



Overview of the Integrated Mobile Voter Registration System (IMVRS)

By

**Ms. Zenia Klazen
Director of Operations**

**At the Occasion of the launch of the ECN Electoral Calendar and
Democracy Awareness Campaign**

**07 March 2024
Mercure Hotel
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA**

Programme Director, Commissioner Evaristus Evaristus

Hon. Erastus Uutoni, Minister of Urban and Rural Development

All protocols observed

Good morning,

Over the past decade, new technologies have been playing an integral role in the organizing an increasing number of elections around the world. A number of countries, including Namibia have turned to biometric technology which plays a significant role in voter registration and the identification of registered voters at the polling stations on Election Day. Technology is also playing an increased role in enhancing the integrity of electoral processes and strengthening trust amongst stakeholders.

During the period 2010-2013, the ECN migrated from a manual paper-based voter's registration system to a "*tailor-made-system*" digital biometrics voters register system, referred to as Mobile Voters Register System (MVRS). Since the inception of the system, ECN has consistently produced and maintained a credible national voters' register without any challenges.

As alluded to by the Chairperson, following the 2019 and 2020 National Elections, ECN conducted a review of the electoral processes, including systems with a view to enhance service delivery.

The review culminated in the need to upgrade and enhance the current system based on "Building-on-Existing technologies" with specific relevance to the existing voter registration and verification systems.

What is the Integrated Mobile Vote Registration System? It is an integrated solution for managing electoral processes, voter registration, identification and verification of voters on polling day, collation and transmission of election results, nomination of candidates or political parties and registration of political parties/associations.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Transparency is essential to preserve the credibility of the electoral process, and to eliminate confusion, doubt and suspicions. In view of this, the Commission engaged and invited political parties/associations/organizations to be partake and observe a mock-registration during which the Integrated Mobile Voter Registration System, particularly the voter registration module was piloted in November 2023 and January 2024 in various constituencies country-wide.

The Commission is pleased to share with you all today that the enhancement of voter registration system has been successfully completed and the system is ready for deployment in the 2024 General Registration of Voters. Some of the key features of the enhanced voter registration application include:

- The migration from a laptop based technology to a tablet-based technology;
- Instant voter statistical reports per registration station, including demographics of People with Disabilities;
- Enhanced security features including but not limited to – remote management which offers the capabilities to remotely lock, wipe or locate devices in case they are lost or stolen, thereby protecting

sensitive information. It allows for remote troubleshooting and support, helping to resolve issues without needing physical access to the device. Application management which facilitates the distribution, updating and removal of applications of devices. Enforcement on the use of approved applications and restrict or blacklist unauthorized applications, ensuring that only safe and necessary apps are used.

The enhanced voter registration application and hardware is on display and participants are cordially invited to have a touch and feel.

The enhancement of the other applications is at an advance stage and at the right time all stakeholders will be invited to similar mock exercises to test efficiency of these software modules.

Thank you.