



Elections House
Haile Selassie Avenue
PO Box 50274
LUSAKA.
13th July, 2024

PRESS STATEMENT
(For Immediate release)

**THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA (ECZ) CONDEMNS THE DISRUPTION OF THE
ELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 12TH JULY 2024 NJAME AND LIUMENA WARD BY-
ELECTIONS.**

The Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) yesterday 12th July, 2024 conducted polls in nine wards including Njame Ward, Chirundu District of Southern Province and Liumena Ward, Sikongo District of Western Province.

Serious incidences occurred at the Machavika Primary School Polling Station, and later at Chilindi Primary School Polling Station which was also the Totalling Centre in Njame Ward.

At Machavika Polling Station, suspected political cadres used pepper spray at the election officials at the Polling Station thereby disrupting the result announcement process. The cadres went away with two envelopes containing marked ballot papers. Fortunately, the Presiding Officer had the completed results compilation forms which were later used to complete the process.

At Chilindi Primary School Polling Station which was also the Totalling Centre, suspected political cadres disrupted the compilation of poll results by going away with a Record of Proceedings at the Count. Fortunately, the Commission had a copy of the form.

As a result of this violent disruption, the Commission was forced to suspend the proceedings at the Totoling Centre and all election materials were taken to Chirundu Police Station for safe custody.

The results for Njame Ward have since been declared by the returning officer, at Chilindi Primary School at about 09:20 hours, today, Saturday, 13th July 2024.

The police have since arrested some suspects and the Commission is keenly following the development of this matter.

Further, in Sikongo District, another unfortunate incident occurred at Liumena Polling Station in Liumena Ward where some party officials and cadres stormed the Polling Station without accreditation. The officials and cadres insulted, intimidated and harassed not only election officials but also police officers on duty.

The Commission strongly condemns these acts of violence, meant to disrupt the process, by cadres and officials. These incidences are unacceptable as they strike at the core of the management of the electoral process and undermine the integrity of elections, and they are also in breach of Sections 87, 89 and 94 of the Electoral Process Act 35 of 2016.

The Commission wishes to assure stakeholders that it is fully committed to safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process.

The Commission takes these incidences seriously and will summon all the parties that took part in the by-elections in the two wards. Those who will be found to have committed serious offences will be dealt with in accordance with the Electoral Code of Conduct and Electoral Process Act.



Brown Kasaro
Chief Electoral Officer
For/The Commission

ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA