



Electoral Commission of Namibia

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MEDIA RELEASE

(for immediate release)

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UPDATE ON CONDUCT OF THE KEETMANSHOOP RURAL CONSTITUENCY BY-ELECTION

The Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) is pleased to inform the Namibian public and the electorate that preparations for the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency by-election are on course. The by-election is set to take place on the **15th May 2023**.

A vacancy occurred in the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency following the expulsion of the former Hon. Councillor, Mr. Gerrit Witbooi. In terms of Section 10(3) of the Regional Councils Act, a vacancy should be filled within a period of ninety (90) days.

The ECN conducted the Supplementary Registration of Voters (SRV) in the Constituency from the **07th - 10th March 2023** in terms of Section 38 (1) of the Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014. The final voters register will be made available on the **26th April 2023** with **6 675** total registered voters for the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency.

Nominated Candidates

The nomination of candidates was concluded on the **05th April 2023**. Below are the names of candidates that have been duly nominated:

Duly Nominated Candidate	Political Party/Organisation/Independent candidate
Eiman Johannes Frederick Jacobus	Popular Democratic Movement (PDM)

Kharuxas Elias	Swapo Party of Namibia (SWAPO PARTY)
Labuschagne Willem Petrus	Landless People's Movement (LPM)
Van Staden Magdalena	Independent Patriots for Change (IPC)
Witbooi Gerrit Albertus	Independent Candidate (IC)

Voter Education

The voter education campaign for the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency to educate residents on the importance of casting their votes amongst other electoral matters, will commence on the **01st May 2023** and will be concluded on the **14th May 2023**. Face to face, digital media, posters and radio are currently some of the mediums employed to ensure the ECN reaches the electorate in the constituency.

Printing of Ballot Papers

The ECN had completed the bidding process for the printing of ballot papers in terms of the provisions of the Public Procurement Act No.15 of 2015. The bid was awarded to Solitaire Press. The verification of the Sample Ballot Papers by authorized representatives of the political parties will be conducted on the **25th April 2023**. The printing of Final Ballot Papers is scheduled to take place on the **28th April 2023** followed by packing process scheduled to take place between the 02nd and 05th of May 2023.

Dispatch of sensitive election materials

All sensitive materials for the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency by-election will be dispatched between the **08th - 09th May 2023** under strict security and escort of the Namibian Police. The materials will be placed under safekeeping and custody at a police station within the Constituency.

Training of polling officials, police officers and election agents

A total number of **sixty (60)** polling officials will be recruited to make up **twelve (12) Teams, six (6) Fixed** and **six (6) Mobile Teams** for the conduct of the by-election. The training of election agents and police officers will be conducted during the **05th - 06th May 2023**, while training of polling officials will be conducted between the **08th - 12th May 2023** in Keetmanshoop. The ECN

is obliged, in terms of Section 65(2)(a) read together with Section 69 of the Electoral Act, to provide training to election officials and all other stakeholders to ensure credible elections.

Deployment of Teams

Twelve (12) teams will be deployed on **14th May 2023** for the commencement of the polls on the **15th May 2023**

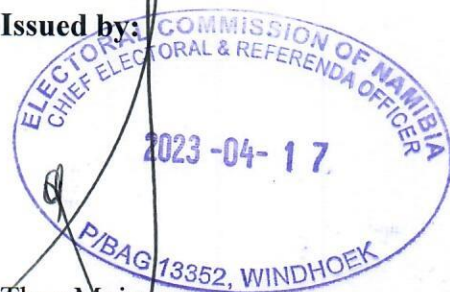
Coordination of polling process within the Constituency

The Returning Officer for the Keetmanshoop Rural Constituency by-election, Ms. Rosalin Y. Keramen. Ms. Keramen can be reached at **0816304779** for any queries related to the polling activities for this Constituency by-election.

Finally, the Commission encourages all voters to go out in numbers to exercise their democratic right and **VOTE** on the **15th May 2023 from 07:00 to 21:00**. **GO VOTE, YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

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Issued by:



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