

Electoral Commission of Namibia

Elections House 67-71 Van Rhijn Street

MEDIA RELEASE

OMMISSION AL & REFERENDA

8 NOV 2019

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TO

V. Hango 061 376244

FROM

Chief Electoral Officer

ALL MEDIA HOUSES

DATE

8th November 2019

SUBJECT:

SPECIAL VOTING - 13TH NOVEMBER 2019

The Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) would like to inform all Namibian citizens that in terms of section 64 of the Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014, only three (3) categories of registered voters are allowed to vote at polling stations within and outside of Namibia on a Special Voting day determined by the Commission, which is 13th November 2019.

The jurisdictional fact in respect of the categories of persons that may vote 14 days before 27th November 2019, are persons who are outside of Namibia on 27th November 2019 as per section 64(2)(a), persons who are on board any vessel as per section 64(2)(b) and persons who are members of the police force, defence force and correctional services and who are required to be on duty within or outside of Namibia as per section 64(2)(c) of the Act.

In a situation where a voter will be traveling outside of the country between 14th and 27th November 2019, it is the responsibility of every voter to arrange his/her affairs to enable him/her to cast his/her vote as prescribed either by being outside of Namibia on 27th November 2019 and vote by virtue of the provisions of section 64(2)(a), read with section 98(6) of the Act on 13th November 2019, or be back in the country on 27th November 2019 to cast his/her vote in the country with all other voters.

ELECTION LOGISTICS

The Commission would like to take this opportunity to further inform the electorate that all logistical preparations for the conduct of the special voting on 13th November 2019 are well on course.

In terms of the polling process at the Namibian Foreign missions, the elections will be conducted by use of manual ballot papers, this is purely for logistical reasons. The manual ballot papers have been verified for correctness and endorsed by political parties that will be contesting in the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections.

Furthermore, the ECN has printed 9200 ballot papers, for the Presidential elections and another 9200 ballot papers for the National Assembly elections for the voting process abroad. The voting materials and equipment for the elections have been finalized and are currently being air transported to the different foreign missions.

In terms of the local voting operations, a total number of 151 polling stations have been determined for the polling process in the 121 constituencies countrywide. For the Presidential elections, 250 Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) ballot papers have been printed and 250 EVM papers for the National Assembly elections.

The training of polling officials who will perform electoral duty on 13th July 2019 commenced on 7th November 2019 and will end on 11th November 2019. The deployment of the teams to the designated polling stations is scheduled for 12th November 2019.

The ECN would like to encourage all Namibians in-country and abroad who are entitled to vote as per the provisions of section 64 (2) (a-c) of the Electoral Act, to go to their nearest designated polling stations to cast their votes on 13th November 2019 in the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections.