



Malawi Electoral
Commission

Parliamentary and Presidential Elections - May 2009





MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

**REPORT ON PARLIAMENTARY
AND
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

MAY 2009

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ACRONYMS

AFORD	Alliance for Democracy
CCJP	Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
CHRR	Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMD	Centre for Multiparty Democracy
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
CONGOMA	Council for Non Governmental Organizations
CRO	Constituency Returning Officer
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CVE	Civic and Voter Education
CODE	Congress for Democrats
CONU	Congress for National Unity
DAG	Development Assistance Group
DC	District Commissioner
DC&VECC	District Civic & Voter Education Coordinating Committee
DEC	District Elections Coordinator
DEST	District Elections Supervisory Team
DFID	Department for International Development
DPs	Development Partners
DPP	Democratic Progressive Party
ECA	Electoral Commission Act
EISA	Electoral Institute of Southern Africa
ESCOM	Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi
ETF	Election Task Force
EU	European Union
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FPTP	First-Past-The Post
GAC	Grant Assessment Committee
GoM	Government of Malawi

GTZ	Gesellschaft Feur Technishe Zusammenarbeit
HRCC	Human Rights Consultative Committee
HIV/AIDS	Humane Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDs	Identities
IFES	International Foundation for Electoral Systems
IPC	Internal Procurement Committee
IPI	Institute for Policy Interactions
MAFUNDE	Malawi Forum for Unity and Development
MAM	Moslem Association of Malawi
MCC	Malawi Council of Churches
MCP	Malawi Congress Party
MDF	Malawi Defense Forces
MDP	Malawi Democratic Party
MEC	Malawi Electoral Commission
MEJN	Malawi Economic Justice Network
MESN	Malawi Electoral Support Network
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MK	Malawi Kwacha
MPLCs	Multiparty Liaison Committees
MPP	Malavi People's Party
MTL	Malawi Telecommunications Limited
NARC	National Rainbow Coalition Party
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NICE	National Initiative for Civic Education
NPF	National Patriotic Front
NRP	New Republican Party
NUP	National Unity Party
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Procurement
OMR	Optical Mark Recognition

PEAs	Primary Education Advisors
PETRA	People's Transformation Party
PPEA	Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act
PPF	People's Popular Front
PPM	People's Progressive Movement
RP	Republican Party
RFQ	Request for Quotation
SADC	Southern Africa Development Committee
SADC ECF	Southern Africa Development Committee Electoral Commissions Forum
SC	Senior Counsel
TA	Traditional Authority
TVM	Television Malawi
UDF	United Democratic Front
UK	United Kingdom
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
YONECO	Youth Network and Counseling Organization
ZBS	Zodiac Broadcasting Station

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Malawi Electoral Commission expresses its sincere gratitude to all the stakeholders, both individuals and organizations, for their generous contributions (financial, material, human and moral), as well as their advice, guidance and invaluable information rendered throughout the electoral process. While acknowledging their invaluable contributions, it is not possible to name all those who contributed to the process of preparation, implementation and completion of this national undertaking. However, the Commission would particularly wish to acknowledge the enormous support given by the following individuals and institutions:

- a) The Government of the Republic of Malawi,
- b) Development Partners:
 - (i) The European Union
 - (ii) The British Government
 - (iii) The Government of the Kingdom of Norway
 - (iv) The Government of Japan
 - (v) The Government of the Peoples Republic of China
 - (vi) The Government of the Irish Republic
 - (vii) The Government of Canada
 - (viii) The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - (ix) The Government of the United States of America.
- c) Members of the Election Task Force (ETF),
- d) All Government Ministries and para-statal organizations that released their staff and/or transport during this national undertaking,
- e) Members of the Transport Task Force,
- f) Institutions that offered their venues to be used as registration or polling points,
- g) District Commissioners and Local Assemblies for their assistance in the overall management of the electoral process,

- h) Teachers, camera operators and registration supervisors who assisted in the registration and the cleaning up of the voters register as well as the rest of the electoral process,
- i) Security personnel,
- j) Institutions that contributed to the setting up of the National Results Centre,
- k) The Media,
- l) International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) and the Grant Assessment Committee;
- m) Civic and Voter Education Committee and District Coordinating Committees,
- n) Multiparty Liaison Committees and Traditional Leaders,
- o) Civil Society Organizations,
- p) Faith Based Organizations,
- q) Local and International Observers,
- r) Voters and the citizenry in general,
- s) Electoral Institute of Southern Africa,
- t) The African Union for its efforts in creating an enabling environment.

The Commission acknowledges the important role played by political parties and contestants and pays tribute to them for their commitment to building democracy in Malawi.

The Commission also expresses its sincere thanks to all Constituency Returning Officers, Presiding Officers and all Polling Officials for their discipline and dedication to duty thus contributing to making the elections an exemplary success. Finally, the Commission is grateful to all those that have not been mentioned above and the general public for ensuring a peaceful and orderly voting environment.

LETTER OF SUBMISSION

THE MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Private Bag 113,
Blantyre
2nd December, 2009.

His Excellency Dr. Bingu Wa Mutharika,
President of the Republic of Malawi,
State House,
Lilongwe.

Your Excellency,

The Electoral Commission is appointed by Your Excellency under Article 4 of the Electoral Commission's Act. It is mandated under Article 76 of the Constitution to exercise such functions in relation to elections as are conferred upon it by the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi or by an Act of Parliament. The duties of the Commission include:

- a) To determine the number of constituencies for purposes of elections;
- b) To undertake or supervise the demarcation of boundaries of constituencies;
- c) To organize and direct the registration of voters;
- d) To devise and establish voters registers and ballot papers;
- e) To print, distribute and take charge of ballot papers and voters registers;
- f) To approve and procure ballot boxes;
- g) To establish and operate polling stations; and
- h) To establish security conditions necessary for the conduct of every election in accordance with any written law governing elections.

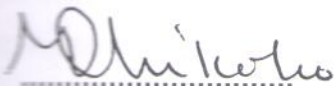
Your Excellency, Parliamentary and Presidential elections to elect a State President and Members of the National Assembly were conducted on 19 May 2009 in accordance with the Constitution of Malawi, Electoral Commission Act No 11 of 1998 and Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act No. 13 of 1993 as amended.

We, the commissioners, therefore, humbly submit to Your Excellency, the Report on the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections prepared by the Commission in compliance with Article 6 of the Electoral Commission's Act.

We are, Your Excellency,



Justice A.S.E. Msosa, SC.
CHAIRPERSON



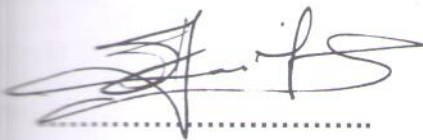
Georgina Chikoko
Commissioner



Professor Brown
Chimphamba
Commissioner



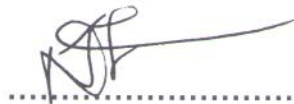
Mary Mangwiza Manyusa
Commissioner



Oliver Mwenifumbo
Commissioner



Dickson Mzumara
Commissioner



Jane Nankwenya
Commissioner



Amb. Ronald Nkomba
(Rtd)
Commissioner

FOREWORD

The Malawi Electoral Commission is pleased to present this report of the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections held on 19 May, 2009. The report details activities undertaken, as well as constraints and challenges experienced before, during, and after the general elections. The report concludes with recommendations on the conduct of future elections.

Not only is the Commission responsible for public elections, it is also the custodian of the integrity and legitimacy of the electoral process. Consequently, it recognizes that election administration cannot be exclusively owned by a single institution. In particular, the interpretation of electoral laws and regulations, as well as how political power is contested for, is of great interest to many key players and stakeholders in the electoral process. Inevitably, therefore, elections pose great challenges to the Commission and to all other stakeholders.

Further, social-economic and cultural factors impact on the management of elections by posing various challenges to effective management. These include language, economic hardships, illiteracy, poverty, urban/rural populations, traditions and gender, among others. The Commission had to deal with these factors in order to make the elections credible and accessible. For example, illiterate populations require more human contact and visual information throughout the electoral process for them to participate meaningfully and effectively. On the other hand, prejudices of who can stand as a candidate, restrict individuals who are capable of contributing meaningfully to the development agenda, and may lead to political party fragmentation.

The Commission is also expected to maintain good relationships with a wide range of specific interest groups who have a stake in the electoral process. In this respect, the Commission conducted regular consultations with various stakeholders at national as well as at district level through its Multiparty Liaison Committees (MPLCs). The consultations provided an opportunity for specific needs to be channelled directly to the Commission and eventually

incorporated into the Commission's policies and programmes. Roundtable meetings also acted as mechanisms for the Commission to report on its progress in the electoral administration. Thus the Commission built positive relationships with its stakeholders. For instance, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) teamed up as partners in implementing civic and voter education programmes countrywide.

Development Partners, through a direct bilateral electoral assistance agreement, contributed to democracy building through their funding and provision of technical expertise, and the government provided the balance of resources and an enabling environment for implementation of the general elections.

The Commission also benefited from electoral observation in that both local and International Observers were able to draw conclusions on the state of democracy, and make recommendations for future electoral assistance and political reforms.

To the extent that elections are a primary tool for increasing awareness of, and participation in the political process, the high turnout during the May 19 general elections, (about 78% of the registered voters), confirmed that the people of Malawi were progressively embracing democracy. They chose their representatives freely, without fear of coercion, and the election results were acceptable to most of the stakeholders. The results, which were quite historic, clearly defied the regional and ethnic voting patterns that had become the norm during the previous three Parliamentary and Presidential Elections. Thus as a nation, we can proudly claim that we are truly moving towards entrenching our democracy.

Justice A.S.E. Msosa, SC.

CHAIRPERSON

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The 2009 general elections were the fourth to be organized in Malawi since the advent of the multiparty political system in 1993. The first three elections were held in 1994, 1999, and 2004.

This introduction covers the prevailing election context with respect to administrative structures, demarcation of constituency boundaries, political parties and a brief on the population of Malawi.

1.2 Administrative Structures

Malawi has 28 administrative districts distributed in three regions: 6 in the North, 9 in the Centre and 13 in the South. Each of the districts has an administrative centre, popularly referred to as the “Boma” and is normally a cluster of a police station, a district hospital, a produce market, and key government functional units. The Boma is the district headquarters which hosts the District Commissioner who, during elections, is also designated as the District Election Coordinator (DEC). The DEC is supported by a District Elections Clerk who is a member of staff of the Electoral Commission.

Within each district there are Traditional Authority (TA) areas under whom, the smallest administrative area is the village. The village is an important unit for Civic and Voter Education (CVE), and it was given prime attention in the Commission’s CVE activities.

There are, currently, 193 National Assembly constituencies in Malawi. A constituency may be defined as a voting district, that is, an area that has been delimited by the Electoral Commission (Section 8(1) (a) and (b) of the Electoral Commission’s Act) for purposes of determining the number of representatives in the National Assembly using such criteria as are determined by the

Commission and subsequently approved by the National Assembly. Constituencies do not cross district boundaries, although they may cross Traditional Authority boundaries.

1.3 Demarcation of Constituency Boundaries

1.3.1 Rationale

Section 76(2) (b) of the Constitution, calls on the Commission to review existing constituency boundaries at intervals of not more than five years. In compliance with this requirement, the Commission decided to carry out a comprehensive review aimed at re-aligning the constituency boundaries following various submissions and representations received after the 2004 General Elections as well as previous elections.

1.3.2 Process

The Commission held consultative meetings in all the districts between February and May 2008 to obtain views from the general population regarding the position of constituency boundaries. This was done in order to identify and resolve any possible problems, and also to accommodate requests for the establishment of additional registration and polling centres.

The Commission, however, failed to act on the proposals arising from the consultations due to a Parliamentary resolution which restrained it from implementing the realignment of constituency boundaries. Consequently, the Commission maintained the 2004 General Elections constituency boundaries, although it did establish a few new registration centres in response to requests, and where they were considered to be needed. List of additional Registration Centres is in *Appendix 1*.

In view of the restriction order by Parliament, the Commission did not implement the results of the demarcation exercise. As such, at an appropriate time and in compliance with the electoral laws, the Commission will review the current status of constituency boundaries.

1.4 The Constituency Returning Officer (CRO)

In the 2009 general elections and within the framework of Section 34 (1) and Section 95 (1) of the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections (PPE) Act, the Commission established the position of Constituency Returning Officer (CRO) at the office of the District Commissioner. The CRO was established partly in response to complaints by some political parties against suspected bias in favour of some parties by a few District Commissioners. The change was also made as an attempt to improve the management of elections results. The expectation was that the creation of 193 CROs would reduce the time taken to process the constituency results, as opposed to the time it used to take when this task was single handedly carried out by 28 District Commissioners.

1.5 Political Parties

As of August 2008, there were 34 political parties registered under the Political Parties (Registration and Regulation) Act, 1993. Of the registered political parties, 17 participated in the 2009 general elections, namely: Alliance for Democracy (AFORD), Congress for Democrats (CODE), Congress for National Unity (CONU), Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), Malawi Congress Party (MCP), Malawi Democratic Party (MDP), Malawi Forum for Unity and Development (MAFUNDE), Maravi Peoples Party (MPP), New Alliance Rainbow Coalition Party (NARC), National Patriotic Front (NPF), New Republican Party (NRP), National Unity Part (NUP), Peoples Progressive Movement (PPM), Peoples Transformation Party (PETRA), Republican Party (RP), People's Popular Front (PPF) and United Democratic Front (UDF). Independent candidates also participated in the elections.

1.6 Population of Malawi

A population census of Malawi was undertaken in June 2008, and the preliminary results were released by the National Statistical Office in October 2008. According to the preliminary results, the population of Malawi was given as 13,066,320, while the voting age population was estimated to be 6,216,432. A table on Distribution of persons aged 18 years and over by region and district

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is presented as *Appendix 2*. On the basis of these preliminary results, the voting age population in Malawi constitutes 47.6 percent of the population.

The Commission registered 5.9 million of the voting age population during the registration period which lasted from 18 August 2008 to 31 January 2009 using 850 teams of registration staff over the five and half months.

CHAPTER 2

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

2.1 The Electoral Commission

The Electoral Commission is a body responsible for the general direction of and the supervision over the conduct of Parliamentary, Presidential and Local Government elections as well as referendum in Malawi. Its Mission is to conduct and manage elections in a free, fair, credible and cost-effective manner.

In order to achieve its mission, the Commission is guided in all its activities by the following core values of:

- c) **Independence:** ensuring that it operates freely in its own best judgment without taking directives from or being controlled by any person or authority.
- c) **Integrity:** carrying out its activities in an honest and truthful manner and taking all reasonable measures to prevent wilful wrongdoing by its staff/officials; and ensuring compliance and demonstrating respect for electoral laws and the laws of the country.
- c) **Service orientation:** ensuring delivery of quality service and maximizing impact with decisions about issues and resources being priority-driven.
- c) **Transparency and accountability:** promote open door policy and ensuring that transparency and accountability are inherent in all the Electoral Commission's activities and interactions, both horizontal and vertical and improving its performance through monitoring and evaluation, documenting its operations and freely disseminating them to all its stakeholders.
- e) **Impartiality:** ensuring that all policies and activities are adopted or carried out in an objective and neutral manner without neither favouritism nor discrimination.

- f) **Professionalism:** endeavour to have properly trained, motivated and disciplined staff committed to the delivery of credible elections.

2.2 Establishment and Functions

The Electoral Commission is established under Section 75 of the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi. It is mandated under Article 76 of the Constitution to exercise such functions in relation to elections as are conferred upon it by the Constitution or by an Act of Parliament. In addition to the broad functions and powers conferred on it by the Constitution, Section 8 of Electoral Commission Act mandates the Commission to exercise general direction and supervision over the conduct of every election. The same provision outlines the duties of the Commission which include:

- a) the determination of the number of constituencies for purposes of elections,
- b) supervision of the demarcation of boundaries of constituencies,
- c) organizing and directing the registration of voters,
- d) devising and establishing voters registers and ballot papers;
- e) printing, distributing and taking charge of ballot papers and voters registers,
- f) approving and procuring ballot boxes,
- g) establishing and operating polling stations, and
- h) establishing security conditions necessary for the conduct of every election in accordance with any written law governing elections.

While section 76 of the Constitution lists the powers and functions of the Commission, the Parliamentary and Presidential Elections Act no. 31 of 1993 (PPEA) as amended and the Electoral Commission Act (ECA) no 11 of 1998 stipulate in detail the rules and procedures that facilitate the organization, planning and execution of elections. The Commission has also powers to regulate its own procedures by standing orders and powers to vary, suspend or

revoke those standing orders. Further, on recommendation to the Minister of Justice, the Commission may introduce regulations to enable it improve its work.

Section 6 of the Electoral Commission Act provides for the independence of the Commission in the discharge of its duties. Consequently, the Commission is not subject to the direction of any other person or authority; instead, it sets up its own policy framework for the organization as well as for carrying out its specific tasks through its various institutional structures. However, for purposes of accountability only, the Commission is answerable and reports directly to the President on the overall fulfilment of its functions and powers.

2.3 Appointment of Commissioners

In accordance with Section 75 (1) of the Constitution, and Section 4(1) of the Electoral Commission Act, the Commission is composed of a Chairperson who is a judge, appointed by the President on recommendation by the Judicial Service Commission, and. The Chairperson is assisted by seven (7) other Commissioners appointed by the President in consultation with leaders of political parties represented in the National Assembly.

The preparations for the 2009 General Elections started late because of the delayed swearing in of the new Commissioners who had been appointed in March 2007. Some political parties challenged the appointment by arguing that the President had not consulted those parties represented in Parliament as is required by the Malawi Constitution. In the absence of a consensus regarding the mode of consultation, the political parties took the matter to court. On 16 January 2008, the Courts ruled in favour of the appointing authority (the President), and the Commissioners were sworn in and started functioning on 18 January, 2008.

The delayed appointment impacted negatively on the Commission's implementation of institutional reforms as stipulated in its 2005 Strategic Plan, as well as on the publication of the May 2009 Electoral Calendar. Before the

appointment of the current Commission, no policy decisions could be made for lack of a quorum as the Commission only consisted of the Chairperson and two Commissioners.

Unlike the past Commissions, which consisted of political party appointees, the present one was appointed from a pool of professionals none of whom represented any political party interests. A distinctive feature of the current Commission is its gender balance with four female and four male Commissioners.

Members of the current Electoral Commission are:

- **Justice Anastasia Msosa, SC**
- **Mrs. Georgina Chikoko**
- **Prof. Brown Chimphamba**
- **Mrs. Mary Mangwiza Manyusa**
- **Mr. Oliver Mwenifumbo**
- **Mr. Dickson Mzumara**
- **Ms. Jane Nankwenya**
- **Ambassador Ronald Nkomba (Rtd)**

Justice Anastasia Msosa, SC, who had been appointed Chairperson of the Commission in October 2004, was, at the expiry of her term in September 2008, re-appointed for another four year term.

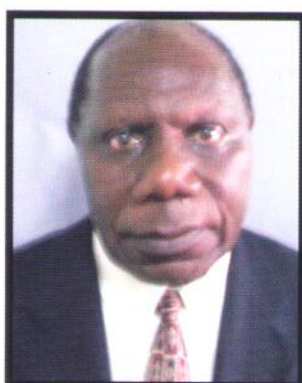
Members of the current Electoral Commission



Justice A.S.E. Msosa, SC
Chairperson



Georgina Chikoko
Commissioner



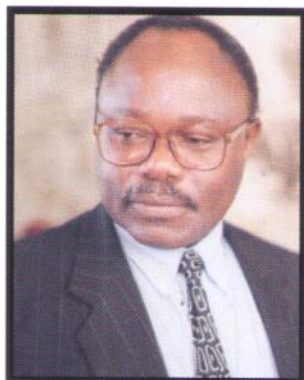
Professor Brown Chimphamba
Commissioner



Mary M. Manyusa
Commissioner



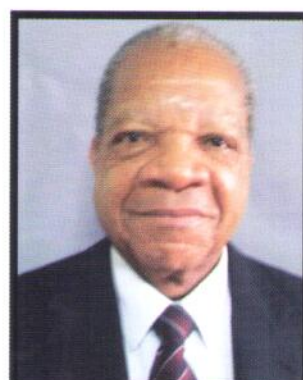
Oliver Wwenfumbo
Commissioner



Dickson Mzumara
Commissioner



Jane Nankwenya
Commissioner



Amb. Ronald Nkomba (Rtd)
Commissioner

2.4 The Secretariat

The Commission has a Secretariat which serves as the administrative and support structure of the Commission. It is headed by the Chief Elections Officer, currently Mr. David Chisala Bandawe. The Chief Elections Officer is supported by two Deputies, the Deputy Chief Elections Officer responsible for Electoral Services Division (Operations), and the Deputy Chief Elections Officer responsible for Administration and Finance. While the Electoral Services Division is directly responsible for the design, development and implementation of electoral programmes, the Finance and Administration Division is responsible for financial and general service administration.

There are Heads of Department that include Human Resources, Finance, Information Technology, Civic and Voter Education, Procurement and Supplies, and Media and Public Relations. In addition, the Commission has three Regional Managers, one in each region, who is responsible for all electoral activities at the regional level. The names and designations of the senior management team are listed below:

NAME	DESIGNATION
David Chisala Bandawe	Chief Elections Officer
Harris S. B. Potani	Deputy Chief Elections Officer (Operations)
Lellie B. Longwe	Deputy Chief Elections Officer (Finance & Administration)
Hennily Munkhondya	Acting Head of Electoral Services
Mubabi Chisi	Head of Information, Communication and Technology
Anderson K. C. Msonthi	Head of Finance
McIlloyds Msasata	Head of Personnel & Administration
Thandie Nkovole	Head of Civic & Voter Education

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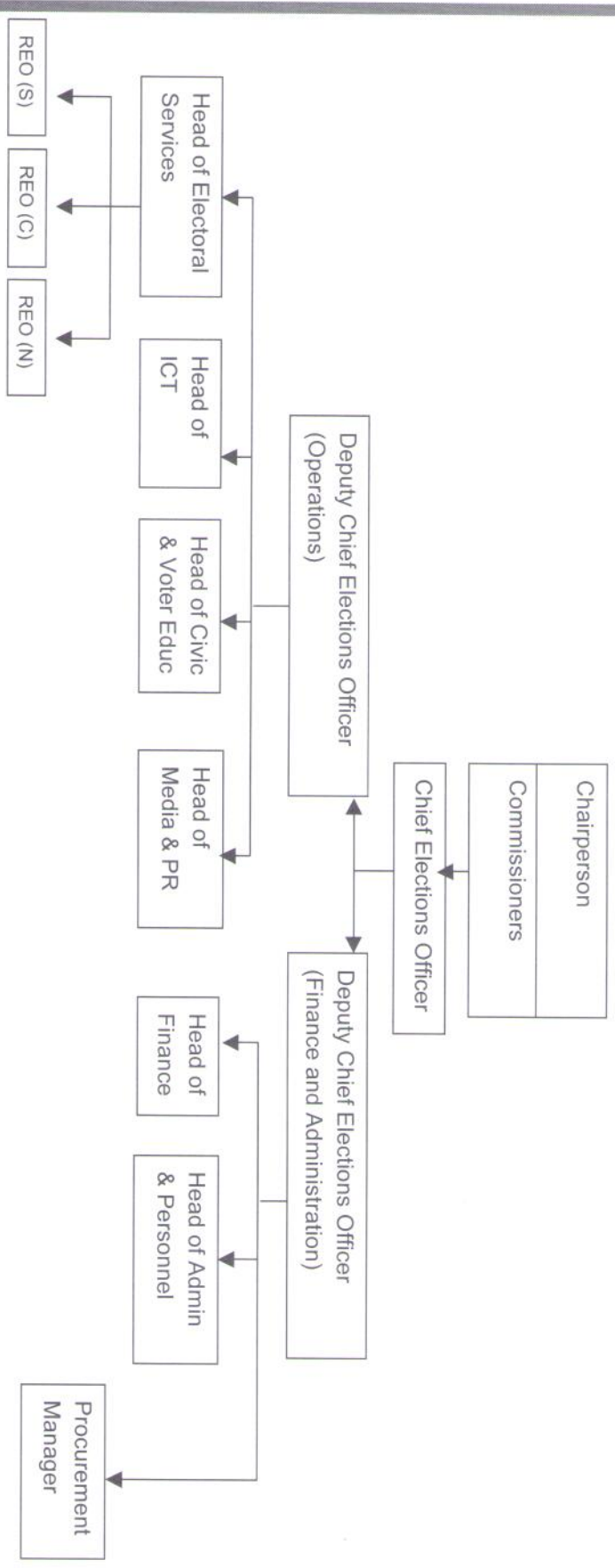
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Fegus Lipenga	Head Media & Public Relations
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Wellington Katantha	Regional Elections Officer (North)

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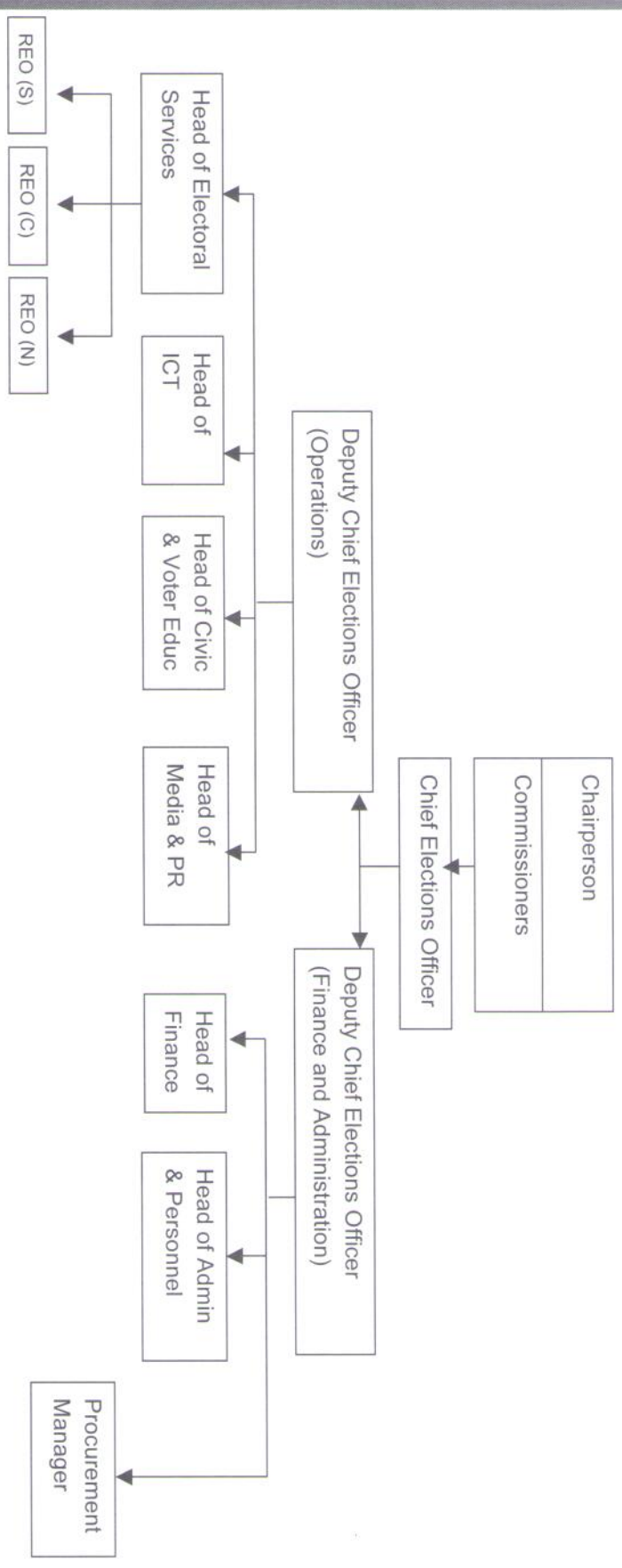
Below is the full Organogram for the Malawi Electoral Commission

Org. 2: July 1998 – High Level Organisational Structure



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The Regional Elections Manager is assisted by a District Elections Clerk who operates from the “Boma”. These officers safeguard election materials, provide logistical support during registration and polling, and are the link with the regional offices and the Commission Headquarters. Overall, the District Elections Clerks project an acceptable image of, and uphold good public relations for, the Commission in the districts.

In addition to the regular staff, the Commission hired temporary staff to perform the functions of registration of voters, data capturing and verification, ware-housing and polling. After selection, the staff went through rigorous training to equip them with relevant skills. For the first time, the Commission engaged 193 Primary Education Advisers (PEAs) as Constituency Returning Officers (CROs). District Commissioners (DCs), who had hitherto functioned as CROs, were this time appointed as District Election Coordinators.

2.5 Establishment of Commission Committees

The Commission established two open-ended committees to enhance its performance. These Committees were: Electoral Services and Finance and Administration¹.

2.5.1 Electoral Services Committee

The Electoral Services Committee was responsible for all operations in the conduct of the elections, such as registration of voters, computerization of the voters’ register, legal matters, logistics, civic and voter education, media and public relations, the campaign, preparation of manuals and the training of electoral staff. The Committee was also responsible for the implementation of established procedures as well as introduction of innovations in the overall conduct of elections.

2.5.2 Finance and Administration Committee

This Committee manages all financial and administrative requirements for the conduct of elections, such as budgeting, preparing financial reports

¹ EC Act, section 7

expenditure control, procurement of equipment and materials, recruitment of staff and payment thereof. It was also the responsibility of this Committee to manage transport requirements.

The Finance and Administration Committee was further mandated to strengthen the Commission's senior management and to oversee the restructuring of the Secretariat.

2.6 Technical Assistance

2.6.1 Support to the Electoral Reform and Elections Project

A needs assessment was conducted after the 2004 general elections which revealed a number of capacity weaknesses in the Commission. For instance, the preparation of the Voters' Register, Civic and Voter Education, Election Results Management, capacity of the Electoral Commission Secretariat; legal framework, and weaknesses in intra Commission communications and in communication between the Commission and stakeholders (Civil Society, government and political parties). This necessitated improvements to the electoral process in general, and the Electoral Commission in particular, in order to ensure free, fair and credible elections. Consequently, an election intervention was initiated focusing on electoral reforms that would boost the capacity of the Commission by addressing identified institutional weaknesses in readiness for the 2009 general elections. This initiative was carried out under the "In the Between the Ballots" Project supported by Development Partners (DPs) and the Government of Malawi (GoM) through a Trust Fund managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The project was implemented in two phases: the first phase, from March, 2007 to June, 2008 focused on developing institutional capacity of the Commission in the following areas:

- i. Institutional capacity building for the Commission;
- ii. Computerization of the voters' register;
- iii. Provision of civic and voter education (CVE); and

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- i. Institutional capacity building for the Commission;
- ii. Computerization of the voters' register;
- iii. Provision of civic and voter education (CVE); and

- iv. Support to the actual conduct of 2009 elections.

The second phase, from July, 2008 to June, 2009 provided the Commission with additional support for capacity building and support for the conduct of the elections. This phase focused on:

- i. Strengthened management capacity of the Commission;
- ii. Strengthened technical capacity to conduct elections in Malawi and
- iii. The electoral process for the May 19, 2009 polls.

The project was funded to the tune of (US\$ 21 million), with (US\$4 million) earmarked for the first phase, and US\$17 million for the second phase. The major contributors to the Trust Fund included the British Government Department for International Development (DFID), the Government of Norway, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Irish Government, the European Union (EU), the Government of Japan, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Project provided technical assistance through secondments of consultants in such key areas as Logistics, Information & Communication Technology, Procurement, Finance, Civic and Voter Education and the general management of elections. The technical consultants deployed under this project also played an advisory role to the Commission.

As part of technical support, the Commonwealth Secretariat also sponsored a media advisor who was attached to the Media and Public Relations Department.

2.7 Electoral Commission Offices

The Electoral Commission has its Headquarters in Blantyre. This is the hub of the Commission's activities. However, as part of its decentralization programme, the Commission has three Regional offices which play a pivotal

role in all electoral activities and provide a link to the district operations. These

Regional Elections Office North, which is situated in Mzuzu;

Regional Elections Office South, situated in Blantyre, and

Regional Elections Office Centre, situated in Lilongwe.

Each regional office has a basic infrastructure and a warehousing facility.

During an electoral event, such as registration or polling, election materials are sent to the regional offices for onward transmission to the registration/polling sites. The Regional Managers coordinate the operations in their respective regions.

At District level, the Commission has an office at the District Commissioner's premises from where the District Elections Officer operates.

CHAPTER 3

PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Planning

The Commission carried out a number of planning activities in the preparatory phase. In the course of doing so, and within the framework of the standard election cycle, the Commission conducted a post-mortem of the 2004 General Elections, organized review meetings on observer mission reports, developed a five year Strategic Plan (2004-2009), and prepared, together with the UNDP, a project document on "Support to Electoral Reform and Election in Malawi". The project document, which was signed in March 2007, focused on two components: firstly, to strengthen the Commission's capacity to conduct elections and secondly, to support the electoral process for the 19 May 2009 elections. The overall aim of the project was to address institutional problems ahead of the elections. The Project's expected outcome was for "the Electoral Commission to deliver free and fair elections in accordance with the law".

In February, 2008 the Commission published the Elections Calendar for the 19 May 2009 General Elections, and intensified activities on the preparation of a budget for the elections. Election Calendar is in *Appendix 3*. All these activities were implemented through a consultative process involving all key stakeholders.

3.2 The Budget

The initial budget amounted to MK7 billion. After several consultations with the Government, the final budget was revised to MK5 billion and approved by Parliament in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

3.3 Implementation

The Elections Calendar was implemented with flexibility as it allowed and accommodated inputs from major stakeholders, such as the changes in

location and extensions during registration of voters and the re-opening of the nomination of candidates.

3.4 Implementation Oversight and Management

The Commission utilized its two open-ended Committees: the Electoral Services and the Finance and Administration to oversee and manage the implementation of all election activities.

3.5 Procurement of Election Materials and Services

Procurement of equipment, materials and services constituted one of the largest costs in the 2009 general elections. On account of this, the Commission was compelled to handle procurement of election materials with utmost caution by following the Public Procurement Act No 8 of 2003 which contains provisions for procuring goods, works and services in public institutions. The Procurement Act also requires that procuring entities as well as bidders and suppliers observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of contracts. Further, the Commission was guided by the office of the Director of Public Procurement in its procurement activities.

The Commission established its own Internal Procurement Committee (IPC), which was responsible for ensuring clear specifications for goods and services, the opening of bids; evaluation and comparison of bids, and the selection of the successful bidder.

