



**Electoral Commission
of Namibia**

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND POST-ELECTION REPORT

**NCAMAGORO CONSTITUENCY
BY-ELECTION**

17th DECEMBER 2021



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| COVID-19 | Corona Virus Disease 2019 |
| CSO | Civil Society Organisations |
| ECN | Electoral Commission of Namibia |
| GRN | Government of the Republic of Namibia |
| LA | Local Authority |
| O/M/A's | Office, Ministries and Agencies |
| RC | Regional Council |
| SRV | Supplementary Registration of Voters |
| VRKs | Voter Registration Kits |
| VVDs | Voter Verification Devices |
| PVR | Provisional Voters Register |
| IEC | Information, Education Communication |
| SOP | Standard Operating Procedures |

PREFACE



Mrs. Elsie Nghikembua
Chairperson

It gives me great pleasure to present to you, on behalf of the Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN), the Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election, which was held on 17th December 2021, in accordance with Section 116 of the Electoral Act.

This report outlines the activities that were undertaken for the preparation and subsequent conduct of the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election, including logistical arrangements, election official training, Political Party Liaison Committee meetings, Stakeholder engagements, voter and civic education, the voting process and analysis of results, as well as the financial costs.

The ECN launched a vigorous Supplementary Registration of Voter (SRV) campaign in the run-up to the elections. The purpose of the SRV is to provide an opportunity for eligible voters who after the last subsequent general registration of voters or supplementary registration could not register

and include those who have turned 18 years of age, moved from one constituency to other, people whose registration cards have been reported lost or damaged, and anyone else who qualifies under section 22(1) of the Electoral Act to the voter register.

Following the SRV, a Provisional Voters' Register (PVR) was prepared and published in the Government Gazette for public inspection in order to receive any objections to the names of people listed on the PVR. There were no objections reported to anyone's inclusion on the PVR. The final voters register, with a total of 3818 registered voters, was made available on 22nd November 2021.

The period for political parties and independent candidates to nominate candidates began on 21st October 2021 and ended on 5th November 2021. Independent candidates had until 3rd November 2021 to submit nominations, while political parties had until 5th November 2021 to submit nominations.

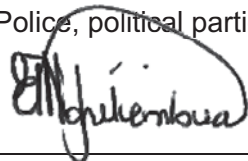
The election campaigns of the various political parties were peaceful, with high levels of tolerance and maturity displayed. During campaigning, all political parties generally adhered to the political party code of conduct.

Before the conduct of the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election, I had the privilege to address the election officials recruited for the by-election during their training session before they were deployed to their various polling stations. I used this opportunity to emphasise the important role that election officials play in facilitating the voting process. I also encouraged the election officials to ensure impartiality during the entire electoral process, as each individual and collective action can make or break a democracy.

The Ncamagoro Constituency by-election were held on 17th December 2021, in a calm and peaceful environment. There were no reported instances of violence or major challenges. There were isolated issues reported, such as the slow rate at which the Voter Verification Devices (VVDs) captured voter information (this was corrected and the voting process continued without further impediments), and a breakdown of a vehicle of a mobile polling team while traveling to the collation center, which resulted in a slight delay in the announcement of results.

The voter-turnout for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election was relatively low at 33.6%. The Commission going forward, is looking towards, (with its varied electoral stakeholders) to identify opportunities that will jointly address this trend, including through communication and education initiatives.

Finally, successful elections are a collective effort, and on behalf of the Commission, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude and appreciation to the many stakeholders and partners who made this election possible, which includes amongst others, the ECN Management, election officials, the Namibian Police, political parties and their party agents and the voters of the Ncamagoro Constituency.



