamifhus	67	26	37	519	70	27	18	22	1995	43	84	20	3147	44	22	6141	9,277
Berseba	53	24	14	1652	17	11	9	18	522	35	45	15	1127	43	26	3611	6,332
Karasburg East	79	35	23	1519	34	17	23	27	342	40	70	25	1393	43	33	3703	6,222
Karasburg West	86	29	28	286	41	9	11	15	291	23	35	22	2855	39	24	3794	6,209
Keetmanshoop Rural	61	26	15	1914	45	19	18	16	510	74	74	21	1255	47	29	4124	5,885
Keetmanshoop Urban	80	21	16	2615	55	13	14	56	587	37	104	14	2427	33	21	6093	11,518
Oranjemund	89	22	34	598	302	18	11	37	1216	49	181	13	2719	37	14	5340	7,682
<b>ERONGO</b>																	
Arandis	74	27	21	399	159	37	6	60	1329	61	326	8	2330	484	20	5341	7,894
Daures	39	29	2	87	13	11	12	334	482	43	20	80	1424	1010	18	3604	7,499
Karibib	78	103	22	340	55	21	9	174	762	44	78	35	2901	600	25	5247	9,337
Omaruru	70	19	16	94	22	13	8	141	779	31	56	26	2038	363	6	3682	6,316
Swakopmund	268	116	111	1189	386	116	72	346	4917	269	892	102	8154	1095	80	18113	33,825
Walvisbay Rural	250	61	102	789	385	92	44	167	5102	146	513	97	5963	329	192	14232	25,674
Walvisbay Urban	288	69	97	680	329	103	35	100	4661	161	548	94	6666	261	182	14274	23,088
<b>HARDAP</b>																	
Aranos	72	39	23	853	29	15	13	35	347	47	176	28	1203	43	31	2954	5,228
Daweb	40	17	8	968	37	9	9	8	158	23	34	21	784	26	16	2158	3,073
Gibeon	35	14	13	1186	11	4	5	3	72	7	14	9	712	26	6	2117	3,756
Mariental Rural	56	21	10	732	22	11	10	16	134	16	84	11	1133	32	12	2300	3,698
Mariental Urban	80	28	22	1689	42	16	11	42	450	30	113	20	2444	45	34	5066	9,533
Rehoboth Rural	56	22	15	374	16	9	9	13	429	59	42	14	981	31	16	2086	4,510
Rehoboth Urban East	81	35	26	755	34	17	12	14	912	37	42	23	2631	51	40	4710	11,240
Rehoboth Urban West	64	17	17	546	17	17	8	13	1614	44	80	13	781	45	42	3318	7,509
<b>KAVANGO EAST</b>																	
Mashare	421	57	14	9	8	10	2	4	106	22	10	13	3462	17	16	4171	9,049
Mukwe	655	112	41	63	14	26	14	27	621	64	19	37	4913	48	24	6678	16,362
Ndiyona	210	49	25	7	6	7	2	2	77	25	8	3	2360	21	11	2813	6,106
Ndonga Linena	117	50	19	8	6	9	2	2	195	32	5	6	2673	25	16	3165	6,407
Rundu Rural	229	50	11	22	4	7	3	2	78	14	11	9	2631	19	11	3101	5,936
Rundu Urban	1046	148	65	135	89	69	25	44	1185	133	107	69	14065	131	70	17381	34,864
<b>KAVANGO WEST</b>																	
Kapako	276	107	41	57	18	22	10	10	226	17	29	29	5374	48	29	6293	12,533
Mankumpi	55	31	6	10	5	3	2	1	28	7	3	9	1480	14	8	1662	3,357
Mpungu	105	74	18	17	9	6	4	6	114	51	9	20	4972	78	5	5488	8,863
Musese	123	44	18	8	7	3	2	5	122	12	7	10	2724	20	5	3110	6,359
Ncamagoro	70	35	8	6	4	1	0	2	31	2	14	12	1582	53	2	1822	3,535
Nkuncuni	121	21	4	4	3	2	1	1	24	3	2	6	1405	3	4	1604	4,635
Nkurenkuru	99	22	6	17	19	6	2	5	189	19	16	7	2916	12	7	3342	4,872
Tondoro	120	48	16	12	6	5	1	4	50	19	11	11	3811	16	15	4145	8,258