The first part of procurement involved acquisition of very expensive equipment and materials for the establishment of a new computerized Voters' Register. Equipment sourced included, servers, scanners, photographic equipment, heavy duty printers, computers, air conditioners and UPSs among others. Other materials included various registration forms, printing papers and banners of various specifications. Most of the equipment for the development of the Voters' Register was procured for the EC by the UNDP through the basket fund.

The second part of procurement was for securing polling materials. Floating of tenders was done in November, 2008 for both International and National Competitive bidding. For simple non-expensive materials such as envelopes, rulers and pens, procurement was done using the Request for Quotation (RFQ) system. Bids were opened and evaluated from December 2008 to the first week of January 2009. Recommendations of the IPC were sent to the ODPP for scrutiny and approval.

Most election materials started being procured from February 2009 in quantities that allowed for contingencies and reserves, e.g. registration forms, ink pads and other stationary items. However, procurement of indelible ink and ballot papers was done close to election day for security reasons.

3.4.1 Challenges

Challenges experienced in procuring election materials included:

- a) Delays in payment of suppliers and service providers impacted on efficiency and entire process of the EC's performance.
- b) Limited technical expertise as well as insufficiency of time for consultations impacted on the choice of appropriate technology

3.6 Election Task Force

The Commission and Development Partners established an Elections Task Force (ETF) to act as a forum for consultation during the implementation process. The ETF comprised representatives of the Commission, the UNDP and those Development Partners who had contributed to the Trust Fund. It held monthly meetings which offered an opportunity to appraise progress on implementation and dialogue with the Commission. The ETF meetings also gave the development partners a clearer picture of the progress, activities and challenges that were being experienced, and assisted in identifying solutions to the challenges including mobilization of additional funds where necessary.

Midway through the implementation process, there emerged inflationary trends and other developments. These included increases in the price of fuel, additional costs arising from the breakdown of the equipment leading to time-lagage. It then became evidently clear that there was need to revise the budget. The final budget, was, therefore, revised from MK5 billion to MK7 billion (US\$ 35,714,286), the summary details are shown below:

Table 1: Final Budget as approved by Parliament and revised

Appendix 1: Income and Expenditure 2009 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections						
Budget Line	Approved Budget	Approved Budget	Revised Budget	Revised Budget	Actual	Actual
	MK	US\$	MK	US\$	MK	US\$
Income						
Government	2,600,000,000	18,571,429	3,685,478,129	26,324,844	4,159,399,950	29,710,000
Development partners	2,400,000,000	17,142,857	2,895,732,816	20,683,806	3,011,213,050	21,508,665
Total	5,000,000,000	35,714,286	6,581,210,945	47,008,650	7,170,613,000	51,218,665
Expenditure						
Cabinet	407,905,693	2,913,612	462,136,153	3,300,973	466,710,916	3,333,649
Education						
Media and Public Relations	113,575,040	811,250	178,785,700	1,277,041	173,053,877	1,236,099
Demarcation of constituencies	20,812,630	148,662	0		1,386,000	9,900
Other registration activities roll over up	2,272,141,360	16,229,581	3,386,257,765	24,187,555	3,507,580,520	25,054,147

Nomination of candidates	22,206,215	158,616	10,730,775	76,648	10,508,885	75,063
Polling	1,402,328,150	10,016,630	1,855,743,800	13,255,313	1,506,786,351	10,762,750
Political Environment	53,720,920	383,721	19,511,200	139,366	15,080,177	107,715
Management of Electoral process	527,088,480	3,764,918	505,825,040	3,613,036	559,158,557	3,993,990
Technical assistance to electoral process	180,221,512	1,287,297	162,220,513	1,158,718	162,447,180	1,160,330
Total Expenditure	5,000,000,000	35,714,286	6,581,210,945	47,008,650	6,402,712,463	45,733,800
Reserves	0	0	0	0	767,900,537	5,485,000

At the end of the whole electoral cycle, a total of MK6.5 billion was spent.

3.7 Challenges

The legal challenge on the appointment of the Commissioners, prolonged discussions on the budget, severe staff shortage and delayed disbursement of funds, particularly in the procurement of time-sensitive materials and services, seriously affected the implementation of administrative and technical activities. Other challenges included inadequate capacity at the Commission notably in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Department, and in logistics and operations.

This, notwithstanding, the Commission undertook timely corrective measures and obtained the cooperation of all stake-holders and government administrative agencies to ensure that the election date was not in any way compromised. Consequently, the Commission was able to deliver all polling materials to all polling stations before polling day with the exception of the

Voters' Register. The Register was delivered to the remaining few polling stations in the Blantyre area a few hours before polling.

3.3 Legal Framework

The Commission operated with electoral laws that are long overdue for review. The laws need to be revised in order to suit the current democratic environment and practice. Although the Commission, from time to time, held consultations with stakeholders to resolve emerging problems, this only provided short term solutions.

Some of the current laws are very restrictive; they do not provide flexibility nor do they conform to the practice on the ground. The detailed voting procedures in the law inhibit flexibility and introduction of innovations arising from changes in technology and democratic practices. For example, the newly introduced laminated Identity Card was difficult to mark as a suitable marking ink did not exist and punching the card could have reduced its lifespan. Similarly, section 86 (2) (a) requires that the voter's registration name and number be recorded. Since the current computerized Voters' Register contains all the details pertaining to a voter, recording the voter's registration name and number would amount to duplication of the same information.

Other examples relate to the laws on nomination of candidates and campaigning. With regards to the nomination of candidates, serving parliamentarians and public servants are required to resign first before submitting their nominations (section 51 (2) (e) of the Constitution). This inevitably restricts wide participation and introduces delays in some of the electoral processes such as the preparation of the ballot papers.

With regard to campaigning, the provision is for 60 days official campaign period closing forty-eight hours before the polls. In reality, the 60 day period is not practical since the legal provision reduces the campaign period. Further, the Commission needs ample time to process nomination forms, publish names of validly nominated candidates and print ballot papers.

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CHAPTER 4

CIVIC AND VOTER EDUCATION

4.1 Development of Civic and Voter Education Strategy

Civic and Voter Education remains an important activity for raising awareness and understanding in order to increase popular participation in the general elections. In this respect, and to make it more valuable and targeted, the Commission developed a Civic and Voter Education Strategy which was intended to provide direction to the Commission and stakeholders in the delivery of civic and voter education for the 2009 general elections. The strategy addressed some of the problems that were experienced in the past elections such as lack of transparency and accountability in programming and resource utilization, poor coordination of programmes resulting in gaps in the delivery of the civic and voter education, partisan civic and voter education and non-adherence to the Code of Conduct for CVE service providers.

The process of developing the Civic and Voter Education (CVE) Strategy was consultative involving various stakeholders such as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), traditional leaders and political parties. The actual development of the CVE strategy was done with the assistance of a consultant. The CVE strategy was finalized in June 2008.

A programme intended to engender the May 19 2009 electoral process was formulated through the Development Assistance Group (DAG) to ensure a gender sensitive electoral process in order to increase the participation of women. Consequently, the CVE strategy was also engendered. The process of engendering the strategy also offered an opportunity to pay particular attention through making provision for user friendly voting procedures and facilities for special needs groups (the marginalized, the elderly, the physically challenged people living with HIV/AIDS, youths and other disadvantaged sections of the society).

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4.2 Accreditation of Civic and Voter Education Service Providers

Prior to the implementation of the civic and voter education programme, and in compliance with Section 8 (j) of the EC Act, the Commission managed the accreditation process of 75 service providers who were to conduct CVE for the 2009 general elections. Those accredited had to satisfy set criteria which included:

- a. Sound track record on financial management,
- b. Institutional capacity, and
- c. Previous experience and expertise in civic and voter education.

All accredited service providers signed a Code of Conduct as a sign of commitment to abide by the Code.

4.3 CVE Funding Arrangements

Among the critical areas to be supported under the Election Trust Fund was the provision of CVE because of the dramatic decline in voter turnout in the 2004 general elections. From a high record of 93% in 1999, voter turnout dropped drastically to 59% in 2004 general elections. This was attributed to, among others, a poorly designed and executed CVE campaign which failed to motivate and mobilize Malawians to vote. To address this deficit, there was a need for a well-coordinated CVE programme. This was achieved by putting in place a grant facility under the Trust Fund arrangement to support the work of CVE service providers and for material development and dissemination as well as monitoring of the implementation of the CVE.

Through the Election Trust Fund Task Force, a Grant Assessment Committee (GAC) was constituted to scrutinize the funding proposals submitted by the CSOs. The GAC which comprised representatives from EC, University of Malawi, National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE), GTZ Forum for Dialogue and Peace and UNDP assessed the technical and financial feasibility of the funding proposals. Of the 75 accredited CSOs, 69 had applied for funding towards the civic and voter education, and of these, only 34 were successful.

GAC also worked with the CSOs whose proposals had been approved provisionally to bring them to a level where their implementation would achieve the desired goal. GAC activities were coordinated by EC with technical support from UNDP.

4.4 Implementation of CVE Activities

Sixty-nine Civil Society Organizations participated in the materials development workshop which was held in Lilongwe on 22 June 2008. Material development covered radio messages, jingles, posters, stickers, brochures, leaflets, comic strips, mock ballots, polling procedures illustrations, valid vote illustrations, fliers and booklets. Some of the messages were intended to sensitize the general public about the forth coming elections and create the tempo for elections. For registration, there were specific messages dealing with the need to go and register, requirement for registration, who can register, when to register and where to register. In total, the Commission produced and distributed 5,000,000 posters, leaflets, fliers and brochures country wide.

During the registration and nomination process, only a few CSOs were able to provide CVE, these were the ones that had traditional donors such as the Malawi Council of Churches (MCC), the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP), the Human Rights Consultative Committee (HRCC), the Church and Society and the National Initiative for Civic Education. The net effect was that the Commission ended up doing most of the civic and voter education through the usage of loud hailer vans, live bands and drama groups to encourage people to go and register. In addition, it used chiefs to inform and mobilise their subjects to go and register and to turn up in their large numbers on the polling day. It also relied heavily on radio and television messaging. All radio stations in the country including community radios were contracted to disseminate information. Similarly, Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), traditional leaders and politicians were requested to assist in mobilizing people to go and register. This was particularly important because as registration was

staggered it was possible to target information to specific areas where registration was taking place.

For effective management of the CVE at grassroots level, the Commission established District Civic and Voter Education Coordinating Committees (DC&VECC) in all the districts to monitor, coordinate and update service providers on relevant information in relation to the electoral process. This arrangement ensured that the whole country and all sections of the population were covered. The DC chaired these committees, and members included senior Government employees, accredited NGOs and Faith Based Organizations in the District, political party leaders and traditional leaders.

4.5 Civic and Voter Education Management

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) was contracted to manage the implementation of CVE on behalf of the Commission. Because of procurement and contractual procedures, IFES personnel only reported early January 2009 for duties, which was about four months to polling day. Its primary task was to manage the CSO grants from the Trust Fund. It provided technical support to CSOs and provided advice to EC on effective implementation of CVE. It further coordinated the development and distribution of CVE materials in close liaison with EC. Although IFES monitored implementation of CVE, it was not possible for it to cover adequately all the constituencies in the country. Consequently it relied on progress and financial reports which were regularly submitted to it by CSOs and EC's monitoring programmes.

To ensure that the whole country was effectively covered and also enforce commitment by accredited service providers, GAC came up with a mapping arrangement which allocated individual service providers to particular constituencies. All 193 constituencies were distributed among the 34 CSOs on the basis of their capacity. *Appendix 4* shows distribution of constituencies to CVE service providers. However, to ensure a level playing field, each

constituency was provided with a budget of MK500, 000 for its civic and voter education activities.

Generally, the civic and voter education drive was very successful as evidenced by the high registration rate (95.2%), high voter turnout (78%), and a lower level of null and void votes of 117,028 representing 2.6% of the total votes cast which is internationally accepted.

4. 6 Challenges

- a) Delays in the release of funds from UNDP to CSOs affected the period for rolling out CVE activities.
- b) Some of service providers did not have the capacity to deliver civic and voter education despite their original claim.
- c) Governance weaknesses among some service providers affected performance.
- d) The election budget could not accommodate all the requirements for an effective CVE programme.
- e) There were no clearly spelt out mechanisms for collaboration among UNDP, EC and IFES.
- f) Elaborate procedures and policies by UNDP affected timeframes for implementing certain activities.

CHAPTER 5

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Elections are considered free and fair if the public media live up to the expectations of the electorate. Therefore, in a bid to ensure adequate and balanced coverage of the electoral process, the Commission carried out the following activities:

- (i) Development of Malawi Media Code of Conduct.
- (ii) Recruitment of Stringers.
- (iii) Training of journalists.
- (iv) Establishment of the Media Monitoring Unit (MMU).
- (v) Organization and conduct of political debates.
- (vi) Establishment of a Media Centre at the National Tally Centre, COMESA Hall in Blantyre.

The Commission also established a media relations unit within its Media Department which assumed the responsibility for media relations. The unit among others issued press releases on various electoral issues and organized press conferences.

5.1 Development of media code of conduct

The Commission organized a workshop, with assistance from a Commonwealth consultant, in Mangochi on 25 and 26 April, 2008 for Media Directors and Managers, senior representatives of all political parties, CSO representatives and the Media Council of Malawi to develop the Malawi Media Code of Conduct for the 2009 Parliamentary and Presidential Elections. During the workshop, the Media Code of Conduct was developed, discussed and approved. On 6 June 2008, at a Signing Ceremony held at Sunbird, Capital Hotel in Lilongwe, directors of both private and public media houses formally appended their

signatures to the Media Code of Conduct in the presence of representatives from political parties, CSOs, the government, the development partners and the Media Council of Malawi. The Media Code of Conduct which constitutes self-regulating guidelines was intended to set the highest professional and democratic standards for all the media's political coverage of the period leading up to the 2009 Parliamentary and Presidential Elections and beyond.

5.2 Recruitment of Stringers

The Commission recruited, trained and deployed 73 part time reporters across the country. They successfully covered all the electoral processes which included review of constituency boundaries, registration of voters, civic and voter education, nomination of candidates, campaign, polling, as well as announcement of election results.

The Stringers worked hand in hand with other mainstream journalists from various media institutions.

5.3 Training of Journalists

The Commission organized training sessions for journalists, senior editors and managers of radio stations and TVM, on election reporting. A MEC-UNESCO joint electoral reporting session was also conducted as a refresher programme after the registration exercise.

The training was intended to promote values of tolerance and peace; ensure fair and balanced reporting of the campaign policies, meetings, rallies and press conferences of all the contestants during the campaign and election period and to provide news of the electoral process up to the close of the poll while at the same time enhancing reporters' professionalism.

5.4 Establishment of Media Monitoring Unit (MMU)

To enhance capacity in election coverage, the Commission established a Media Monitoring Unit (MMU) at its Regional Elections Offices (South). The MMU monitored how various media houses covered the elections. Reports

coverage of political parties were produced and published in the local press on a regular basis. The reports which reflected how fairly or unfairly media houses covered political parties were also circulated to all the media houses.

Tim Neale, who was attached to the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) under the sponsorship of the Commonwealth, was instrumental in the establishment of the Media Monitoring Unit. Tim's main responsibility was to advise the Commission on matters relating to the media especially to ensure that there was level media playing field. This was not the first assignment for Tim Neale to perform whilst attached to the Commission. Since the advent of the multiparty system in Malawi; he has been coming to Malawi during the elections to assume the role of Media Advisor.

In 1994 he assisted in the drafting of media guidelines which enabled the public media to open up, for the first time, to the opposition political parties and other stakeholders in the electoral process. In the subsequent elections, he trained journalists to ensure that they balanced the stories in their coverage. During the 2009 elections, Tim Neale played a critical role in the introduction of beaming results progressively on the screens at the National Results Centre. The transparent and continuous flow of confirmed results to stakeholders and the general public via all electronic media – Radio and TV was a major factor in avoiding people's anxiety and frustration thereby maintaining calm over the whole period of results delivery.

At the expiry of his assignment, Tim Neal ensured that the MMU remained operational even after the elections. Consequently, he approached the British High Commission through DFID to seek support so as to sustain the MMU activities. In that regard, the British High Commission provided equipment in the form of computers which have special accessories for recording news on radio and television, video cameras and printers. The Media Monitoring Unit is still functioning through the financial assistance provided by the DFID. The

Commission expects it to continue performing its important task of monitoring the news coverage by both the public and private media.

5.5 Summary of the monitoring reports

It was noted that some of the media houses in Malawi put on the best show of democratic journalism seen in the past fifteen multi-party years of the country's history. Others did not do as well. The main newspapers continuously gave the whole range of political parties and candidates a chance to present themselves to the people.

Assessment of the performance of the broadcasters placed them into three categories. Category one comprised media houses that avoided getting involved in covering the elections for various reasons. Category two consisted of broadcasters who aligned themselves with political parties of their choice. These included the public broadcasters, TVM, and Joy radio. The third category was that of star performers. These media houses together with the Nation and Daily Times newspapers, including Zodiak Broadcasting Station, Capital FM, Star Radio, and MIJ FM gave balanced coverage to all political parties.

5.6 Collaboration with the Media Council of Malawi

The Commission partnered with the Media Council of Malawi (MCM) in managing the media component of the electoral process. Consequently, the performance of the Stringers and media houses in covering the elections was relatively better in terms of quality and coverage than in previous elections.