Mrs. Elsie Nghikembua
Chairperson
March 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Mrs. Theo Mujoro
Chief Electoral & Referenda Officer

In terms of the legal framework, elections in Namibia are regulated by two (2) Acts – the Regional Councils Act (Act No.22 of 1992) and the Electoral Act (Act No.5 of 2014). In terms of Section 63(3)(2)(b) of the Electoral Act read in conjunction with Section 10(3) of the Regional Council's Act, the Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) is obliged to conduct a constituency by-election within 90 days of a vacancy occurring in a particular constituency. It is against the background of the above-cited legal framework that the ECN conducted the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election.

In accordance with Section 116 of the Electoral Act, the ECN initiated the process of conducting a performance assessment in respect of the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election. A vacancy occurred in the Ncamagoro constituency on the 19th September 2021 in the Constituency after the death of the sitting Councilor, the late Hon Johannes Kahonzo Sikondo.

As per the provisions of Section 10(2) of the Regional Councils Act, Act 22 of 1992, the Chief Regional Officer for the Kavango-west Regional Council by notice in the Government Gazette, dated 01st October 2021, gave notice of the vacancies. Furthermore, in accordance with the stipulations contained in Section 64(1) of the Electoral Act, 2014 (Act No. 5 of 2014), the President, upon recommendation by the Commission, determined the 17th December 2022 as the date for when the by-election for the Ncamagoro Constituencies were to be conducted. The Commission notes with great satisfaction that it duly complied with its obligations, as outlined in the Constitution and other relevant legislation in this regard.

We are indeed proud of our contribution towards the continued strengthening of constitutional democracy and democratic electoral processes in Namibia. This Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report consists of three chapters. Chapter one reports on the pre-election phase, and it presents a brief synopsis of the place and scope of the Regional Council elections within the Namibian electoral system. Chapter two focuses on the polling day events, this includes the opening and closing of polling stations and whether the secrecy of the ballot was observed, the counting process, transmission analysis of results and reports as well as the voter turnout; and Chapter three summarises the election challenges, it presents recommendations to redress the identified issues, and it draws a conclusion.

Finally, the Electoral Commission of Namibia has once again demonstrated its capability to conduct and execute its mandate by ensuring free, fair, credible, transparent and impartial elections. In this regard, the ECN is, once again, pleased to announce another delivery of a near-flawless and credible election to the nation.



Mr Theo Mujoro
Chief Electoral and Referenda Officer
March 2022

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND POST-ELECTION REPORT

The Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election is a statutory requirement in terms of Section 116 of the Electoral Act. This section requires the ECN to conduct a performance evaluation of any electoral process and to publish a post-election report for the election in question.

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; and
- 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 Ncamagoro Constituency by-election, which was held on 17th December 2021.

CHAPTER ONE

PRE-ELECTION PHASE

This chapter reports on the pre-election phase, as it provides a brief synopsis of the place and scope of the Regional Councils (RC) elections within the Namibian electoral system. Furthermore, the ECN's state of preparedness for the conduct of this particular by-election with regard to budgeting, procurement, recruitment and training of electoral officials, civic and voter education, voter registration, the publication of the provisional voters' register, the various stakeholder engagements held, as well as the printing of ballot papers.

1.1 Legislative Framework

1.1.1 Constitutional Provisions

Regional Council elections are conducted according to the majoritarian or first-past-the post electoral system. According to this system, the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner. In practical terms, this means that the candidate who receives the most votes per constituency will be elected as member of the Regional Council.

In terms of Article 106(2) of the Namibian Constitution, each constituency shall elect one (1) member to the Regional Council for the region in which it is situated. Article 106(3) provides that elections shall be conducted by secret ballot in accordance of the provisions of an Act of Parliament, and the candidate receiving the most votes in any constituency shall be elected as member of the Regional Council in that constituency.

1.1.2. Regional Councils Act

The Regional Councils Act, Act 22 of 1992 governs the regional government in Namibia. The Act provides for the establishment and constitution of Regional Councils, qualification of, and dates for elections for, members of the regional councils and meetings of regional councils, amongst others.

In terms of Section 10(3) of the Regional Councils Act, any casual vacancy in a regional council shall be filled within a period of three (3) months after it has occurred by holding an election, on a date to be determined by the President by proclamation in the *Gazette*, of a member as contemplated in section 7(2) for an unexpired portion of the period office of the member who as vacated his or her office, unless the period of office of the member who has so vacated his or her office expires during the said period of three (3) months.

A vacancy occurred in the Ncamagoro Constituency on 19th September 2021 after the death of the sitting Councilor, the late Hon Johannes Kahonzo Sikondo. According to the Regional Councils Act, if a vacancy occurs in a particular constituency office, the ECN is required by law to hold a by-election in that constituency within three (3) months of the vacancy occurring.

1.1.3. Electoral Act

In terms of Section 63(2)(b) of the Electoral Act, if a casual vacancy occurs in any regional council and any vacancy which so occurred is, by virtue of Section 10(3) of the Regional Councils Act, required to be filled through an election. A by-election must take place in the constituency in respect of which the vacancy in that council occurred, on a date determined in accordance with that section within the period referred to in that section. The President, in terms of Section 64(1) of the Electoral Act, upon recommendation of the Commission determined the 17th December 2021 as the date on which a poll for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election was to be conducted.

1.2 Budgeting

To ensure the effective conduct of both the registration and polling processes, election officials were recruited, trained, and deployed in advance of the Ncamagoro Constituency election. The conduct of elections in Namibia is solely supported by funds appropriated through the State Finance Appropriation Act.

The following is a breakdown of the financial expenditure incurred for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election:

Table 1: Expenditure in respect of the Supplementary Registration of Voters: Ncamagoro Constituency by-election:

| ITEM NO. | DESCRIPTION | TYPE(SECTION CODED) | UNIT | TOTAL AMOUNT |
|----------|--|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 01 | Fuel used for the Vehicles before, during and after the registration process | Transport | 35 Vehicles | N\$ 87,100 |
| 02 | Subsistence and Travelling allowance | Finance | - | N\$ 191,431 |
| 03 | Payments of Registration officials including the supervisor of registration. | HR | 51 People | N\$179,054 |
| 04 | Overtime expenses | Finance | - | N\$ 0 |

Table 2: Expenditure in respect of the polling process: Ncamagoro Constituency by-election:

| ITEM NO | DESCRIPTION | TYPE (SECTION CODED) | UNIT | TOTAL AMOUNT |
|---------|---|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 01 | Fuel used for the vehicles before, during and after the Election process. | Transport | 56 Vehicles | N\$ 130,418 |
| 02 | Travelling allowance used By the staff members | Finance | - | N\$ 338,909 |
| 03 | PPayments of Registration of officials including the returning officer | HR | 115 People | N\$331,775 |
| 04 | Over time expenses for both registration & election. | Finance | - | N\$ 230,267 |
| 05 | Ballot papers | Planning | - | N\$93, 475 |
| 06 | Covid preventative masks | Planning | - | N\$11,281.50 |
| 07 | Rental of training venue | Planning | - | N\$7,619.85 |
| 08 | Voter education material | Operating | - | N\$158,494.21 |