	APP	CDV	CoD	LPm	NEEF	NDP	NPF	NUDO	PDM	RDP	RP	SWANU	SWAPO	UDF	WRP	Total Votes	Registered
<b>KHOMAS</b>																	
John A. Pandeni	98	36	25	588	182	24	15	261	1783	78	151	77	3249	94	19	6680	14,712
Katutura Central	59	30	22	616	76	21	16	929	2133	96	81	168	2287	163	17	6714	19,233
Katutura East	164	72	69	1223	268	62	27	113	2262	104	261	60	5236	297	57	10275	15,836
Khomasdal	170	44	55	1378	286	95	20	603	3486	161	345	136	5010	180	46	12015	25,485
Moses //Garoeb	235	150	147	499	301	107	55	193	2844	257	252	115	8664	138	54	14011	41,083
Samora Machel	270	130	151	1051	589	98	75	445	4442	237	365	146	9701	292	71	18063	45,410
Tobias Hainyeko	253	73	87	385	201	62	30	67	1708	138	205	66	7143	112	47	10577	36,017
Windhoek East	316	75	130	1222	599	199	45	413	6901	407	1463	155	8000	177	76	20178	14,657
Windhoek Rural	293	107	119	1434	416	126	63	262	4272	296	894	144	6811	218	73	15528	12,561
Windhoek West	297	82	93	1844	591	211	45	530	7180	411	1208	238	8364	244	89	21427	32,565
<b>KUNENE</b>																	
Epupa	26	38	9	10	4	2	1	39	3394	161	18	14	2486	18	18	6238	11,250
Kamanjab	36	21	7	98	15	4	5	18	273	25	32	11	1552	520	12	2629	4,332
Khorixas	45	23	7	277	12	8	1	18	296	15	20	13	1967	1474	24	4200	8,358
Opuwo Rural	10	5	5	8	4	1	13	480	2599	132	2	10	674	16	8	3967	6,940
Opuwo Urban	41	14	8	28	43	12	7	242	2904	243	35	15	3112	34	13	6751	10,069
Outjo	80	53	33	258	25	14	11	59	498	76	74	20	2503	458	21	4183	8,783
Sesfontein	19	14	5	70	3	3	5	67	575	43	4	7	1414	736	15	2980	5,105
<b>OHANGWENA</b>																	
Enhana	116	67	49	123	128	41	22	36	1170	132	124	60	8718	100	28	10914	15,167
Endola	110	82	50	129	81	32	13	15	960	205	62	50	7401	74	14	9278	13,516
Engela	106	63	53	141	80	36	13	24	1049	109	77	47	7186	82	26	9092	13,326
Epembe	51	27	14	23	20	8	3	4	185	22	17	17	4121	62	8	4582	6,113
Ohangwena	120	102	61	135	92	43	21	36	1525	204	99	59	7566	86	37	10186	12,965
Okongo	77	50	50	69	48	19	14	21	541	128	57	43	7808	52	15	8992	12,344
Omulonga	120	65	53	110	64	26	12	24	732	105	61	57	8119	66	21	9635	13,198
Omundaungilo	70	28	14	30	20	12	5	11	174	44	12	21	4717	33	7	5198	6,522
Ondobe	110	96	60	98	69	32	17	25	748	184	56	48	9939	93	18	11593	16,299
Ongenga	84	56	82	86	71	33	9	23	718	104	55	50	6757	51	10	8189	12,252
Oshikango	137	104	74	154	102	45	15	28	1065	169	80	57	8387	92	35	10544	17,215
Oshikunde	22	24	9	25	18	6	4	4	151	64	14	17	5127	16	3	5504	7,535
<b>OMAHEKE</b>																	
Aminius	47	23	16	160	5	7	6	1768	235	14	40	93	1490	18	12	3934	7,200
Epukiro	22	17	7	10	2	3	3	257	397	23	1	164	1000	10	12	1928	4,055
Gobabis	130	71	42	596	68	38	22	387	998	98	182	125	4144	56	33	6990	13,267
Kalahari	83	47	20	158	23	15	9	115	508	22	53	24	2062	49	27	3215	5,115
Okarukambe	77	37	27	124	13	10	9	66	262	21	46	33	1939	44	42	2750	5,460
Otiijene	15	10	4	21	3	2	10	1137	602	13	7	43	833	5	11	2716	5,088
Otiombinde	37	17	6	25	8	2	7	169	381	23	4	191	923	9	4	1806	4,317