5.7 The Media Centre

Media houses were invited, if they so wished, to set up facilities for the announcement of election results at the National Results Centre, COMESA hall. Radio stations such as ZBS, MBC, Capital radio, Star radio and TVM responded favourably and covered the announcement of the election results professionally, keeping the nation fully informed as the results were completed and announced at the polling stations, Constituency Returning Offices and the National Results Centre.

CHAPTER 6

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

6.1 Registration of Voters

As stated by the EC in the past, the ability to exercise the democratic right to vote is premised primarily on the existence of a comprehensive, accurate and exclusive electoral register. The register must be rigorously maintained to ensure, as much as possible, that each eligible voter is registered once, and only once, and that everyone has been given adequate opportunity to register.

For the 19 May 2009 general election, the Commission resolved to establish a completely new voters' register because the one used in the 2004 general elections was inaccurate. Following this resolution, the Commission procured new field data capture equipment in the form of state of the art computing equipment and software to support the new initiative.

6.2 Planning

There were 3,897 registration centres in the country but on account of financial constraints, the Commission bought only 870 sets of equipment. Each set consisted of a camera, a printer, a solar panel, a 12V battery, a voltage regulator, an inverter and array of cables to connect the different equipment components. Since the equipment was only sufficient for 870 centres at a given time, a one-off registration for the whole country could not be conducted. Accordingly, 870 registration teams were mobilised, and the registration exercise was staggered in six phases. Each phase was scheduled to last 14 days with an additional transitional period of 4 days to enable the teams move to the next registration centres. Detailed logistical arrangements were worked out to ensure that all constituencies were thoroughly covered and no eligible voter was disenfranchised. The registration programme as planned is shown in Appendix 5.

The Commission projected a planning figure of 7.0 million eligible voters. The estimate was subsequently revised to 6.5 million. In October 2008, almost midway through the registration exercise, the National Statistical Office released the *2008 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Report*. The report indicated that there were 6.2 million eligible voters (Malawians aged 18 years and above) in the country.

6.3 Recruitment and Training of Voter Registration Staff

The Commission recruited 900 Centre Supervisors and 900 Camera Operators through a competitive selection process. The Commission trained the supervisors and camera operators and provided them with skills to train their respective registration team comprising three clerks at each centre. Apart from the Supervisors and Camera Operators, the rest of the registration staff that the Commission engaged were primary school teachers from those schools that served as registration centres.

Political parties were informed of the training activities and were encouraged to send their monitors to observe the training so that they would be able to monitor the process objectively.

6.4 Registration Operation

The first phase commenced on 18 August 2008. At the end of the mandatory 14 days period, the Commission extended the phase for an extra period of 6 days. This was as a result of requests from stakeholders to extend the period because some centres had not operated to full capacity due to shortage of materials and stationery, and delays in arrival of equipment or staff and equipment failure.

During the first two phases, the operation experienced massive equipment failure (especially cameras, inverters, transformers and voltage regulators) such that the Commission was obliged to scale down the registration operation to rationalize use of the remaining equipment. Factors accounting for the massive equipment failure included inadequate training of registration staff, poor handling of equipment by registration staff, untested robustness of the

equipment, cable connections that were not foolproof leading to cross connections and a hostile August operational environment. August and September are extremely windy and dusty months in most parts of Malawi, and this affected the performance of the majority of the sophisticated digital cameras.

However, after implementing the registration programme, the Commission ended up with 8 registration phases and the number of days of registration per phase increased from 14 to 17 for all phases except the second phase. Phases 7 to 8 were conducted simultaneously in all regions in order to meet deadlines.

The rest of the phases operated for 17 days as three days were added at the end of each phase to compensate for any problems that might have occurred with a view to enabling all eligible voters to register. However, continued breakdown of photographic equipment, compelled the Commission to suspend registration in some centres. These centres re-opened during subsequent phases to complete their registration. In addition, 175 centres scattered across the country, which had registered less than 60% of the targeted eligible voters, were also re-opened during the eighth phase for additional five days (see Appendix 6). The registration exercise closed on 31 January 2009. At the end of the exercise, the Commission had managed to register 5.9 million Malawians.

6.5 Monitoring and Observation of the Registration Exercise

Pursuant to Section 105 of the PPE Act, the Commission extended invitations to international and local observers to observe the electoral process. The observers covered both the registration and inspection of the voters roll. The international observers that were invited were from the African Union, SADC, the Commonwealth, the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA), the SADC Parliamentary Forum, the European Union, the SADC Electoral Commission Forum and members of some Diplomatic Missions.

The Commission accredited these international and local observers to observe registration of voters and the entire electoral process. Political parties were also asked to provide monitors at each and every centre to monitor the registration of voters on their behalf. While as the National Initiative for Civic Education monitored the registration at all centres, other non-governmental organisations only monitored some of the centres. Political parties too monitored most registration centres; and in some cases they tended to be disorganized.

6.6 Transport for the Registration Exercise

6.6.1 Transport Task Force

The Registration exercise having been planned to take place in phases posed an enormous challenge to the Commission because of the complications in the deployment of materials and staff from one phase to the other. Consequently the Commission established a Transport Task Force whose principal task was to solicit vehicles for use during the entire election period and also to coordinate related logistics requirements. The Transport Task force was composed of members from Ministry of Local Government, the Malawi Police Force, the Road Traffic Directorate, the Department of Statutory Corporations, the Treasury, the Office of the President and Cabinet, the Malawi Defence Forces (MDF), the Plant and Vehicle Hire Organisation (PVHO), and the Malawi Electoral Commission. A list of the members of the Transport Task force is shown below.

List of Transport Task Force Members

Name	Organization/Ministry/Department
O.U. Fatch, Chairperson	OPC
Col. A.A.J. Munthali	MDF
Maj. R.W. Zawanda,	MDF

MR Gondwe	RTC
MR Lungwe,	EC
Mr. Nyirenda	Local Government
Mr. Sagorja	PVHO
MR Munkhondya	EC
MR. Wasasata, Secretary	EC
MR Nyirenda	Statutory Corporations
MR. Dziko	Police
MR. Potani	EC
MR. Kang'oma	Treasury
Commissioner Dick Mzumara	EC

4.3.3 Transportation Vehicles

At the commencement of the registration exercise, Government Ministries and Departments and the Malawi Defence Force released some of their vehicles for use in the registration exercise to transport materials and people to the districts. In addition, EC managed to source additional vehicles from some statutory bodies such as the National Statistical Office, MACRA, Water Boards, ESOM and the Malawi Housing Corporation. Minibuses were also hired to supplement transportation needs. Helicopters and boats were used in areas that could not be accessed by normal vehicles.

4.3.4 Processing of the Registration OMR Forms

4.3.4.1 Scanning of the Registration OMR Forms

Registration was done on special forms called Optical Mark Reading (OMR) forms. Fortnightly, the registration forms were moved from registration centres to the EC's Head Office via their respective district and regional offices to be processed by the ICT Department. During the processing, the forms were

scanned using special OMR scanners at a rate of around 3,500 forms an hour per scanner. The Commission used 4 scanners for this process. In order to adhere to the set timeframes, the Commission deployed around 180 data capturing clerks who worked for a 24 hour operation involving 3 shifts for the entire registration period.

The scanning process creates an image of the form (double sided) and then also picks up the following fields as snippets for later use in the creation and validation of the Voter Register: Registered Voter's Photo, Thumbprint, Signature, Barcode and Address. Scanned forms were then stored in an appropriate area of the data storage device.

6.7.2 Data Extraction

Once the forms had been successfully scanned they were run through an OMR Data extraction process that read all the OMR marks and converted them into usable data organised in electronic data fields.

The challenge faced during this stage was that the result of this process was only as good as the accuracy of the work done in the field. If a name was recorded incorrectly in the field during registration, then the result of the extraction would be a misspelt name.

6.7.3 Data Validation and Correction

Validation of the data only commenced upon completion of the data extraction process. Validation procedures were then applied on the extracted data and corrections made. For example, if the result of an extraction produced an invalid centre code this would be flagged at this point as an invalid entry. All errors were then automatically channelled to the error queues for manual data correction using keyboard entry. A common error was encountered on date of birth. All errors had to be cleared from the error queues before the printing of the voters registers for public verification.

6.8 Public Inspection of Voters' Register

Public inspection of the Voters' Register commenced on 1 April 2009 in all registration centres across the country and closed on 10 April 2009. This exercise revealed many errors in the register arising from the poor field recording as well as computer processing limitations. The errors included missing names, transposed photographs, erroneous dates of birth and other particulars. On account of the magnitude of the errors the Commission first employed 660 teachers for two weeks, and thereafter, re-hired over 1000 former registration supervisors and camera operators to physically check the voter register printouts against the original handwritten registration document (Part A) for each registered voter. Relevant corrections were made in good time and the computer processing capacity was also quickly enhanced. The register printed upon conclusion of these activities was more accurate and the Commission was able to give copies to political parties upon request on 15 May 2009 with confidence.

6.9 Printing of the Voters' Register

The printing of the final Voters' Register commenced on 15 May 2009. A voters' register was printed for each stream with a maximum of 1200 voters. The register was printed with colour photographs. The Commission also printed a supporting Numerical Reference Register to facilitate and speed up voter identification on the polling day.

In order to meet deadlines, the printing of the Voters' Register was a 24 hour operation. Printing of the entire sets of voters registers for the entire country took approximately 48 hours i.e. to generate and print. This did put a tremendous strain on the printers and the IT staff. However, the Commission achieved, what was by many, considered impossible and succeeded in printing the voters roll and also had it delivered to all polling stations on time for use on the polling day.

6.10 Challenges in the Registration of Voters

Challenges experienced during the registration exercise were many and included:

- a) Logistical problems in deployment of personnel and registration materials from one phase to the other and frequent breakdown of photographic equipment;
- b) Lack of technical know-how to maintain equipment;
- c) Period of registration coincided with the farming season;
- d) Rampant drop out of registration staff;
- e) Poor work performance in the field which produced poor quality fieldwork data capture;
- f) Loss of equipment and materials during registration;
- g) Inadequate civic education in some areas;
- h) Language barrier between registration staff and voters because registration staff had to move from one place to another;
- i) Religious beliefs in some areas regarding taking of photos in registration itself;
- j) Problems in identification of voters;
- k) Double Registration. Due to equipment failure, some people were forced to go to nearby centres and register there and when the equipment was made functional at their centres, they went back to their original centres and registered.

Despite these challenges, the Commission successfully managed to cover all the registration centres and the registration exercise was a remarkable success. It is necessary to place on record the fact that both electoral staff and stakeholders contributed to the success of the voter registration which enabled

the Commission to register as much as 95.2% of the voting age population. It was also through this team work that resulted in the Voters Register reaching polling stations before the 19th May, 2009. For the future, the registration of voters will have to be given adequate prior deliberation with all key stakeholders, to ensure that all challenges experienced during 2009 are comprehensively addressed, in particular, issues relating to registration equipment, the matter of phased registration, security of equipment and materials as well as the type of staff to be used in the registration exercise and the related training requirements. In addition, the EC will have to consider the opportunities for continuous registration, interfaces with the new national registration system and innovations from other possible sources including exploiting technological advancements made possible with the introduction of e-government.

CHAPTER 7

NOMINATION

7.1 Nomination

Malawi uses the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) electoral system of voting, where the whole country is demarcated into constituencies and each constituency elects one Member of Parliament. There are 193 constituencies, and each political party has the right to sponsor one candidate in every constituency in a parliamentary election. On account of this, one constituency can have as many candidates as possible depending on the number of contesting parties. In addition, any aspiring person can stand as an independent candidate in a constituency. This further increases the number of contestants. In the FPTP system, the candidate who gets the most votes becomes the winner. The total votes cast are not a factor but rather the winner is the person who gets the highest score amongst the contestants.

To contest as a parliamentary or presidential candidate, an aspirant can either be nominated by a registered political party or stand as an independent candidate, and must also fulfil the legal requirements for the desired position.

7.2 Qualifications for Nomination

To qualify as a parliamentary candidate, Article 51 of the Constitution defines the eligibility criteria which states, *inter alia*, that a person must be:

- a) A citizen of Malawi,
- b) At least 21 years of age,
- c) Able to speak and read the English language well enough to take part in the proceedings of Parliament,
- d) Not convicted of a crime of dishonesty or moral turpitude,
- e) Not the holder of a public office, not serving in the Defence or Police Force, and

- f) Does not owe allegiance to a foreign country.

To qualify to be a presidential candidate, Article 80.6 of the Constitution defines the eligibility criteria which state that a person must:

- a) Be a citizen of Malawi,
- b) Be at least 35 years of age,
- c) Not of unsound mind, bankrupt, convicted of crime in the last 7 years involving dishonesty or moral turpitude, owe allegiance to a foreign country, and
- d) Not the holder of a public office or serving in Police or Defence Force.

Seventeen (17) political parties participated in the May 2009 general elections, with 1177 candidates contesting the Parliamentary elections across the 193 constituencies. Of these, 487 or 41% stood as independent candidates. Of the contestants, 236 were female, representing an increase of 7.4% from the 2004 general elections. For presidential elections, 7 candidates contested the presidential race, of which one was female and one contested as an independent.

7.3 Submissions of Nominations

The nomination forms designed by EC contained sufficient detail as is adequate to identify an aspiring candidate. This included evidence of citizenship, registration as a voter and ability to speak and read English language well enough to take an active part in the proceedings of Parliament. Nomination procedures included submission of the duly completed nomination form which was subscribed by ten (10) registered voters for each parliamentary candidate; and by ten (10) registered voters, from each district, for each presidential candidate. Each parliamentary candidate paid a nomination fee of MK100, 000, while each presidential candidate paid a nomination fee of MK500, 000.

Submissions for nomination for both parliamentary and presidential candidates were done from 2 to 6 February, 2009. Parliamentary candidates'

nomination forms were submitted to the District Commissioners who were appointed Returning Officers for this function. For Presidential candidates, submissions were made to the Commission at the EC's Head office. Each aspiring presidential candidate was allocated specific date and time for submitting his or her nomination.

The Commission re-opened the nomination for another two days on 17 and 18 March 2009 following requests from stakeholders.

7.4 Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates

EC had developed a Code of Conduct for Political Parties and other contestants. The Code was a tool for levelling the playing field and improving the conduct of elections. It detailed all the rights of parties and candidates. It also contained measures and mechanisms for cooperation with police, the EC, and the media. Prohibited conduct and sanctions to defaulters were explained. The Code of Conduct also contained mechanisms for dealing with conflicts and a commitment to accept results of the elections or challenge the results following relevant laws.

Therefore, during the submission of nomination forms, candidates were given two copies of the Code of Conduct to sign. One copy was returned to the Commission while the other copy was retained by the candidate. The signing of the Code was an enforcement mechanism compelling the candidates and their supporters to abide by the Code of Conduct.

7.5 Close of Nomination

Nomination forms were scrutinized and approved by the Commission. A list of validly nominated candidates was published in the Gazette on 20 March, 2009, indicating constituencies in which they wished to stand.

Table 3: Approved 2009 Presidential Election Candidates

Serial No.	Name of Candidate	Affiliation
1	Bingu	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)
2	Kamuzu Walter Chibambo	People's Transformation Party (PETRA)
3	Loveness Gondwe	New Alliance Rainbow Coalition (NARC)
4	Stanley Eddington Masauli	Republican Party (RP)
5	Dindi Gowa Nyasulu	Alliance for Democracy (AFORD)
6	James Mbowe Nyondo	Independent
7	John Zenas Ungapake Tembo	Malawi Congress Party (MCP)

Table 4: Summary of Approved 2009 Parliamentary Elections Candidates

SERIAL NO.	SPONSOR	GENDER		TOTAL
		Male	Female	
1	Alliance for Democracy (AFORD)	25	4	29
2	Congress for Democrats (CODE)	10	2	12
3	Congress for National Unity (CONU)	1	0	1
4	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)	141	52	193
5	Malawi Congress Party (MCP)	112	22	134
6	Malawi Democratic Party (MDP)	1	0	1
7	Malawi Forum for Unity and Devt. (MAFUNDE)	1	0	1
8	Maravi People's Party (MPP)	8	3	11
9	New Alliance Rainbow Coalition (NARC)	22	13	35
10	National Patriotic Front (NPF)	1	0	1
11	New Republican Party	18	7	25
12	People's Transformation Party (PETRA)	12	4	16
13	People's Progressive Movement (PPM)	38	13	51
14	Republican Party (RP)	6	1	7
15	United Democratic Front (UDF)	139	32	171

16	People's Popular Front (PPF)	1	0	1
17	National Unity Party (NUP)	1	0	1
18	Independent candidates	404	83	487
	TOTAL	941	236	1177

7.6 Objections to Nominations

After scrutinizing the submissions for nomination for Presidential Candidates, the EC accepted the candidature of seven persons and rejected two candidates, namely: Tionge Juda Mauya due to lack of payment of the nomination fee, and the former President Dr. Bakili Muluzi for not meeting eligibility criteria. Dr. Muluzi was rejected because of the Commission's interpretation of Section 83 (3) of the Constitution which states that "A President can only serve a maximum of two consecutive terms". It was the determination of the Commission that the spirit and the letter of this section is to preclude a person from serving more than two terms as President.

One submission for nomination as Parliamentary Candidate was rejected and this was the submission from Yerima Chihana, of Mzimba North West Constituency, rejected on the grounds that he had committed an offence which made him ineligible to stand as a Parliamentary candidate.