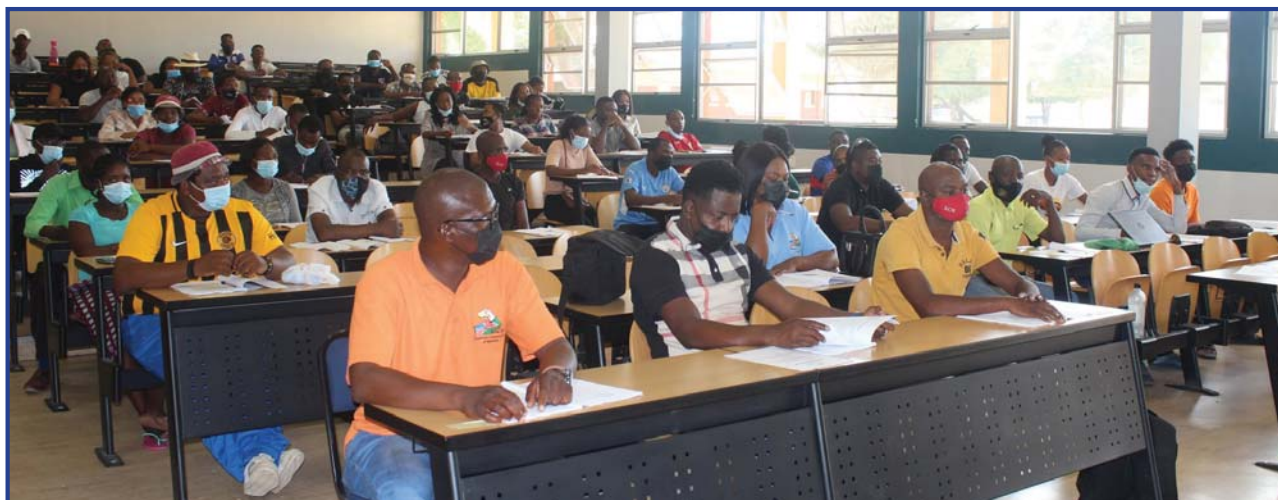
The overall cost of the registration and polling process for the by-election in the Ncamagoro Constituency was **N\$ 1,759,824.56**.

1.3 Procurement

The Procurement of various items for the by-election was undertaken in terms of the Public Procurement Act, Act 15 of 2015 and Regulations.

1.4 Recruitment and Training

The ECN had successfully recruited 51 registration officers and 115 polling officials for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election.



Training of Polling Officials at the Rundu Unam Campus

In terms of section 65 (2)(a), the Electoral Act provides for the training of election officials, a recognition of the fact that a free, fair and credible elections are a direct result of well-trained registration and election officials.

Registration officials received training from the 06th - 10th of October 2021, while polling officials received training from the 10th - 14th of December 2021 at the Rundu UNAM Campus. The overall training was completed satisfactorily, and presiding officers were chosen following the administration of a competency test.

Residents who live within the constituency were given preference in the selection of election officials for the temporary vacancies that needed to be filled as part of cost-cutting measures implemented by the institution, including savings on accommodation expenses.

1.5 Voter and Civic Education

The Commission is required by section 49 of the Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014, to provide voter and civic education for Namibian citizens. The voter education campaign for the Ncamagoro Constituency commenced on 1st – 14th October 2021 for the SRV process.



Voter and Civic Education sessions held with school going children to educate them on the importance of voting.

For the various population segments, specific targeted initiatives with unique messaging were devised. In addition, face-to-face voter education sessions were held, as well as the distribution of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials on the registration procedure. The IEC materials consisted of information such as when, where and how to register to vote.

During the aforementioned time period, four (4) teams of voter education officers were deployed in the constituency. Four (4) vehicles were assigned to the teams to ensure the success of the campaign within the constituency, which included villages and farms. The teams adhered to the program's design in order to ensure that the communities in the Ncamangoro Constituency were covered and reached with SRV information.

In terms of voter education activities related to the polling process, thirty-nine (39) villages and farms were visited, some of which were approximately 300 kilometers away from the Ncamagoro constituency office. The campaign consisted of four (4) teams, and the program began on November 24th and ended on 18th December 2021. The four (4) teams ensured that the villages and farms in the constituency were visited with the sole purpose of reaching out to as many members of the communities and, in particular, the electorate as possible in accordance with the program in place at the time.

Some of the challenges encountered during this process included a low turnout of community members at voter education meetings, several individuals without national documents, which meant that some people were unable to register to vote, in addition, some farm owners were unreachable, making it difficult to provide voter education on some farms.