..	APP	CDV	CoD	LPM	NEEF	NDP	NPF	NUDO	PDM	RDP	RP	SWANU	SWAPO	UDF	WRP	Total Votes	Registered
<b>OMUSATI</b>																	
Anamulenge	58	38	31	63	70	10	13	17	514	21	36	23	6721	51	13	7679	11,183
Elim	55	32	35	59	325	12	11	6	431	19	24	21	4827	43	9	5909	7,797
Etayi	107	70	60	128	185	39	22	24	797	86	73	75	9809	73	22	11570	16,556
Ogongo	54	36	22	41	94	15	4	15	338	17	39	21	5594	38	15	6343	9,264
Okahao	117	91	42	63	94	20	7	14	496	27	59	25	7396	49	14	8514	12,602
Okalongo	124	92	53	143	158	23	18	20	727	54	46	72	9952	62	38	11582	15,756
Onesi	59	45	17	27	34	9	8	9	311	20	22	25	6175	40	13	6814	9,758
Oshikuku	55	32	24	59	397	16	9	14	558	22	49	19	5775	36	7	7072	9,420
Otamanzi	51	43	23	44	25	7	5	7	206	19	23	19	4747	36	6	5261	7,321
Outapi	134	95	67	123	281	49	24	48	1474	63	121	67	15330	105	35	18016	22,768
Ruacana	79	41	27	58	76	19	9	147	637	44	42	29	5331	31	17	6587	8,830
Tsandi	116	73	33	73	82	24	12	29	612	31	52	40	10397	63	31	11668	15,001
<b>OSHANA</b>																	
Okaku	260	67	89	171	183	56	26	28	1211	90	99	47	5628	56	30	8041	10,216
Okatana	76	30	47	88	445	35	16	24	1317	66	89	28	6146	41	15	8463	9,027
Okatjali	29	10	16	25	17	5	3	5	236	14	17	8	1297	16	8	1706	1,994
Ompundja	24	9	7	21	41	6	5	4	160	7	14	7	1752	17	9	2083	2,484
Ondangwa Rural	96	44	60	138	189	36	22	29	1301	85	120	51	3409	62	33	5675	7,413
Ondangwa Urban	479	90	159	355	445	130	67	76	4099	173	475	78	7760	115	51	14552	17,780
Ongwediva	150	82	97	307	536	76	32	47	3055	209	250	79	8174	89	24	13207	21,839
Oshakati East	127	48	60	204	647	51	34	44	2628	135	146	44	7957	66	37	12228	19,385
Oshakati West	123	51	114	189	603	67	34	47	2685	109	152	55	7829	80	39	12177	15,111
Uukwiyu	84	35	65	110	106	23	10	19	870	38	86	26	3812	49	23	5356	6,446
Uvudhiya	24	17	9	29	20	1	1	7	186	7	9	9	2357	25	5	2706	3,502
<b>OSHIKOTO</b>																	
Engodi	72	57	21	77	30	16	7	15	232	23	28	22	5502	48	10	6160	7,449
Guinas	55	37	13	37	24	9	1	11	174	17	23	22	1716	32	15	2186	4,191
Nehale LyaMpingana	59	43	37	55	34	24	13	17	279	26	24	23	4097	45	15	4791	5,700
Okankolo	72	32	33	54	33	16	13	15	269	24	25	23	4304	40	7	4960	8,198
Olukonda	129	36	46	147	133	42	19	35	1300	49	93	49	3793	70	26	5967	7,361
Omuntele	135	58	36	129	120	35	10	26	518	42	89	42	5676	52	46	7014	9,330
Omuthiya-Gwiipundi	176	96	59	155	134	57	29	46	1458	86	144	62	8135	108	44	10789	14,841
Onayena	82	33	52	86	61	20	10	13	661	28	65	30	4743	40	9	5933	8,437
Oniipa	140	59	87	171	136	46	22	31	1148	80	75	53	5079	62	16	7205	13,909
Onyaanya	141	56	45	122	120	28	21	28	780	49	83	37	6465	49	27	8051	11,242
Tsumeb	222	70	70	307	181	57	29	77	1875	127	269	55	6573	195	66	10173	18,054