7.7 Appeals

Decisions by the Commission to reject nominations from the three aspirants above were appealed in the High Court.

- (a) Dr. Muluzi appealed to the High Court against the Commission's decision to reject his nomination on account of having served a maximum of two consecutive terms. The High Court upheld EC's decision. Dr. Muluzi having not been satisfied with the ruling by the High Court, later appealed to the Constitutional Court which also upheld the decision by the High Court.

- b) Yeremiah Chihana's appeal to the High Court yielded some positive results. The Court ruled in his favour. As a result Chihana was included on the ballot paper for the elections.
- c) Tionge Mauya too appealed to the High Court against the EC's decision to reject his nomination. The hearing of his appeal was postponed as he was still in the process of seeking legal aid. The matter was not decided before the elections. He later withdrew the case.

Two issues were raised by political parties with regard to nominations. The first was the increase in nomination fees. Commission was challenged in court for adjusting upwards the nomination fee from MK5, 000 to MK10, 000 for a parliamentary candidate and from MK50, 000 to MK500, 000 for a presidential candidate. However, the Courts upheld the decision of the Commission. The fee is refundable provided the candidate polls at least 5 percent of the total valid votes cast.

The second issue related to the use of the first name by the incumbent President on the ballot which subsequently positioned him at the top of the Commission, however, dismissed this complaint basing its argument on section 49 of the PPE Act which allows candidates to specify how they want their names or abbreviation thereof to appear on the ballot.

CHAPTER 8

CAMPAIGNING

8.1 Political Parties Official Campaign

Campaigning affords citizens the opportunity to exercise political choices about who their representatives will be, and who will govern them. Section 56 of PPE entitles all political parties the right to campaign in an election. The period of campaigning in public is set for two months closing forty-eight hours before the opening of the poll. Consequently, for the 2009 general elections, the Commission launched the official campaign on 17 March 2009.

The Code of Conduct signed during the nomination and sections 56 to 66 of the PPE Act provided the framework and guidelines for the official campaign. Political parties and candidates were thus given an opportunity to sell their manifestoes to the electorate. The Commission called upon all public media houses to give equal treatment to all political parties to enable them to conduct their campaigns freely. Further, the Commission bought airtime vouchers to enable political parties to be heard on both the public and private electronic media. The official campaign closed on 17 May 2009 at 0600 hours.

Political parties campaigned across the country, and generally, the freedoms of assembly, movement and speech were respected. Occasionally, the candidates exchanged inflammatory, defamatory and derogatory language on podiums. A few cases where traditional leaders clashed with candidates on venues for meetings were also reported. The campaign was generally peaceful, although there were a few isolated incidents of violence. Police quickly contained the few isolated incidents of violence and appropriate action was taken against alleged perpetrators and anyone that contravened the electoral laws. Apart from rallies, distribution and affixing campaign materials in public places, candidates also embarked on door to door campaigns in order to canvass voters to vote for them.

The Commission also organized public debates that were widely covered by public media in Mzuzu, Lilongwe and Blantyre. Other debates organized in collaboration with NICE took place in 63 constituencies spread over 9 districts (Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhosang, Dowa, Ntchisi, Lilongwe, Ntcheu, Salima and Mangochi).

During the course of the campaign, the Commission kept on reminding all players about the Code of Conduct which they had signed and were bound to follow at all times to ensure a peaceful election environment. Time and again the Commission issued statements to condemn conduct that contravened the campaign guidelines. The efforts of the Commission were also reinforced by religious institutions, calling for and preaching peace at meetings and churches and mosques.

8.2 Political Environment

The political environment in the run up to the May 19 2009 general election was highly charged compared to previous elections. The relationship among the three main political parties was characterized by intense competition. Issues and complaints brought before the attention of the EC during stakeholder meetings were perceived to be sensitive and contentious. They included the buying and selling of voter registrations certificates, the lack of compliance with the Media Code of Conduct by some media houses, and perceptions regarding the impartiality of the EC particularly, following the discovery of missing names from the Voters' Register during the verification exercise.

The eligibility for nomination of the former President, Dr. Bakili Muluzi was another contentious issue and a potential trigger of conflict as some players believed that he qualified for nomination according to both sections 82 and 83 (3) of the Malawi Constitution. Some strong supporters even issued threats that they would demonstrate if his candidature was rejected. However, other key players believed otherwise. Further, the incumbent who was brought into power by United Democratic Front (UDF) in 2004 resigned from the party and formed his own party – the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP).

created tension between the two parties. The appointment of the Commissioners by the President was another source of tension for even though the courts ruled in favour of the appointing authority, there were perceptions of uncertainty as to the neutrality of the EC.

On account of the perceived simmering tensions which would easily erupt into violence, a high level delegation from the African Union visited Malawi in March 2009. The delegation comprised the former Presidents Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and John Kufuor of Ghana. Their mission was to promote peaceful and violence free elections through dialoguing with main political parties' leaderships under preventive diplomacy. The delegation held two meetings with the EC and this provided an opportunity for the EC to have first hand information about the concerns raised by political parties as well as discuss pertinent issues relating to elections. A subsequent mission by the Chairman of the African Union, His Excellency Dr. Jean Ping, further consolidated efforts to maintain the prevailing peace and calm.

Other efforts to maintain a peaceful environment were done collaboratively with the National Forum for the Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts (NAFPESCO) under the auspices of the GTZ Forum for Dialogue and Peace. Two workshops, one addressed by Judge Johann Kriegler, former Chairperson of Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa and the other addressed by the Chairperson of the Zambian Electoral Commission, Justice Florence Mumba, were held. Further, in collaboration with Minibus Association of Malawi (MAM), the GTZ also printed and donated stickers carrying the message "PEACEFUL ELECTIONS, YES WE CAN" that appealed for peaceful elections was displayed on the minibuses and distributed widely.

The Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) also contributed to peace building efforts by arranging an official visit for representatives from political parties, CSOs and EC to go to Kenya to learn from interacting with various groups what caused violent conflicts following that country's general elections, so as to avoid a similar situation occurring in Malawi. In addition, four days before the

elections, the CMD facilitated a meeting with political parties where they committed themselves to maintain peace during polling and after the announcement of results. To show their commitment they all signed a memorandum of agreement to:

- (a) Encourage their supporters and members of the public to cast their votes on 19 May,
- (b) Recognize the authority of the Commission as a legal body to conduct elections and announce official results,
- (c) Desist from inciting violence or use of language that might incite violence,
- (d) Engage in dialogue as a means to resolve any dispute that may arise and
- (e) Adhere to SADC elections protocol.

8.3 Complaints

8.3.1 Use of Public Resources

The Commission received complaints from some of the political parties and also noted reports in the media relating to the use of state resources for campaign purposes by the ruling party, contrary to Section 193 (4) of the Constitution.

8.3.2 Coverage by the Public Media

The state-owned media failed to fulfil their obligation to provide equitable coverage to all contestants. This was in violation of the Media Code of Conduct which they had signed in June 2008. The private radio station, Joy Radio in particular, only provided maximum coverage to the parties in opposition. The Commission publicly condemned the public broadcasters and Joy Radio for their unprofessional coverage of the elections. The public broadcasters' response was that they could not cover all parties because they had not been allocated any funding by Parliament during that financial year.

3.4 Challenges

A major concern during the campaign period was the incumbency advantage in the use of state resources. While it may sometimes be difficult to draw the line between performance of government functions and campaigning, the incumbency advantage generated several complaints during the campaign period. A related issue to be addressed in this context, and covering all contestants, would be that of campaign funding – the sources of funding, the magnitude of/or limits on expenditure and issues of accountability - to ensure “free and fair elections” within the context of the Election Commission Act section 8 (m).

The multiparty conflict resolution mechanism was very effective in the resolution of conflicts at the grassroots level, with stakeholders having a lot of confidence in the Multiparty Liaison Committees. Unfortunately, such an instrument was lacking at the higher intra-party and inter-party national levels where often times serious conflicts arise. Another challenge is to ensure sustainability of the already established multiparty conflict resolution mechanism.

CHAPTER 9

POLLING OPERATIONS

9.1 Printing of Ballot Papers

The Process of printing ballot papers started with inviting tenders from local and international printing companies. Clear and articulate specifications were provided. Tender bids were dealt with by EC's Internal Procurement Committee (IPC). Upon completion of reviewing the tender bids, a printing company in the United Kingdom known as Kalamazoo was selected and awarded the tender. Political Parties and other stakeholders were informed of the company that won the bid.

After the nomination of candidates, the ballot papers were designed and the political parties were provided an opportunity to review the samples of the ballot papers for both the parliamentary and presidential elections. Political parties were also informed about the total quantity of ballot papers to be printed in each case and the reasons for the specified quantities.

9.2 Special Needs Voting

The Commission made certain that all groups in society were included in the electoral process by ensuring the fullest possible participation of the physically challenged through provisions for assisted voting. Further, for the first time in the history of Malawi elections, provisions were made for the visually impaired to vote independently and in secret through the development of a tactile template which was sent to the printers to produce tactile ballot guides.

9.3 Distribution of Ballot Papers and Other Election Materials

After printing, the Kalamazoo Company packed the ballot papers in packets according to districts. Ballot papers were delivered on 13 and 14 May, 2009. At the District Commissioner's office, the ballot papers were separated according to constituencies and handed over to CROs for onward dispatch to polling stations on 17 and 18 May, 2009. The Police Service and the Malawi Defence Force provided security both during storage and transportation of all sensitive

polling materials especially the ballot papers. Within constituencies, Presiding Officers took charge of ballot papers after their verification of quantities in the presence of political party agents and local monitors.

Police Officers were deployed, two at each polling station, with an additional Police Officer per additional polling stream to guard the station. Additional security of election materials was provided by Multiparty Liaison Committees (MPLCs) who ensured that no person tampered with them until polling time.

9.4 Recruitment and Training of Election Officials

The process started with the engagement of 193 Constituency Returning Officers from among Primary Education Advisers (PEAS). After training, each CRO was assigned a constituency and became responsible for all electoral activities in the constituency. This was followed by recruitment of Presiding and Assistant Presiding Officers and polling officials who were mostly teachers except in areas where polling stations were not located in schools. A total of 1897 Presiding Officers were recruited to manage the polling stations.

Streams were created where there were a large number of registered voters, so as to minimize congestion during voting. There were 6969 streams in total. Presiding and Assistant Presiding Officers together with the rest of poll staff were trained by CROs between 17 and 18 May, 2009. A total of 27,876 poll staff were recruited and trained to man all the polling stations.

9.5 Accreditation of Political Party Representatives

In terms of Section 72 (1) of PPE Act, political parties and independent candidates had the opportunity to appoint two persons per polling station, and where there were more than one stream, an additional two persons per stream as election agents (monitors). Towards the end of April 2009, names of their agents and the location where they were going to monitor were submitted to the Commission for accreditation in accordance with Section 72 (2).

Further, the Commission produced a pamphlet containing rights and duties of party agents to guide the agents during their monitoring at polling stations. It also provided an opportunity to party agents to attend the training of polling staff to familiarize them with the voting procedures and process.

9.6 Challenges

A number of challenges were experienced during the distribution of ballots and election materials. These included the following:

- a) Provision for extra ballot papers at each polling station as a measure against counter damaged or spoiled ballots during the poll, as well as for transport was not clearly understood by some political parties,
- b) Some of the agents selected by the political parties and independent candidates were illiterate and unable to follow the voting process and were therefore unable to submit meaningful reports to their superiors.

CHAPTER 10

VOTING PROCESS AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT

10.1 Organization of Polling Stations

The Commission decided that, for purposes of polling, each Registration Centre should be converted into a Polling Station. Seven officials were designated to man each polling station and to consist of:

- a) Presiding Officer,
- b) Identification Clerk,
- c) Inking Clerk,
- d) Presidential Ballot Paper Issuer,
- e) Parliamentary Ballot Paper Issuer,
- f) Usher 1,
- g) Usher 2

Each polling station was headed by a Presiding Officer assisted by an Assistant Presiding Officer and five other polling staff. Further, polling stations with very large numbers of registered voters were structured into “streams”, each to service a maximum of 1200 registered voters. The alphabet was used to identify each stream. This organization underpinned the Commission’s focus on order and speed in the voting process and reduced the time voters spent at polling stations. Two political party representatives and two representatives of each independent candidate monitored the operations at each polling station/stream. Local and International Observers were also present at polling stations.

10.2 Voting and counting process

Voting started at 6.00 am and ended at 6.00 pm. The order of voting followed was that prescribed in s.81 of PPE. Extensions were allowed at the few stations which opened late for one reason or another. Voting in the whole country concluded on 19 May 2009 as scheduled.

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Counting of ballots at each polling station started immediately after closing of the polls. The ballots were consolidated at the polling station level in the presence of the poll staff, monitors from each of the streams as well as international and local observers.

Counting and recording of ballots was undertaken in stages following elaborate procedures established by the Commission. These procedures relate to the emptying of the ballot box, exhibition of the box after emptying, counting of each ballot, checking against original ballot paper quantity and reconciliation of the totals.

10.3 Verification and announcement of results

After counting, the Presiding Officer or his Assistant prepared and signed the results sheet which was then countersigned by the monitors. A copy of the signed results sheet was given to each monitor who countersigned it and another copy was pasted at the polling station for public information. The polling station was thus the first point at which the constituency results were displayed and announced for public information.

The Presiding Officer then delivered the polling station results to the Constituency Returning Officer (CRO) who was located at the district centre. To speed up the delivery of results to Constituency results centres, the Commission organized 2400 vehicles to service 3897 polling stations. During the delivery of the polling station results, one party agent chosen from among the agents at the polling station rode in the vehicle to accompany the results to the Constituency Results Centre. However, other party agents were free to escort the Presiding Officer using their own means of transportation. This was in addition to the. The CRO in turn faxed the results to the National Results Centre at the COMESA Hall where the Commission established its Headquarters during this period. The CRO was also responsible for compiling constituency results and, after verification with the Commission, announcing them. The CRO also gave a copy of the counter-signed results sheet to each party representative, pasted another copy at the constituency result centre.

public information and finally announced the constituency results. A detailed arrangement of results management is shown in *Appendix 7*

10.4 National Results Centre

The National Results Centre (NRC) was established at COMESA Hall to provide a central venue with an adequate communications infrastructure, where the Commission would receive the results from the Constituency Returning Officers and polling stations located at the districts, determine and publish the national result of the general election. The Commission's strategic objective was to keep the nation fully and quickly informed with accurate results on a continuous basis.

The NRC was provided with an incoming fax line from each CRO's office, an array of computers for capturing and analysis of the results, and equipment for the display of results on a rolling basis as they were received and determined by the Commission. In addition, all media houses were provided with facilities to establish broadcasting studios at the Centre. A large hall was furnished to seat all accredited representatives of political parties and independent candidates, international and local observers and members of the diplomatic corps.

Results received were displayed on large screens and kept the nation regularly updated with the latest results as they were received. This service was complemented by the Zodiac Broadcasting Station (ZBS), which was contracted to announce the results as they were published at the polling station and constituency levels. ZBS was contracted because it was perceived by stakeholders to be unbiased in its coverage. Often ZBS, which had better and electronic means of communication, was able to publish results much faster and earlier than the Commission. Overall, the nation was quickly informed of the general election results.

10.5 Analysis of complaints and announcement of results

Before announcement of results, the Commission received some electoral complaints mostly from candidates who had failed in the elections. A total of 141 complaints were received. The complaints generally raised concerns about

the polling process, party monitors not being allowed at the polling stations, demands for a vote recount, and determination process of the winner. As required by law, the Commission scrutinized the complaints and in its collective wisdom, observed that, the complaints were such that they could not affect the final results. The Commission, therefore, went ahead to declare the results for both elections as expressed by the will of the Malawian people. The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) candidate, Dr Bingu Wa Mutharika, and his parliamentary candidates emerged clear winners with landslide victories in both cases. Tables 5 and 6 below give a summary of the results. Appendix shows the list of the successful candidates.

Table 5: Results of the 2009 Presidential Election

Serial No.	Name of Candidate	Affiliation	Votes Polled	Position
1	Bingu	DPP	2,946,103	1
2	Kamuzu Walter Chibambo	PETRA	35,167	3
3	Loveness Gondwe	NARC	32,160	5
4	Stanley Eddington Masauli	RP	33,887	4
5	Dindi Gowa Nyasulu	AFORD	20,151	7
6	James Mbowe Nyondo	Independent	27,328	6
7	John Zenas Ungapake Tembo	MCP	1,370,044	2



MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2009
CHISANKHO CHA PULEZIDENTI 2009



Candidate Name and Photo Dzina Ndi Chithunzi Chaopikisana Zina La Wakuphalizgana Na Chithuzi Chakhe	Party Name and Symbol Dzina La Chipani Ndi Chizindikiro Zina La Chipani Na Chimanyikwiro	Mark One Choice Sankhani Malo Amodzi Sankhani Malo Ghamoza Pera
 BINGU Running Mate: BANDA Joyce	 Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)	
 CHIBAMBO Kamuzu Walter Running Mate: MNENULA Stanley Alex Robert	 People's Transformation Party (PETRA)	
 GONDWE Loveness (Ms) Running Mate: MWALE Beatrice Roseby	 New Rainbow Coalition (NARC)	
 MASAULI Stanley Edingtone Running Mate: KUTHYOLA Sophie	 CHILUNGAMO Republican Party (RP)	
 NYASULU Gowa Dindi Running Mate: BANDA Chinkhokwe Tyson	 Alliance For Democracy (AFORD)	
 NYONDO James Mbowe Running Mate: THUNYANI Vivian Mark	 Independent	
 TEMBO John Zenas Ungapake Running Mate: MPINGANJIRA Brown James	 Malawi Congress Party (MCP)	

Table 6: Results of the 2009 Parliamentary Elections – elected members of the National Assembly by sponsoring party and gender.