1.6 Supplementary Registration of Voters

From the 12th to 14th of October 2021, the SRV exercise was held in the Ncamagoro Constituency. The purpose of an SRV before an election is to add to the voter's register people who have turned 18 years old since the last registration process, people who have moved from one constituency to another, people whose voter registration cards have been reported lost or damaged, and anyone else who qualifies under section 22(1) of the Electoral Act.

The table below provides a summary of total registration figures reported during the SRV:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Total Registrants prior to SRV | 3607 |
| Total Deceased removed prior to SRV | 3 |
| Total Registered Voters prior to SRV | 3604 |
| SRV 12th - 14th October 2021 | |
| New Applicants | 123 |
| Change of Address | 91 |
| Total Registered Voters | 3818 |
| Total Duplicates Issued | 74 |

1.6.1 Provisional Voters Register

On 19th October 2021, the Provisional Voters Register (PVR) was made public, for public review and objections. According to Section 31 of the Electoral Act (Act No.5 of 2014), a Provisional Voters' Register (PVR) must be prepared and published in the Government Gazette for public viewing in order to receive any objections to the names of people listed on the PVR. There were no recorded complaints to the inclusion of anyone on the registry. The final voters register was made available on 22nd November 2021 with a total of 3818 registered voters.

1.6.2 Election Materials and Distribution

(i) Supplementary Registration of Voters

The sensitive registration materials for the SRV process were dispatched on 08th October 2021 under strict security escort of the Namibian police in line with the ECNs Standard Operating Procedures (SoP).



Distribution of sensitive election materials at the Bunya Police Station

(ii) Polling process

The sensitive materials for the by-election were dispatched from the ECN Headquarters on 12th December 2021, under the careful supervision of the Namibian Police, as per the institutions SoP. The materials were taken to the Bunya police station in Rundu for safekeeping before deployment of the teams.

1.6.3 Transport

Vehicles for the deployment of both registration and polling teams were secured by use of ECN fleet and vehicles secured from the government garage in Rundu. There were no shortages of vehicles however, the state of vehicles is a concern for future elections. Moreover, no accidents were reported during this election.

1.6.4 Deployment of Teams

The registration teams were deployed to their respective duty stations on Monday, 11th October 2021, to guarantee that logistical arrangements at registration locations were made in advance before the process began. The polling materials were distributed to teams in the inlands on 15th and 16th December 2021, respectively, while the rest of the teams received their materials on 16th December 2021.

1.6.5 Stakeholder Engagement

The involvement of key stakeholders in electoral processes remains critical, thus a stakeholder meeting was held at the Ncamagoro Constituency Office during the registration and polling processes to inform and clarify all matters pertaining to the by-election. Political parties and candidate representatives attended the meetings. Participants were reminded of their roles, as well as the registration, polling schedule, voter education, and the safety measures put in place to ensure the health and safety of both election officials and eligible voters as elections were held amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.



Stakeholders consultations session with members of the Political Party Liaison Committee (PLC).

1.6.6 Printing of Ballot Papers

The ECN had invited companies to submit bids for the printing of ballot papers in accordance with the Public Procurement Act guidelines. Solitaire Press was awarded the bid. The final ballot papers were verified on 01st December 2021, and ballot papers were printed on 11th December 2021.

1.7 Nominations

The period of submission of nominations of candidates for the Constituency was successfully concluded on 05th November 2021. The nomination period began on 21st October 2021 and ended on 05th November 2021. The deadline for submitting nominations for independent candidates was 03rd November 2021, while the deadline for submitting nominations for political parties was 05th November 2021.

The names of the duly nominated candidates were as follows:

| DULY NOMINATED CANDIDATE | POLITICAL PARTY/INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Chimbango Domingo Frans | Popular Democratic Movement (PDM) |
| Nyundu Moses | Independent Candidate (IC) |
| Rengi Thomas Kavau | SWAPO party of Namibia (SWAPO) |
| Shindimba Ladislaus Poroto | Independent Candidate (IC) |
| Tjiwana Andreas Kambinda | Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) |

CHAPTER TWO

ELECTION DAY

This chapter focuses on events of the election day which includes polling station opening and closing times, Voter Verification Devices (VVDs) performance, the number of polling stations, and polling station procedures.

