



**PRESS RELEASE**  
(For immediate release)

**20 May 2024**

**Attention: All Media Houses**

**CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS IN ECN RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR THE  
REGISTRATION/POLLING OFFICIALS**

---

1. The Commission refutes misleading social media post by a political activist alleging corruption in the recruitment process of registration/polling officials for the 2024 General Registration of Voters (GRV) and November 2024 elections. The Commission would like to inform its stakeholders and the public at large that it followed its policies and procedures in recruiting officials needed for both the upcoming GRV and the elections in November. The recruitment was also done in compliance with the timelines as outlined in the 2024 Electoral Calendar.
2. The Commission advertised various positions for election officials from the 18<sup>th</sup> of March to the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2024. These advertised positions are for the following categories: registration/polling officers, youth ambassadors, IT technicians, logistics officers and administrative officers to be deployed both during the GRV and polling process. The advert required qualified **Namibian citizens who are unemployed** to submit their applications. In addition, every applicant was requested, amongst others; to **prove that he/she is not an active member or office bearer of a political party by submitting a police declaration. Failure to comply with the requirements would result in automatic disqualification of an applicant.** Should it be proven that an applicant made false representations regarding their employment status, the Commission will withdraw the appointment of such an individual.
3. The Commission received 82 976 applications for the advertised positions, however only 3280 officials are required for the GRV process. The Commission will recruit an additional 16,000 polling officials for the elections. The shortlisting process of those who applied to serve as polling officials during the elections will only commence after the conclusion of the General Registration of Voters.
4. The Commission contacted all shortlisted applicants to confirm their availability for training. It is a requirement that all shortlisted candidates are first subjected to assessment during training to determine their basic skills and abilities to perform the required electoral duties. Training has started today, 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 in various clusters across the country.
5. ECN operates with the highest level of transparency and integrity, and we follow strict guidelines and procedures as outlined in the ECN Electoral Operations Policy. The

Commission takes all allegations of corruption seriously and can assure the public that the recruitment process for registration/polling officials was conducted in a transparent and merit-based manner.

6. We implore the public to refrain from spreading misinformation and disinformation aimed at casting aspersion on the electoral processes. The Commission remains committed to ensuring free and fair elections for all the Namibian citizens.

***End***

---

**Issued by:**

**Enquiries:**

Peter Shaama  
**Chief Electoral and Referenda Officer**

De Wet Siluka  
**Manager: Corporate Communication**  
(C) +264 81 4145 205  
Email: [MSiluka@ecn.na](mailto:MSiluka@ecn.na)