Serial No.	Sponsor	Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Alliance for Democracy (AFORD)	1	0	1
2	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)	82	31	113
3	Malawi Congress Party (MCP)	24	3	27
4	Malawi Forum for Unity and Development (MAFUNDE)	1	0	1
5	Maravi People's Party (MPP)	1	0	1
6	United Democratic Front (UDF)	16	1	17
7	Independent candidates	27	5	32
	TOTAL	152	40	192

10.6 Challenges

- a) The large number of voters per stream/polling station, coupled with early darkness during the month of May and poor lighting in some polling stations constrained both the voting and the counting of ballots. Even though, for the first time ever, diesel generators were provided for use at all polling stations, they were not used in some polling stations. This was because procurement delays affected the provision of adequate training on the use of the generators and in some cases, on account of the same reason, the election officers were not able to buy diesel because they could not locate nor identify the diesel containers which were delivered with the generators.
- b) A second challenge was the speed and security of communication between (a) the polling station and the Constituency Returning Office and (b) between the Constituency Returning Office and the National Results Centre. Delivery of results by the Returning Officer to the Constituency Returning Office was slow. The National Results Centre, as a result, was not able to obtain results from neither polling stations nor the CROs in a timely manner. This seriously delayed the Commission's determination of the election results.
- c) Inadequate training of polling staff, and
- d) Need for improvement of the ballot counting and aggregation methods.

CHAPTER 11

COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

11.1 Interface with Stakeholders

In implementing its electoral activities, the Commission worked hard to create and sustain sound relationship with its various stakeholders in order to avoid misunderstandings and suspicions, and for them to build trust and confidence in the electoral process. Some of the primary stakeholders included political parties and candidates, the government, development partners, the media, CSOs, the electorate, domestic and international election observers, and Statutory Corporations.

The EC periodically and at every stage of the electoral process, such as registration of voters, inspection of the voters roll and nomination, held consultative meetings with its stakeholders to account for its performance, the degree of preparedness, including sometimes the way it used public funds in the electoral process. Although EC held consultative meetings with many stakeholders, this section will only highlight a few of them.

11.2 Political Parties

As key stakeholders, the needs and interests of political parties were taken into account when designing and implementing EC's policies and activities. In fact, the Commission maintained an open-door policy, assuring political parties unhindered access to the Commission.

This deliberate inclusion of political parties in the electoral process was particularly useful as part of transparency, especially considering Malawi's culture of suspicion and distrust among key stakeholders. Consequently, the Commission consulted political party representatives regularly to brief them on progress in the implementation of elections and discussed issues affecting the elections in general.

Further, the Commission improved its relationship with political parties through the Centre for Multi-Party Democracy (CMD) facilitated consultation meetings. The CMD's proactive stance and its advance consultations with the political parties enabled the identification of areas of common interest, and minimised inter-party conflict during meetings with the EC.

Political parties were also involved at the policy level because of electoral innovations which the Commission had introduced, such as the computerization of the voters' roll, staggered registration, introduction of voter registration ID cards with photographs, and televised and projected election results at the National Results Centre. In all these instances, transparency and inclusion of political parties at an early stage contributed to political parties acceptance of the outcome of the elections.

11.3 The Electorate

Since the Commission primarily exists to render services to the electorate, it held consultative meetings in all the districts between February and May 2008. The purpose of the consultations was to obtain the views of the general population regarding constituency boundaries and to accommodate any requests for the establishment of additional registration and polling centres.

However, the Commission was unable to get its re-alignment recommendations carried out due to a parliamentary resolution. In compliance, the Commission maintained the 2004 General Elections constituency boundaries. A few new registration centres were however, introduced within the context of the 2004 constituency boundaries.

In collaboration with both public and private media houses, the Commission also used interactive radio and television programming where it faced questions from voters on different aspects of the electoral process. It used media channels to inform and educate the electorate about elections.

11.4 Civil Society Organizations

The Commission discussed many issues with CSOs especially Civic and Voter Education programmes. Some CSOs took a proactive approach by bringing

issues that could have an impact on the electoral process to the Commission to be timely addressed. Such a constructive approach assisted EC to review some of its programmes, policies and implementation strategies in a bid to achieve free, fair and credible elections.

11.5 The Media

The media (print and electronic, public and private) was a key ally of the EC in informing the public about its mandate and operations and also in educating voters about elections. The strategy that EC took was to have regular press conferences and press releases to ensure that the media had accurate electoral information on EC's activities. Through EC's public relations section, comprehensive information and updates were disseminated to the media and to other stakeholders.

Sound relationship with the media also contributed to the willingness of media houses to provide EC with space/airtime to inform and educate the electorate on various electoral issues. For instance, Zodiac Broadcasting Station (ZBS), and Capital FM provided free national coverage of the ECs activities at different stages during the electoral calendar. Further, ZBS, together with TVM, gave live coverage of the activities at the National Results Centre at the COMESA Hall throughout the management and announcement of the parliamentary and presidential election results.

Consultations with the media also yielded the Malawi Code of Conduct for Media houses which was developed by the media houses themselves under the facilitation of the Commission. The Media Code of Conduct was a self regulatory tool to promote equitable coverage of political parties and candidates, and adherence to good practice in journalism.

11.6 Other Stakeholders

Since elections are a national event, it was imperative for the Commission to interface with both primary and secondary stakeholders in order to ensure that electoral activities remained within the set timeframes, and also to enhance its

integrity and credibility and that of the electoral process. For instance, the Anti-Corruption Bureau collaborated with EC in curbing electoral related corruption. Regular meetings with the Government and Development Partners offered an opportunity for appraising them on various electoral administrative and financial issues. This persuaded them to find and provide appropriate support.

Collaboration with statutory bodies such as ESCOM, Water Boards, MACH and Malawi Housing Corporation and corporate entities such as Zain and MTN yielded positive results such as extending their services to supplement EC transport requirements, improved communication within the country as well as provision of security and support to results management initiatives.

Overall, consultative meetings provided a platform for information sharing and for stakeholders to give their views in respect for the general administrative elections. They also promoted participation and ownership of the electoral process. Fairness, and professional management of the electoral process in compliance with the electoral laws, also contributed to maintaining good working relationships with the stakeholders.

CHAPTER 12

INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL OBSERVERS.

The Commission invited international and local observers at the commencement of the registration. Observation thus started in earnest during this stage of the election and continued up to the determination of the results. During the period a total of 43 international and local observers were accredited by the Commission to observe the election as indicated in the list below.

International observers

1. Scottish Parliament
2. Zambia High Commission
3. University of Cape Town
4. All Africa
5. Michigan State University
6. Kenya High Commission
7. US Embassy
8. Japanese Embassy
9. European Union
10. African Union
11. SADC
12. SADC Parliamentary Forum
13. SADC Electoral Commissions Forum
14. DFID
15. British High Commission

Local observer groups

1. NICE
2. NECOT
3. PEFENAP
4. Justice Link
5. CHREAA
6. Demokalase Yathu
7. NGO GCN
8. Mbaweni Womens Group
9. Malawi SDNP
10. MAM
11. MESN
12. YONECO
13. HRCC
14. CHR
15. MEJN

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 16. University of Vermont | 16. MHRC |
| 17. Germany Embassy | 17. GSP |
| 18. Royal Norwegian Embassy | 18. Islamic Information Bureau |
| 19. Japanes Embassy | 19. IPI |
| 20. Commonwealth | 20. CONGOMA |
| 21. COMESA | |
| 22. EISA | |
| 23. Nigeria High Commission | |

According to the PPE Act s.101, the role of international observers is to verify all the stages of the election, including the impartiality, functioning and legality of decisions taken by the Commission. The activities of observation include the registration of voters, campaigning for the elections, the voting process and the determination of the results, and to report any irregularities noted, to the Commission.

Both local and international observers were provided with free and open access to all electoral activities, to the Commission, political parties, the media, the government and to all parts of the country.

12.1 International Observers.

The duration of international observers varied from one observer team to another. Long term observers stayed for much longer periods and observed most of the electoral process. Some of the short term observers observed from the campaign period, and still others observed only during the voting and results determination period. The larger observer missions were able to deploy observers in all the 28 districts. In other observer teams, deployment was limited to sections of the country.

12.2 Local Observers

The election being a process, local observers observed the entire election process, right from the appointment of Commissioners to the polling and determination of results. The NICE and the MESN were the larger local observer groups, which were able to observe more activities by being present at most polling stations.

12.3 Recommendations of International and Local Observers

In conformity with the PPE Act s.102.2, international observers presented their reports to the Commission. In the reports, the observers expressed satisfaction with the conduct of the elections and congratulated the Commission, the political parties, and the people of Malawi, for an orderly and peaceful election. According to the Commonwealth observer group: "the elections met many of the standards for democratic elections to which Malawi has committed itself". According to the European Union observer group "The 19 May 2009 parliamentary and presidential elections were conducted in an environment in which fundamental freedoms and rights of assembly, expression and movement have been generally respected" and, "The Electoral Commission organized these elections in a largely independent manner and although it faced many logistical and organizational challenges that exposed a lack of capacity, it managed to prepare for an election day that largely guaranteed universal suffrage".

The reports of the observer missions also contain detailed recommendations that focus on improvements to the legal framework, electoral system, electoral administration, voter registration, political parties and candidates, campaign environment, voter education, media sector, participation of women, polling, counting and publication of results, civil society and domestic observation and complaints and appeals and conflict management.

An innovation by one local observer, MESN, was the introduction of statistical methods to monitor polling and estimate election results on the basis of a sample of 800 out of 6774 polling streams. The MESN used the polling stream as the sampling unit and the sample was selected using single stage cluster

sampling. The results of MESN confirmed those of the Electoral Commission. In addition, the MESN was able to collect additional information on preparations at the polling stream and other polling related characteristics.

12.4 Challenges

The major challenge regarding observation relates to local observers. Many local observers were resource constrained and limited in what they could achieve. Further, the PPE is generally silent on local observers, their role, rights and responsibilities.

CHAPTER 13

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

13.1 Complaints

Electoral complaints were being received throughout the entire electoral process. At district level, Multiparty Liaison Committees handled complaints and electoral related conflicts from the grass-roots. Depending on the intensity of the complaint, some were referred to higher authority like the Constituency Returning Officers and the District Commissioners who resolved some of them with the assistance of District Elections Support Team (DEST). Difficult cases were referred to the Commission and some of the complaints were resolved during stakeholders' meetings.

The Commission dealt with complaints relating to various stages of the electoral process such as voter registration, candidate nomination, campaign, polling and results management. Before polling the EC received a small number of complaints relating to missing names in the voters' register. This matter was resolved by EC printing reference numerical registers which accompanied the certified voters' registers as well as allowing voters with missing names but with proper identification to vote where they registered. Seventeen (17) cases relating to defacement of campaign materials, illegal possession and attempts to sell voter Identity Cards (Ids), disruption of a campaign rally and unauthorized rally, were referred to Police because they were of a criminal nature. There were also cases of double registration identified during the cleaning up of the voters' register which have since been referred to Police for investigation.

During polling, the Commission received 141 complaints relating to parliamentary election. As required by law, the Commission examined each case carefully and dismissed the complaints for lack of substantive evidence. When this process was over, the Commission released the Parliamentary and

Presidential Election results. Among the complaints only one was in relation to the presidential election.

13.2 Appeals

While most of the complainants dropped their cases, 36 expressed dissatisfaction with the decision of the Commission and petitioned the High Court. One such case involved John Tembo, an MCP presidential candidate who claims to have lost the presidential position because the elections were rigged. There were also cases which were lodged directly with the High Court without waiting for EC's determination.

13.3 Multi-Party Liaison Committees (MPLCs)

MPLCs managed conflicts at district level. These committees chaired by the District Commissioners, were trained to deal with complaints and other electoral related conflicts at grassroots level.

The MPLCs included representatives of young politicians. Through this inclusion, the youth who were used in the past to be instruments of violence played a more responsible role in the political arena providing a greater voice for tolerance and peaceful resolution of complaints.

CHAPTER 14

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 Conclusion

It took a major effort by the Commission to ensure that the 19 May elections were held as scheduled because of the many challenges it encountered during the registration period. Overall, the Commission is proud to have delivered elections which were declared by many political analysts, stakeholders and observers as free, fair and credible.

The 2009 elections were highly competitive, offering a degree of choice between political alternatives, with 1,177 candidates contesting the parliamentary elections across the 193 constituencies, and seven candidates contesting the presidential election. Among the contestants, 236 were women candidates contesting the parliamentary seats and one woman for the presidential election.

The general elections marked a significant improvement on earlier elections. This is evident from a higher voter registration turnout and a conducive environment for voting as well as observation. The elections attracted a lot of public interest and were closely monitored and scrutinized by political parties, the media, the election observers, both from high-profile international missions and increasingly by domestic civil society organizations.

During the conduct of the elections, the Commission was guided by and complied with the legal provisions and its core values. Consequently, the Commission was transparent in all its activities, starting from the stage of re-alignment of constituency boundaries to the declaration of the results. In all these stages, the Commission interfaced with its stakeholders, inviting views on various issues, as well as disseminating information on the electoral process. Below are the deliberate steps taken by the Commission in manifesting its commitment to the tenets of fairness and transparency:

1. Of the estimated 6.5 million voting age population, the Commission registered 5.9 million (95.2%) which is very high by regional and international standards. Also about 78 percent of the registered voters freely exercised their democratic right to elect a President, and members of the National Assembly of their choice.
2. Despite some challenges, election campaigns were smooth and peaceful. However, complaints of violations of the Code of Conduct by some political parties were discussed in the political party consultative meetings. The Commission also condemned violations of the Code of Conduct.
3. The Commission involved both the public and private media to disseminate information covering the different aspects of the electoral process. In addition, in a consultative meeting organized by the EC in Mangochi, all Media institutions, among other activities, designed their own Media Code of Conduct for the 2009 election coverage, to which they all subsequently appended their signatures.
4. The Commission was impartial by not favouring any of the political parties, or any other contestants. Changes to the electoral programme were made consultatively and consensus guided the decisions of the Commission.
5. The Commission promptly responded to challenges so as to maintain its commitment to implement free and fair elections. For instance, because of missing names and spelling errors in the Voters' Register, the Commission resorted to providing a supplementary numerical register to be used together with the certified Voters Register to avoid disenfranchising voters.
6. The Commission was also guided by the principle of inclusivity to optimise the participation of all eligible Malawians in the democratic process. Civil Society Organisations, statutory corporations, corporate

entities and vulnerable groups were all given opportunities to participate. Innovations, such as the provision of special templates for voting were introduced to enable those with visual impairment to vote un-assisted.

7. Challenges encountered, which adversely affected, to some extent the whole election process included:

- (a) The failure of the public broadcaster to provide equitable coverage to all contestants.
- (b) Dependency on financial assistance in planning and implementation of elections was a key characteristic of the 2009 general elections. Delayed approval of the election's budget and delays in disbursement especially by donors limited proper and thorough implementation of election activities.

Despite these challenges, the 2009 general elections results reflect the true will of the majority of voters in the country.

14.2 Recommendations

In consideration of the challenges experienced during the 2009 general elections, the Commission makes the following recommendations:

1. That the funding of elections should be seriously considered to ensure adequate and timely provision of resources as well as timely disbursement of those resources contributed by development partners, to ensure elections are conducted within the prescribed legal provisions.
2. The current legal framework posed some major constraints during the elections. Therefore, the laws impacting on the elections be expeditiously reviewed and revised.
3. The role of the public media was a source of discontent and criticisms from all stakeholders. Timely resolution of this issue is necessary to ensure free and fair elections in Malawi.

4. All stakeholders collaboratively review the recommendations made by international and local observers and adopt a plan of action if progress to be made in national elections.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: New Registration Centres.