Similarly, it elaborates on whether ballot secrecy was observed, the counting process, results transmission and analysis, and finally voter turnout.

2.1 Security Arrangements

Security provision is one of the most important aspects in terms of the preparations for any electoral process. The conduct of election involves a substantial number of sensitive and non-sensitive materials that require strict security and be kept safe at all material times. For these reason, the ECN has a standing collaboration with the Namibian Police to ensure that law and order is maintained at all times during the electoral process. Specifically, the security arrangements were in respect of the guarding of the ballot papers during the printing process, the transportation and safekeeping of the ballot papers and the VVDs at the constituency police station, the distribution of election materials and the maintenance of law and order at polling stations.

2.1.1 Polling Stations

In terms of Section 89(1) of the Electoral Act, 2014 (Act 5 of 2014) the Commission must for the purpose of facilitating the taking of a poll in any election, establish polling stations at convenient places for constituencies. Furthermore, in terms of subsection 4 of the same section, it is required by the CEO as soon as practical after establishment of polling stations to make known by notice in the Gazette the location of every polling station. A total number of 7 fixed polling stations and 37 mobile points were established as per the list below:

KAVANGO WEST REGION

NCAMAGORO CONSTITUENCY POLLING STATIONS

| Polling stations | Time |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Fixed Points | |
| 101 – Ncamagoro Combined School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 102 – Mbeyo Primary School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 103 – Mpora Primary School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 104 – Cove JP School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 105 – Erago Primary School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 106 – Cwi Primary School | 07h00-21h00 |
| 107 – Ekondjo Primary School | 07h00-21h00 |
| Mobile Teams | |
| Team 301 | |
| - Cakaye | 07h00-13h00 |
| - Mutungalika | 14h00-21h00 |
| Team 302 | |
| - Kamuti | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Gumi | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Cwi | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 303 | |
| - Mutompo | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Sihetekera | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Senseni | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 304 | |
| - Casava village | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Epingiro 1 | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Sihepera | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 305 | |
| - Masivi | 07h00-09h00 |
| - Malisukiro | 10h00-12h00 |
| - Chijesu | 13h00-15h00 |
| - Chivi-chivi | 16h00-18h00 |
| - Sitetu | 19h00-21h00 |
| Team 306 | |
| - Muzoro water point | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Utjiliro water point | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Likorerera village | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 307 | |
| - Lituntika | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Nayimanya | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Sivaradi No. 2 | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 308 | |
| - Mburundu | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Sivaradi No. 1 | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Makena | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 309 | |
| - Line 9 Farms | 07h00-11h00 |
| - Line 8 farms (Sihova farm) | 12h00-16h00 |
| - Line 7 farms | 17h00-21h00 |
| Team 310 | |
| - Line 6 farms | 07h00-13h00 |
| - Line 5 farms | 14h00-21h00 |
| Team 311 | |
| - Line 4 farms | 07h00-13h00 |
| - Line 3 Farms (Tuguva farm) | 14h00-21h00 |
| Team 312 | |
| - Line 2 farms (Mawore Water Point) | 07h00-13h00 |
| - Line 1 farms | 14h00-21h00 |

2.2 Voting Day

The Ncamagoro Constituency by-election took place on 17th December 2021 from 07h00 am. All polling stations opened on time and the voter turnout during the voting process began slowly, particularly in the inland areas, but picked up in the mid-morning and evening hours. The voter turnout at Mbeyo polling station (Team 102) and Ncamagoro Combined School polling station (Team 101) started to increase drastically in the evening. ECN officials paid physical visits to some of the teams, making observations and providing assistance during polling. It should be noted that some political parties did not have the capacity to deploy election agents at all polling stations; therefore, only some polling stations had party agents from all participating political parties and candidates.



