



UPDATE

BY

**DR ELSIE T. NGHIKEMBUA
CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION**

UPDATE ON POLLING PROGRESS, CLOSING AND VOTE COUNTING PROCEDURES FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

**26 NOVEMBER 2025
22H00
CERC, WINDHOEK**

As promised the Commission has come again for the second time on this day to give an update on polling progress, closing and vote counting procedures for the regional council and local authority elections that took place today. We also want to explain and give more details regarding the results counting process that is in progress now.

All the **4,861** polling stations opened and conducted polling successfully. The Commission has noted a smooth polling process across the country.

During the course of the polling process, as earlier communicated in our morning briefing, the Commission has recorded the following isolated challenges:



Rainfall: As the country continues to receive rainfall, as reported in some parts of the Khomas, Kavango West, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, and Zambezi Regions. The Commission has made necessary arrangements to ensure the safe keeping of election materials and continuation of polling in these areas with minimal disruption.



Voters turning up at wrong polling stations: Despite the Commission's efforts to educate voters about the requirements to vote within the constituency in which they are registered, some voters turned up at the wrong polling stations. In these cases, polling officials directed them to the correct polling locations in their respective constituencies.



Voters turning up with voters' cards that are no longer valid. These voters could unfortunately not cast their votes due to the fact that their cards are no longer valid.

Fellow citizens, polling stations closed at 21:00. All voters in the queue at closing time will be permitted to cast their votes in strict adherence to the provisions of section 93 (3) of the Electoral Act 5 of 2014.

As polls close, we wish to urge all party and candidate representatives who have been assigned the responsibility to oversee the polling and counting processes, to remain at their respective polling station to observe vote counting and announcement of results. This oversight is vital in ensuring the credibility and transparency of the elections. We however wish to caution that they must fulfil this role responsibly, cooperate with polling staff.

In terms of the Electoral Act, immediately after the close of polls, voting and counting will take place at the same polling station in the presence of election agents of political parties, organisations/associations and candidates as required by the Electoral Act. Election agents are required to sign the results announcement Form produced by the presiding officer to attest to the counting process. This reinforces transparency, ensures immediate counting, and facilitates the announcement of preliminary election results at the polling station level.

A total of 120 Collation Centers have been established in all the 120 constituencies and 59 local authorities to collate the results from various polling stations for each constituency where preliminary constituency results will be announced before being transmitted to the Central Elections Results Centre for verification, approval and final announcement. This multi-tier structure confirms the official verification and declaration of results as prescribed by the Electoral Act.

The Commission is collaborating with NAMPOL and will continue ensuring the safety and security of the staff, the electorate, election materials and equipment before, during and after elections.

As we close polling, we would like to express gratitude to all registered voters who have exercised their civic right by casting their votes and for maintaining peace and calm during the voting process. Our plea is that this positive spirit continues through to the counting of votes and the announcement of results.

Thank you for your commitment to democracy today and always.

May God bless Namibia!