DISTRICT	CONSTITUENCY	CENTRE NAME	REPLACEMENT/NEW
Rumphi	Rumphi West	Matunkha	Replacement of Bowe
Nkhata Bay	Nkhata Bay North West	Kangoyi	New
Nkhata Bay	Nkhata Bay South East	Chipuzumumba	New
Nkhata Bay	Nkhata Bay Nort West	Chapambo	Replacement of Kanthete
Mzimba	Mzimba Luwelezi	Kayolo	New
Mzimba	Mzimba North	Mkamaumoza	New
Mzimba	Mzimba South	Kamtanthambwe	New
Dowa	Dowa West	Mwanza Primary School	New
Dowa	Dowa West	Kalulu	New
Dedza	Dedza South	Mpalare	New
Machinga	Machinga Central	Katundu	New
Blantyre	Blantyre City South East	Limbe CDSS	New
	Blantyre City East	Makhetha Primary School	New
Thyolo	Thyolo West	Nkhwali	New
	Thyolo South West	Sambankhanga	New
Mwanza	Mwanza Central	Galafa	New
Chikwawa	Chikwawa North	Chigumula	New
	Chikwawa East	Pakamwa	New
Balaka	Balaka South	Chiendausiku Trading Centre	New (Disapproved)

**Appendix 2: POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS ABOVE 18 YEARS AND
OVER BY REGION AND DISTRICT COMPARED TO PROJECTED EC FIGURES**

Region	District Name	Projections based on 2004 Registration Data	2008 Census Figures
Northern	CHITIPA	111873	80166
	KARONGA	187119	126494
	RUMPHI	112805	101179
	NKHATABAY	130845	79947
	MZIMBA	530571	405482
	LIKOMA	5874	4953
	Total	1079087	798221
Central	KASUNGU	362981	285121
	NKHOTAKOTA	161315	139553
	NTCHISI	115813	104418
	DOWA	290148	266285
	SALIMA	177520	158856
	MCHINJI	229469	208643
	LILONGWE	921261	925771
	DEDZA	310200	295068
	NTCHEU	236205	227134
	Total	2804912	2610849
Southern	MANGOCHI	396575	370500
	BALAKA	173753	147195
	MACHINGA	247257	224339
	ZOMBA	386848	322636
	CHIRADZULU	164274	141584
	BLANTYRE	579485	508465
	MWANZA	46364	44184
	THYOLO	306006	280441
	PHALOMBE	153939	145851
	MULANJE	271113	253003
	CHIKWAWA	236269	208078
	NSANJE	145107	111209
	NENO	51289	49877
	Total	3158279	2807362
Total		7042278	6216432

Appendix 3:

ELECTORAL CALENDAR COVERING MAJOR ACTIVITIES ONLY (PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 2008)

SERIAL NO.	ACTIVITY	PERIOD /DATE(S)	REMARKS
1	Elections order	29 February 2008	
2	Meetings on re-alignment of ward and constituency boundaries	11 March – 22 April 2008	
3	Procurement of registration equipment and stationery	March- May 2008	
4	Recruitment & Training of registration staff	March & May 2008	
5	Registration of voters	June 2008/ 2 June – 14 September 2008	To start immediately after demarcation matters have been resolved.
6	Nomination of candidates	5-9 January 2009	To take place after registration drive
7	Campaigning		
8	Procurement of polling materials	December 2008 – March 2009	Data from registration and nomination will provide input to this
9	Printing of ballot papers	February – March 2009	This will depend on the registered voters as well as contesting candidates
10	Inspection of the voters' roll	March 30 -3 April 2009	All centres to be opened for a maximum period of 5 days
11	Recruitment and training of polling staff	February – May 2009	This will depend on the number of registered voters in each centre and the agreed size of a polling station
13	Polling	19 May 2009	
14	Determination, announcement and publication of results	19 May – 19 June 2009	
15	Review/postmortem meetings	May – June 2009	

Appendix 4: DISTRIBUTION OF CVE SERVICE PROVIDERS BY CONSTITUENCY

No s	Name of NGO	Physical Address	Telephone	Email	Amount Received	Allocated Constituencies
1	Public Affairs Committee	P/Bag B348, Capital City, Lilongwe 3	01772692, 01772696	pac@pacmw.org	13,000,000.00	Rumphi (East, Central, West, North) Dowa (East, South East, North East) Lilongwe (North East, South East, City West, City South East, South West) Dedza (North, Central) Mangochi (North, North East, Malombe, East), Machinga (East, South, Likweni, South East) = 22
2	Malawi Council of Churches	Area 40 Embassy Zone, P O Box 30068, Lilongwe 3	01775967, 08202660	mipingo@malawi.net	9,000,000.00	Likoma Island, Kasungu (North East, South East) Nkhotakota (North, North East) Ntcheu (Central, South, North, West) Mchinji (West, South, South East) Balaka (West, South) = 14
3	Malawi Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace	CCJP National Office, P O Box 30384, Lilongwe 3	01775101, 08301957	ccjpinformation@malawi.net	17,500,000.00	Nkhata Bay (North West, South East, South) Mzimba (Luwelezi, Solola, East) Kasungu (West, North North East, South) Dowa (West, North) Lilongwe (East, Central, City Centre, North West, City North) Dedza (North West, East, South, West, Central East), Mangochi (West, Monkey Bay) Zomba (Central, Likangala, Chisi) Blantyre (Kabula, West, City West) Chikwawa (West, North) = 31
4	Church & Society Livingstonia Synod	P O Box 112, Mzuzu	01 311133	churchsociety@malawi.net	8,000,000.00	Chitipa (East, South, Central, North, Wenya) Karonga (North, North West, Central, Nyunwe, South) Mzimba (Mzuzu City, North, North East, West) = 14
5	Church & Society Blantyre Synod	P O Box 413, Blantyre	01822102, 08397072, 09671138	director@bsd1.com	7,500,000.00	Zomba (Lisanjala, Malosa, Ntonya) Chiradzulu (North, East, Central) Mwanza (Central, West) Mulanje (Central, Limbali) Nsanje (South, South West, Central) = 13
6	Evangelical Association of Malawi	P O Box 30296, Lilongwe 3	01726656, 01725107	eaom@malawi.net/eaom@afri ca-online.net	2,000,000.00	Nkhata Bay (North, Central, West) = 3

7	Gospel Outreach Pentecostal Assembly	P O Box 2174, Blantyre	01911598, 08559503	gospelgopa@yahoo.com	2,000,000.00	Phalombe (North, East, North East) = 3
8	Southern African Violence Management Agency (SAVIMA)	P O Box 1910, Blantyre	08 865610	afjchurch@africa-online.net	2,500,000.00	Blantyre (City Central, Malabada) Mulanje (West, South West) = 4
9	Christian Service Committee (CSC)	P O Box 51294, Limbe	08 208676	csc@malawi.net	2,000,000.00	Blantyre (South West, City South, City South East) = 3
10	Church & Society Nkhoma Synod	P O Box 132, Lilongwe	01727351, 09295992	church-society@malawi.net	2,500,000.00	Kasungu (East, Central) Lilongwe (Mpeni Nkhoma, Mpeni) = 4
11	Pentecostal & Charismatic Network (PECHANI)	P O Box 5199, Limbe	08345836, 09315220	williechaponda@yahoo.com	1,300,000.00	Blantyre (City East, Bangwe) = 2
12	Muslim Association of Malawi	P O Box 497, Blantyre	01 823581, 08 879464	mam@globemw.net	4,000,000.00	Nkhotakota (Central, South, South East) Mangochi (South, South West, Central, Nkungulu) = 7
13	Active Youth Initiative for Social Enhancement (AYISE)	P O Box 90588, Bangwe	01655079,23 2/09 470011	ayisemain@ayisemw.org /marcelchisi@ayisemw.org	3,500,000.00	Thyolo (East, South West, Thava) Mulanje (Bale, North, Pasani) = 6
14	Civil Liberties Committee	P O Box 2553, Blantyre	01834063, 01820128	cilic@malawi.net	4,000,000.00	Mzimba (South West, South East) Salima (North, Central, South) Balaka (Central East, North) = 7
15	Centre for Sustainable Community Development	P O 202 Kasungu	01254075, 08527692	centrescd@yahoo.co.uk, cscd@malawi.net	1,200,000.00	Kasungu = (North, North West) 2

16	Malawi CARER	P O Box 30479, Blantyre 3	01 872214, 08549259, 09 511716	malawicare@sdnp.org.mw /martinmunthali@yahoo.com	1,200,000.00	Mangochi (Lutende, Masongola) = 2
17	Ntchisi Organisation for Youth and Development	P O Box 53, Ntchisi	09 237909, 09493336, 09557182	zindondoclement@yahoo.com	1,200,000.00	Ntchisi (East, North East) = 2
18	Malawi Human Rights and Youth Network (MHRYD)	Area 3 Plot No. 3/54, P O Box 2353, Lilongwe	01751302/08 376887	mac@mhryn.org	2,500,000.00	Lilongwe (City South West, Msinja North, Msinja South, South) = 4
19	Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO)	P O Box 471, Zomba	01525674, 08958726	director@yoneco.org.mw /mhjmkandawire@sdnp.org.mw	6,000,000.00	Ntcheu (North East, Bwanje North, Bwanje South) Machinga (North East, Central, Central East) Zomba (Nsondole, Thondwe, Chingale, Changalume) = 10
20	Institute for Policy Interaction	P O Box E14, Post Dot Net, Blantyre	01874964, 01875762, 09968800, 09 941633	ipi.malawi@gmail.com	3,600,000.00	Thyolo (North, West) Mulanje (South East, South) Nsanje (Lalanje, North) = 6
21	Demokalase Yathu Project	P O Box 40245 Blantyre	01831479, 08 749928	srgdi@yahoo.com	1,200,000.00	Chikwawa (South, Nkombezi) = 2
22	Umodzi Youth Organisation	Behind Nenani Building Mbayani, P/Bag 216 Blantyre	08 831880, 08 366629	umodziyouth@yahoo.co.uk	4,000,000.00	Blantyre (North, North East, Rural East) Thyolo (Central, South) Phalombe (Central, South) = 7
23	Neno Youth Works Organisation	P O Box 28, Neno	08 154204	cbwanali@gmail.com	1,200,000.00	Neno (South, North) = 2
24	Maonde Youth Initiative for Support & Self Upliftment (MAYISS)	P O Box 48, Maonde, Dedza	01223063, 09 334847, 09 648442	kkumitengo@yahoo.co.uk	700,000.00	Dedza (South East) = 1

25	Mbawemi Women Group	P O Box 686, Mzuzu	08 364420, 08 716774, 08 572953	orphambawemi@yahoo.co.uk	2,000,000.00	Mzimba (South, Central, Hora) = 3
26	Circle for integrated Community Development (CICOD)	P O Box 20355, Kawale, Lilongwe	01725434, 09395655, 08 855081	cicod2003@hotmail.com /cicod@malawi.net	2,500,000.00	Ntchisi (North, South) Dowa (Ngala, Central) = 4
27	Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation (CHRR)	P O Box 2340, Lilongwe	01761122/ 01761700	chrr@sdpn.org.mw	6,000,000.00	Salima (South East, North West) Mchinji (North, North East, East) Lilongwe (Mapuyu North, Mapuyu South, North, Mzozzi North, Mzozzi South, Kumachenga) = 11
28	Active Youth in Development (AYIDO)	P O Box 60142, Blantyre	01 687069, 08 367951, 09 620887	activeyouth2001@yahoo.co.uk	1,200,000.00	Chiradzulu (South, West) = 2
29	Community Voice Organisation (COVO)	P O Box 30, Chikwawa	01987338, 09 647475, 09323783, 05615271	community.voice@yahoo.com	1,300,000.00	Chikwawa (East, Central) = 2
30	Centre for Human Rights Education, Advice & Assistance (CHREAA)	P O Box 463, Balaka	01553773, 08 863557, 05649878	pas-chreaa@sdpn.org	5,400,000.00	Prisoners - 27 prisons
31	Malawi Union of the Blind	P O Box 5092, Limbe	01984385, 08852391	mubmalawi@africa-online.net	8,000,000.00	Visually Impaired - 28 districts
32	Islamic Information Bureau	P O Box 497, Blantyre	01844681, 09554344, 08826666	iib.malawi@gmail.com	6,000,000.00	20 districts

33	Centre for Development and Communication (CDC)	P/Bag 216 Blantyre	08 367102	fredyiwombe@yahoo.com	25,000,000.00	Development of jingles and media related programmes
34	Malawi Electoral Support Network	P.O Box 32160, BT 3	1842843/088 28262	jpcbt@malawi.net	9,000,000.00	Coordination of CSOs
35	National Elections Systems Trust	P O Box 3188, Chichiri, BT3	01 871033, 08984508	nest@malawi.net	6,000,000.00	Printing of elections booklet

Registration Periods

District #	District Name	Constituency	# of Centers	Estimated # of registrants	RP1		RP2	RP3	RP4	RP5	RP6
					18- Aug	31- Aug					
001	CHITIPA	Chitipa East	28	15559							
		Chitipa South	28	17869							
		Chitipa Central	41	37272							
		Chitipa North	19	27987							
		Chitipa									
		Wenya	18	13186							
		5	134	111873							
002	KARONGA	Karonga North	34	60066						36	
		Karonga North West	26	50802						34	
		Karonga Central	15	23236						19	
		Karonga Nyungwe	17	22536						18	
		Karonga South	20	30479						24	
		5	112	187119							
003	RUMPHI	Rumphi East	15	15971							16
		Rumphi Central	22	36015							27
		Rumphi West	32	42294							32
		Rumphi North	17	18525							18
		4	86	112805							
004	NKHATABAY	Nkhata Bay North	16	17316							17
		Nkhata Bay	14	18421							
					15						

006	KASUNGU	Kasungu North Kasungu North North East Kasungu West Kasungu North West Kasungu South Kasungu South East Kasungu East Kasungu Central Kasungu North East	16 28 38 16 33 24 24 24 15 218	25581 41686 57647 33783 45026 36634 45290 57146 20188 362981						18 29 41 20 37 25 29 36 17	
007	NKHOTAKOTA	Nkhotakota North Nkhotakota North East Nkhotakota Central Nkhotakota South Nkhotakota South East	20 19 20 28 29 116	31393 21851 31099 45104 31868 161315						22 21 22 31 29	
008	NTCHISI	Ntchisi East Ntchisi South Ntchisi North Ntchisi North East	24 33 26 14 97	20179 52326 31676 11632 115813						24 36 27 14	

009	DOWA	Dowa East Dowa South East Dowa North East Dowa Ngala Dowa Central Dowa West Dowa North	37 24 18 17 19 29 15 159	39247 44676 34195 37635 41351 65100 27944 290148							37 29 22 23 25 40 18
010	SALIMA	Salima North Salima Central Salima South Salima South East Salima North West	15 37 12 19 19 102	20792 66607 26126 29268 34727 177520						15 46 17 22 23	
011	MCHINJI	Mchinji North Mchinji North East Mchinji East Mchinji West Mchinji South Mchinji South West	19 15 16 19 20 17 106	48812 31577 35255 48654 36443 28728 229469							30 20 22 29 24 18
012	LILONGWE	Mapuyu North Mapuyu South Lilongwe North Lilongwe	27 21 43 19	38944 32302 95438 28167				29 23 65 21			

		Blantyre South West Blantyre City Centre Blantyre Malabada Blantyre City South Blantyre City East Blantyre Bangwe Blantyre City South East Blantyre City West Blantyre Kabula Blantyre West 13	15 5 6 11 10 4 14 12 7 34 164	33925 35500 38842 62267 60098 33000 56474 62974 54100 49104 579485	22 17 18 32 29 16 29 31 26 38						
021	MWANZA	Mwanza Central Mwanza West 2	16 14 30	23739 22625 46364		19 15					
022	THYOLO	Thyolo North Thyolo West Thyolo Central Thyolo South Thyolo East Thyolo South West Thyolo Thava 7	20 15 21 19 25 15 16 131	47096 25260 64034 38301 62001 30463 38851 306006	26 18 37 20 34 18						
023	PHALOMBE	Phalombe South	24	44711							31

[illegible]

Appendix 6: CENTERS THAT RE-OPENED DURING 8TH PHASE

DISTRICT	CONSTITUENCY		NAME OF CENTRE
MZIMBA	MZIMBA SOUTH	1	KANKHOLI SCHOOL
		2	KAMATAWO SCHOOL
	MZIMBA LUWEREZI	3	KANKHOLIKOLI SCHOOL
		4	KANYIKA SCHOOL
		5	KAMWALA SCHOOL
		6	CHAMKOKO SCHOOL
	MZIMBA SOUTH WEST	7	MHLAFUTA SCHOOL
		8	KAKA SC HOOL
	MZIMBA SOUTH EAST	9	MZOMA SCHOOL
		10	MKOMA SCHOOL
	Total for the Region 11 centres	11	CHISAMBO SCHOOL
LILONGWE	LILONGWE MAPUYU NORTH		
		1	KATSUMWA SCHOOL
		2	KADZANI SCHOOL
		3	KAPUDZAMA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 4	4	CHISIKWA SCHOOL
LILONGWE	LILONGWE MAPUYU SOUTH	5	MDZOMBWE SCHOOL
		6	MATUNDULIDZI SCHOOL
		7	CHALIMBA SCHOOL
		8	MPHANDULA SCHOOL
		9	NSELU SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 6	10	CHINKHUTI SCHOOL
LILONGWE	LILONGWE NORTH	11	CHIKOWA UNIT
		12	KAPINGA SCHOOL
		13	KABUNTHU SCHOOL
		14	KAMBIRA SCHOOL
		15	NAMBUMA SCHOOL
		16	KALONGA SCHOOL
		17	CHIOKO SCHOOL
		18	CHIMBAYO SCHOOL
		19	KAMBWA SCHOOL
		20	KAPHERATSOKA SCHOOL
		21	MNGWANGWA SCHOOL

		22	MPHAMBANO SCHOOL
		23	KASANJE SCHOOL
		24	NTHULU SCHOOL
		25	KADYAULENDU SCHOOL
		26	CHISWENTCHE SCHOOL
		27	MDYANYAMA SCHOOL
		28	CHIKUTU SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 18		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE MISOZI SOUTH	29	MWENDAII SCHOOL
		30	BUNDA SCHOOL
		31	KHOMBE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 3		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE NORTH EAST	32	MALOANYAMA SCHOOL
		33	MKWEZA SCHOOL
		34	CHATA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 3		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE CITY WEST	35	MBIDZI SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 1		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE NORTH WEST	36	BONDO SCHOOL
		37	KAZIRE SCHOOL
		38	CHIPALA SCHOOL
		39	TONDE SCHOOL
		40	WAYA SCHOOL
		41	CHILOBWE SCHOOL
		42	KALAMA SCHOOL
		43	KASONJOLA SCHOOL
		44	CHIMIMBA SCHOOL
		45	BANDANGA SCHOOL
		46	CHILOWA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 11		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE SOUTH	47	KAFINYA SCHOOL
		48	CHADZA SCHOOL
		49	KATETE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 3		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE SOUTH WEST	50	NGOWE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 1		
LILONGWE	LILONGWE CITY CENTRE	51	CIVIC OFFICES
	SUBTOTAL 1		
	REGIONAL TOTAL	51	