A voter casting their ballot during the polling process.

2.2.1 Voter Verification Devices (VVDs)

Voter Verification Devices (VVDs) serve to verify and authenticate all eligible voters before allowing them to cast their vote. On each verification device, the voters' register for the Ncamagoro Constituency was loaded. Minor issues with the VVDs were encountered, however these were quickly resolved by the presiding officers without causing any delays.



An election official using a VVD to authenticate voters at a polling station

2.3 Counting and Announcement of Results



Analysis of results at the collation centre

Vote counting began as soon as the polls closed at 21h00 pm. The results were counted at each polling station after the polls closed, as required by the Electoral Act. The presiding officers announced and displayed the results for the specific fixed or mobile stations at the polling stations in the prescribed manner. Following that, the teams traveled to the collation centre, where the Returning Officer announced and posted at the collation centre, the preliminary results for the Constituency. The final election results were announced by the Chairperson of the Commission on Saturday, 18th December 2021. The official election results were published in the Government Gazette No. 7741 on the 09th February 2022.

2.4 Analysis of Results

The Ncamagoro Constituency by-election was held successfully on 17th December 2021, and the results were announced in the early morning hours of 18th December 2021. The results were as follow:

Ncamagoro Constituency

Total votes counted: 1268

Rejected ballots: 15

| FULL NAMES OF CANDIDATES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) | NAME OF POLITICAL PARTY | VOTES RECORDED FOR EACH CANDIDATE |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chimbango Domingo Frans | Popular Democratic Movement | 105 |
| Nyundu Moses | Independent Candidate | 153 |
| Rengi Thomas Kavau | SWAPO Party of Namibia | 912 |
| Shindimba Ladislaus Poroto | Independent Candidate | 79 |
| Tjiwana Andreas Kambinda | Independent Patriots for Change | 19 |

The by-elections were conducted in a calm and peaceful atmosphere, with no incidences recorded.

Mr. Rengi Thomas Kavau, of the Swapo Party of Namibia was declared duly elected. The registered voters for the Ncamagoro Constituency by-election was 3818 which translates to a total voter turnout of **33.6%**.

CHAPTER THREE

ELECTION CHALLENGES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

3.1 Election Challenges and Recommendations

Despite the fact that the registration and polling processes went off without major drawbacks, minor administrative and logistical challenges were reported. The issues and recommendations encountered during the Ncamagoro Constituency election are summarized in the table below:

| ACTIVITY | CHALLENGES | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|--|--|---|
| Voter and Civic Education | Low turnout of community members at voter education sessions. | Develop strategies that determines the best times for communities to hold meetings, and increase the use of radio, IEC materials, and social media platforms to supplement outreach programs. |
| Voter Verification Devices (VVDs) | VVDs occasionally froze while authenticating voters, slowing down the voting process. | VVDs must be upgraded to a much faster processor or replaced entirely. |
| Budget | The Commission was provided with funds for the conduct of one by-election hence it had to utilise funds which were earmarked for other activities. | Mof should be engaged to ensure that adequate funds are made available for the conduct of any given by-election' on sufficient budgetary allocation. |
| Transport | Several cars that were used for the by-election broke down and are in desperate need of repairs. | To avoid obstructing election activities, it is suggested that all fleet be maintained regularly, particularly during a by-election. |

3.2 Conclusion

By carrying out its mandate in a free, fair, credible, and transparent manner, the ECN is devoted to enhancing electoral democracy in Namibia. The Commission expresses gratitude to all polling officials and political party representatives for their dedication and professionalism in overseeing and ensuring a credible polling process. Similarly, the ECN would like to thank all of the voters who came out to vote at the various polling stations despite the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic.



NOTES

[illegible]



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