	APP	CDV	CoD	LPM	NEEF	NDP	NPF	NUDO	PDM	RDP	RP	SWANU	SWAPO	UDF	WRP	Total Votes	Registered
<b>OTJOZONDIJUPA</b>																	
Grootfontein	277	49	53	217	151	65	20	133	1347	68	197	47	6628	180	34	9466	16,164
Okahandja	137	67	63	514	108	66	21	321	1676	106	249	85	6154	329	33	9929	17,300
Okakarara	44	20	15	41	12	12	12	2522	2431	42	28	98	1683	17	11	6988	15,132
Omatako	69	38	30	116	49	23	16	453	757	56	157	59	2667	53	18	4561	7,099
Otavi	128	52	48	233	99	29	9	45	743	49	158	39	3690	109	31	5462	9,154
Otiwarongo	181	82	51	348	166	41	19	214	1693	106	317	67	5961	404	40	9690	21,644
Tsumkwe	54	18	11	14	5	4	6	634	300	9	15	15	1901	28	12	3026	6,716
<b>ZAMBEZI</b>																	
Judea Lyamboloma	12	12	8	3	4	47	1	5	169	12	9	3	1150	5	2	1442	3,122
Kabbe North	35	20	5	20	8	30	2	5	224	17	8	8	1780	14	88	2264	3,782
Kabbe South	16	10	6	13	3	20	3	3	97	9	6	1	1656	4	4	1851	3,662
Katima Mulilo Rural	67	26	12	25	12	62	4	6	304	26	8	7	2474	16	3	3052	6,351
Katima Mulilo Urban	94	18	24	83	23	404	10	18	1410	70	42	23	5443	30	12	7704	13,226
Kongola	67	35	17	21	10	125	5	5	310	32	40	17	1694	22	5	2405	5,198
Linyanti	22	17	7	4	4	150	2	5	118	84	4	4	1214	12	0	1647	3,936
Sibbinda	27	27	17	13	9	154	2	6	563	42	11	9	1856	27	5	2768	6,026
International votes	11	1	4	68	9	8	2	36	283	15	17	16	806	9	4	1289	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14664</b>	<b>5841</b>	<b>4654</b>	<b>38956</b>	<b>13580</b>	<b>4559</b>	<b>1785</b>	<b>16066</b>	<b>136576</b>	<b>8953</b>	<b>14546</b>	<b>5330</b>	<b>536861</b>	<b>14644</b>	<b>3212</b>	<b>820227</b>	<b>1,358,468</b>

### 3.3.3 Analysis of Results

The SWAPO Party won the presidential race with **56.3%** of the total votes cast followed by the Independent Candidate who gained 29.4% in the Presidential elections. This was the first time in the history of Namibia, that an independent candidate scored the second highest in the Presidential contest. The SWAPO Party of Namibia garnered 536,861 total votes in the 2019 National Assembly elections which represents 65.5% and 63 seats in the National Assembly followed by PDM which gained 136,576 votes resulting to 16.6% of the total votes and 16 seats. PDM retained the position as the official opposition party.

### Challenges and Recommendations

#### Challenges

- Results transmitted by some Returning Officers did not include all required Elect Forms and EVM print-outs to verify the correctness of returns causing delays awaiting the receipt thereof;
- Process flow at CERC was not properly coordinated;
- The RMS failed to detect duplicate submissions for returns.



## Recommendations

- Intensify training on results transmission to Returning Officers well in advance;
- Review the result process at CERC and enforce strict quality control;
- Enhance RMS to detect multi-submissions.

### 3.3.4 Legal Reform

#### 3.3.4.1 Review of Electoral Act No. 5 of 2014

The observations and recommendations given by the various observation missions and stakeholders, objectively viewed, identified a range of possible amendments to the Electoral Act. These include:

1. **The Political Campaign Period** – The Electoral Act does not provide for the starting and ending dates of the political campaign period. It is recommended that the campaign period ends at least 48 hours before Election Day.
2. **Introduce amendments to the Electoral Act** that restricts voters from voting outside the constituency where they are registered to enable more efficient planning;
3. **The Electoral Act provides for Independent Candidates** to participate in elections, but it is silent on whether the Independent Candidates must resign as members of political parties. This is a matter for political parties to deal with internally, but the ambiguity on this matter does warrant a possible amendment to the Electoral Act.
4. **Articles 46 and 47 in the Constitution** refers to the qualifications for nomination of councilors for election to the National Assembly. Section 77 of the Electoral Act provides for the councilors to resign their seats in order to qualify for nomination as candidates for the National Assembly elections. Some political parties and the councillors concerned interpreted and construed Section 77 to mean that they may only resign their council seats after the results of the elections are known as this is a bread and butter issue for the councilors. This led to the councillor for Opuwo constituency only resigning later after other councillors and the by-election for this constituency not being held on

the same date as the other by-elections, although the date of the vacancy occurring was supposed to be the same. It is a contributing factor to internal contestation as to who should be on the list of members of some political parties elected to the National Assembly. For the reason that the ECN's key stakeholders (political parties and councillors) felt that it is more reasonable for a councillor to resign after the elections and the ECN insisting on implementing the Act to the letter, this matter warrants looking into for possible amendment.

5. **Public Funding of political parties** – Sections 139 to 142 – Deal with declaration of assets and liabilities, records and audit, disclosure of foreign and domestic financing and other obligations by political parties. Section 154 to 161 – Deal with the funding of political parties and their obligation to account for the funds, recovery of monies irregularly spent etc. The ECN recommends that the responsibility for disclosures and compliance be moved to the office of the Auditor General. The remedy for non-compliance is de-registration of non-compliant political parties. If the current provision to de-register non-compliant political parties, all but one political party is liable for de-registration. This would be an extreme measure which will have serious implications for the viability of democracy in Namibia, as it will effectively result in a one party state.

The current developments in National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) has brought the issue of political compliance to the fore. In addition to de-registration as a final recourse, it is suggested that the Electoral Act be amended to provide for Parliament to withhold public funding until the offending political party complies with the above sections of the Electoral Act. The provision for de-regulating non-complying political parties has been in the new Electoral Act of 2014, but it has not been enforced, leading to political parties developing a culture of impunity. Withholding public funds is considered a more realistic and less drastic punitive measure, which is likely to compel political parties to comply.

## CHAPTER FOUR: ELECTION CHALLENGES AND CONCLUSION

### 4.1 Electoral Challenges

Stakeholders expressed concerns with the suspension of the provision of the Act that regulates the VVPAT for EVMs, even before the first elections were held under the new Electoral Act. The use of the VVPAT was suspended under Section 97 (3) and (4) of the Act.

The suspension of Section 97 of the Act remained in place until it was declared unconstitutional in a recent Supreme Court Judgment delivered on 05<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Consistent with the constitutional principle, the court decided that the order of invalidity will operate prospectively as from 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020. This means that the minister concerned is directed accordingly to ensure that Section 97 of the Electoral Act is either complied with in full or is not implemented by the ECN until the current EVMs are modified to produce a voter verifiable audit paper trail.

The complainant who brought the case before the Supreme Court as the court of first instance, questioned the constitutionality of a ministerial determination to suspend Section 97 of the Electoral Act, which allowed the use of the EVMs without paper trail until further notice. This allowed the Supreme Court to consider the constitutionality of the 2014 executive determination. The Supreme Court Judgment found that the ministerial decision to suspend Section 97 of the Act violated the constitutional principle of separation of powers because it was determined by a member of the Executive (Minister) instead of by Parliament, thereby invalidating the ministerial determination which allowed the use of EVMs without a voter verifiable audit paper trail. The Supreme Court decision was based on the argument that the use of EVMs without a paper trail compromised the credibility of elections and that it is detrimental

to the public confidence in the electoral process. However, the existing electoral law allows for ballot paper system. The paper ballot system is generally recognized and accepted in Namibia that it satisfies the basic requirements of transparency and accountability in democratic elections.

This Supreme Court Judgment was in itself historic in the sense that it was the first time that the Supreme Court handed down a decision on the Presidential election challenge ever heard in Namibia, despite the fact that the High Court in 2014 sanctioned the use of EVMs without a paper trail in the Maletzky case. The ECN has been using the EVMs ever since without a paper trail on the assumption entitled to do so on the understanding that it complied with Part 5 of the Electoral Act where the use of the VVPAT was suspended under Section 97 of the Electoral Act.

### 4.2 Conclusion

The Commissioners, Management, Secretariat, and the entire staff component of the Electoral Commission of Namibia take pride in having discharged its constitutional mandate of delivering the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections. We endeavored to discharge this public function in the most transparent and credible fashion. It is with great humility that we, dare say, that we achieved this objective. We are fully cognizant of the administrative glitches which marred certain aspects of the electoral process. We take full responsibility for these flaws and commit ourselves to improve on them as far as possible.

Lastly, we shall not relent in our endeavor to live up to our statutory objective to discharge our mandate in a fair and impartial manner, without fear, favour or prejudice as required by the Constitution and the Electoral Act.







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