MWANZA	MWANZA WEST	1	MTSAMIKA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 1		
CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA SOUTH	2	CHINDIOLE SCHOOL
		3	THABWA
		4	FINISH
		5	GONDA
		6	NKHWANGWA
		7	MWANANJOBVU
		8	CHIPAMBANA
		9	NG'OMBE
		10	CHIDYAMANGA
	SOUTH TOTAL 9		
CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA MKOMBEZI	11	GOMA SCHOOL
		12	MWALA SCHOOL
		13	MAKANDE SCHOOL
		14	CHANGA SCHOOL
		15	THEREERE SCHOOL
		16	SAINDI SCHOOL
		17	MALIKOPO SCHOOL
		18	NTOWE SCHOOL
		19	NSENJERE SCHOOL
		20	JOMBO SCHOOL
		21	MSINJA SCHOOL
		22	NKAVU SCHOOL
		23	NKUMANIZA PRIMARY SCHOOL
		24	SINGANO SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 14		
CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA CENTRAL	25	ST MATHEWS PPRIMARY SCH
		26	NCHALO PRIMARY SCHOOL
		27	MWANZA SCHOOL
		28	MWAI SCHOOL
		29	MANDRADE SCHOOL
		30	BEREU SCHOOL
		31	KALIMA SCHOOL
		32	MLOMBA SCHOOL
		33	MTHUMBA SCHOOL
		34	DYERATU SCHOOL
		35	MVIVI SCHOOL
		36	NDAKWERA SCHOOL
		37	MBEWE COURT
	SUBTOTAL 13		

CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA NORTH	38	KAWAYE SCHOOL
		39	KAPICHIRA SCHOOL
		40	GAGA SCHOOL
		41	NJEREZA SCHOOL
		42	MFERA SCHOOL
		43	CHIKWAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL
		44	MIKOLONGO SCHOOL
		45	FOMBE SCHOOL
		46	MKUDZI SCHOOL
		47	CHIKONDE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 10		
CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA EAST	48	NKHATE SCHOOL
		49	BODZA SCHOOL
		50	MCHACHA SCHOOL
		51	TSAPA SCHOOL
		52	MPAMA SCHOOL
		53	PHIMBI SCHOOL
		54	MAPELERA SCHOOL
		55	PAKAMWA SCHOOL
		56	NGWENGWE SCHOOL
		57	OLEOLE SCHOOL
58	NYANGU SCHOOL		
59	LEZA SCHOOL		
	SUBTOTAL 12		
CHIKWAWA	CHIKWAWA WEST	60	GOLA SCHOOL
		61	KANZIMBI SCHOOL
		62	MWANAALIRENJI SCHOOL
		63	MAMINE (MTEMERA) SCHOOL
		64	KUNYONDO SCHOOL
		65	KUBALALIKA SCHOOL
		66	CHANGOIMA SCHOOL
		67	PHWADZI SCHOOL
		68	DZINTHENGU SCHOOL
		69	NGONA HEALTH CENTRE
70	CHANG'AMBIKA SCHOOL		
	SUBTOTAL 11		
NSANJE	NSANJE SOUTH	71	LULWE LEA SCHOOL
		72	NJIDZA SCHOOL
		73	LULWE SCH. FOR THE BLIND
		74	KAMPHATA HEALTH
		75	NANSONGOLE

		76	CHITOMENI VILLAGE
		77	MANKHOKWE CDSS
		78	MANKHOWE SCHOOL
		79	NYAMBIRO SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 9		
NSANJE	NSANJE SOUTH WEST	80	GALAFA SCHOOL
		81	NDIONE SCHOOL
		82	MBANG'OMBE SCHOOL
		83	KHULUBVI SCHOOL
		84	NYANJIWA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 5		
NSANJE	NSANJE CENTRAL	85	LENO SCHOOL
		86	MGUNDA SCHOOL
		87	MULAKA SCHOOL
		88	NYAMIJETI SCHOOL
		89	MPEPE SCHOOL
		90	MGOZA SCHOOL
		91	MPATSA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 7		
NSANJE	NSANJE LALANJE	92	MAGOTI SCHOOL
		93	NKHADZI SCHOOL
		94	PHOKERA SCHOOL
		95	LALANJE SCHOOL
		96	DANDE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 5		
NSANJE	NSANJE NORTH	97	SANKHULANI SCHOOL
		98	NANTIBULE SCHOOL
		99	NAMILEMBE SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 3		
NENO	NENO SOUTH	100	LIGOWE SCHOOL
		101	MKAVU SCHOOL
		102	KANDONJE U5 CLINIC
		103	CHULUCHAMANKHWALA SCHOOL
		104	MPUNGA SCHOOL
		105	MLINDI SCHOOL
		106	NKULA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 7		
NENO	NENO NORTH	107	MPAKATI SCHOOL
		108	MUONEKERA SCHOOL
		109	MPIMBI SCHOOL
		110	NCHOKADALA SCHOOL

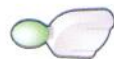
		111	NENO MISSION
		112	THAVA SCHOOL
	SUBTOTAL 7	113	CHIKONDE
	TOTAL CENTRES TO REOPEN	175	

ICT Overview of the PPE Results Data Capture and Aggregation Stages with Integrated Fax Redundancy

Tony Farnum. Version 25-Mar-09 3:30pm

STAGE 1

POLLING STATION
(3,899 POLLING STATIONS WITH APPROX 7,000 STREAMS)



Polling Station Presiding Officer

STREAM₁
(UP TO 1,200 VOTERS)



Assistant Presiding Officer



Parliamentary Ballot Box



Staff & Monitors



Results Capture Clerks

STREAM₄
(UP TO 1,200 VOTERS)



Assistant Presiding Officer



Parliamentary Ballot Box



Staff & Monitors



Results Capture Clerks

STAGE 2

END OF COUNT

- Presiding Officer affixes a copy of each of the signed Parliamentary & Presidential results to the Polling Station
- Presiding Officer takes results & polling materials to the Constituency Returning Officer using MEC transportation



Monitors
(own transportation)



Single Result Sheet
(Parliamentary)



Polling Station Presiding Officer

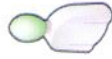


Single Result Sheet
(Parliamentary)

STAGE 3

RECEIPT OF POLLING STATION RESULTS
(193 CONSTITUENCY RETURNING OFFICERS AT APPROX 30 LOCATIONS)

CONSTITUENCY₁



Constituency Returning Officer



Parliamentary & Presidential Results



Polling Station Presiding Officer



Staff & Monitors



Results Capture Clerks

CONSTITUENCY₁₉₃



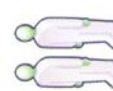
Constituency Returning Officer



Parliamentary & Presidential Results



Polling Station Presiding Officer



Staff & Monitors



Results Capture Clerks

STAGE 4

RESULTS TRANSFER

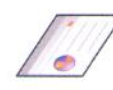
Constituency Returning Officer:-

- Receives Polling Station results & faxes copies to the National Results Centre
- Checks aggregated Constituency Results against the individual Poll Station results & displays them

- Results Capture Clerk:-
- Captures Poll Station results, validates the numbers, & prints out captured results for verification & signature by Constituency Returning Officer
 - Scans in the results forms & prints copies for monitors



PPE Poll Station Results



Fax



PPE Poll Station Results Data & Scanned Image



PPE Poll Station Results Data & Scanned Image

STAGE 5

RESULTS AGGREGATION & DISPLAY

District Elections Coordinator:-

- Receives aggregated Constituency results from Constituency Returning Officer
- Checks aggregated District results (Presidential & Party) against Constituency results & displays them

Commission:-

- Approves the polling station results

MEC HQ ICT:-

- Validates the entered polling station results at the constituency, district, regional, and national levels
- Displays the results on MEC's intranet to approved users
- Can display the results on the internet



National Results Aggregate



Regional Results Aggregate



District Results Aggregate



Constituency Results Aggregate



Polling Station Results

EMSAAGREGATIONLEVELS

STAGES OUTLINE – ICT PROCESSES WITH ELECTORAL SERVICES INTERFACES

Stage 1, Polling & Results compilation as specified in the Electoral Services Polling Station Manual. ICT interest only in the Parliamentary Results sheet and the Presidential Results sheet. There will be 3,899 Parliamentary and 3,899 Presidential results sheets nationwide.

Stage 2, Results transfer to the Constituency Returning Officer as specified by Electoral Services. Results and Polling Station materials are transported by MEC from each Polling Station to the Polling Station's Constituency Returning Officer. Constituency Returning Officers will be housed at one location at the District level; District Commissioner's Chamber, Boardroom, Community Hall, etc.

Stage 3, Receipt and verification of polling station results as specified by Electoral Services. In addition to the results verification by the Constituency Returning Officer, the ICT Results Capture Clerks capture the results sheets data and scan in the results forms. Printouts of the scanned in forms and their entered polling station results with any validation comments (predetermined and generated if for example the totals are not accurate) are given to the Constituency Returning Officer for review. These can also be handed to party monitors for as copies for their records.

Stage 4, Results transfer to and from the National Results Centre. The Constituency Returning Officer faxes the polling station results to the National Results Centre for display as specified by Electoral Services. The ICT Results Capture Clerk sends the scanned copy of the results and the entered results to MEC HQ ICT. The results are extracted from the forms using ICR technology and matched to the entered data. If there is a mismatch this is referred to Electoral Services for resolution. When all of the polling station results are received at MEC HQ ICT, these are aggregated and a copy is sent to the Constituency Returning Officer for verification against the polling station results. Once satisfied that the summary is accurate, the Constituency Returning Officer signs and faxes the Constituency Results Summary to the National Results Centre. The National Results Centre informs MEC HQ ICT that the constituency results summary has been published and ICT reflects this status for the constituency, prints out a report with the new constituency results status, and provides the Commission with a printout of the constituency results and all of the supporting polling station results.

Stage 5, Results Aggregation. Once Constituency Results summaries are received for all constituencies in a district, a District Results Summary is generated and sent to the District Elections Coordinator for verification and display with the supporting Constituency Summary results for the district. District Summary Results are then rolled up to the Regional level and then to the highest national one.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RE PROPOSED ICT SOLUTION

Q.1. "What happens if a location fails to capture the polling station results data and results forms, or is unable to transmit the results from the location?"

The results will be captured from the faxed polling station results forms using a double entry system at MEC ICT. Two Results Capture Clerks will enter the results from the faxed results form without seeing the data entered by the other clerk. Where the entered data does not match the same Stage 4 process as used for resolving discrepancies between field entered and ICR extracted data takes over. Stage 5 processes continue as outlined.

Q.2. "What happens if the supplier does not have enough time to deliver the hardware to support the work at the locations?"

The integrated fax redundancy backup will be used and MEC would procure additional fax machines instead for the remote sites. The process will follow the answer to Q.1. above. Results Capture Clerks will be deployed at MEC HQ or the National Results Centre to capture the results as they would have done in the field. ICT will use the data corrections machines for this. The printed reports as outlined in Stage 4 will be faxed to Constituency Returning Officers.

Q.3. "What happens if communication between the field and MEC HQ is lost?"

In addition to the integrated fax redundancy backup, 3 different methods of communication are proposed all pay on demand based. The primary method uses a local ISP/cell phone company solution. The next level uses an external to Malawi communication method to protect against loss of local communications capacity. And the third method employs a dial-up method.

Q.4. "Does Malawi have the infrastructure capacity to transmit the results data in a timely manner?"

ICT and supplier tests confirm that one sided page results in a file of 50 to 100Kb. Assuming a double sided page for Parliamentary results and a single sided page for Presidential results, each polling station results forms image data will be 300Kb. The entered data will be small so together with the 3 forms the total transfer is 400Kb for polling station result. Nationally the total data to be transmitted over the 30 locations will be 1,600,000,000 bytes or less than 60MB per location spread over 48 hours. This is quite small relatively speaking.

Q.5. "How does MEC build confidence in the results module among the political parties and stakeholders?"

MEC invites the political parties and other stakeholders to a technical meeting within the next week or two to discuss the solution after the outline is sent to them, and to participate in tests at the locations and the National Results Centre over the first 2 weeks in May-09.

Appendix 8: LIST OF SUCCESSFUL PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES

2009 GENERAL ELECTIONS- PARLIAMENTARY RESULTS

DISTRICT	CONSTITUENCY	NAME	GENDER	AFFILIATION
001 CHITIPA	001 EAST	MSUKWA Kezzie Kasambala	M	INDEPENDENT
	002 SOUTH	MUGHOGHO Chipimpha Chimango	M	INDEPENDENT
	003 CENTRAL	MSONGOLE Luwi Alinuwila	M	DPP
	004 NORTH	MASEBO Aladin Nickson	M	DPP
	005 WENYA	MUNKHONDYA Godfrey Mudulansi	M	INDEPENDENT
002 KARONGA	006 NORTH	GHAMBI Vincent Winston	M	DPP
	007 NORTH WEST	MWANGONDE Beatrice Nankhonde	F	DPP
	008 CENTRAL	MWALWANDA Cornelius Thomson	M	INDEPENDENT
	009 NYUNGWE	MSISKA Khwauli	M	AFORD
	010 SOUTH	CHEMBE Munthali Glad	M	DPP
003 RUMPHI	011 EAST	THINDWA Albert G M Doza	M	DPP
	012 CENTRAL	CHIRAMBO Moses C Prof	M	DPP
	013 WEST	MKANDAWIRE Jatula E Austin	M	DPP
	014 NORTH	MSISKA Tasokwa Caseby	M	DPP
004 NKHATA BAY	015 NORTH	CHIUME Ephraim Mganda	M	DPP
	017 CENTRAL	KAUNDA Symon Vuwa	M	DPP
	018 WEST	CHIUMIA Grace	F	DPP

	019 NORTH WEST	KAWECHE David Yohane	M	DPP
	020 SOUTH EAST	MPHANDE David Kapenyera Prof	M	DPP
	021 SOUTH	BANDA Eta Elizabeth Prof	F	DPP
005 MZIMBA				
	022 MZUZU CITY	MWANZA Peter Nelson Prof	M	DPP
	023 NORTH	GONDWE Goodall Edward	M	DPP
	024 NORTH EAST	HARA Gotani Catherine	F	DPP
	025 WEST	KAUNDA Billy	M	INDEPENDENT
	026 SOUTH	SHAWA Paul	M	INDEPENDENT
	027 CENTRAL	MKANDAWIRE Donton Samuel Job Prof	M	DPP
	028 HORA	NGWIRA Christopher S M Rev	M	INDEPENDENT
	029 LUWELEZI	NYIRENDA Bofomo Immanuel Dr	M	DPP
	030 SOLORA	MWANZA Patrick Akimu	M	DPP
	031 EAST	SHAWA Abbie Marambika	M	DPP
	032 SOUTH WEST	KACHALI Khumbo Hastings	M	DPP
	033 SOUTH EAST	SHABA Rabson Chihaula	M	DPP
	034 NORTH	SHABA Mcjones Mzondi Mandala	M	DPP
	035 NORTH NORTH EAST	NKHATA Grenner	F	DPP
	036 WEST	JERE Otria Moyo	F	DPP
	037 NORTH WEST	MTEYA Moses Arthur Chingaibe	M	DPP
	038 SOUTH	CHIMBALU Vasco Mtunduwaatha	M	INDEPENDENT
	039 SOUTH EAST	BOKOSI Grayson Khamba	M	DPP
	040 EAST	BANDA Grenenger K Msulira	M	DPP
	041 CENTRAL	KANDODO Ken Edward	M	DPP
	042 NORTH EAST	MTENDERE Augustine Gracewell	M	DPP
006 KASUNGU				

007 NKHOTAKOTA	043 NORTH	BANDA Chimunthu	M		DPP		
	044 NORTH EAST	LIWIMBI Daniel	M		DPP		
	045 CENTRAL	BANDA Edwin	M		MCP		
	046 SOUTH	CHILUMPHA Kasimu Dr	M		INDEPENDENT		
	047 SOUTH EAST	CHATIPWA Mandebvu Agness	F		INDEPENDENT		
		SONGAZAUDZU Wictor Badala Sajeni	M		DPP		
008 NTCHISI	048 EAST						
	049 SOUTH	CHILAPONDWA Jeremoth Ulemu	M		DPP		
	050 NORTH	BIMPFI Herbert Josiya	M		DPP		
	051 NORTH EAST	MBUZI Geoffrey Henock	M		DPP		
009 DOWA	052 EAST	MANNAH Bauleni Jimmy	M		DPP		
	053 SOUTH EAST	CHITSAMBA Petros Hastings	M		DPP		
	054 NORTH EAST	Mwanza Thotho Leckford	M		DPP		
	055 NGALA	GAWANANI Cara Ewart	M		DPP		
	056 CENTRAL	KALIRANI Jean Alfazema Nachika	F		DPP		
	057 WEST	KAYEMBE Abele Ephraim	M		MCP		
	058 NORTH	CHIKUSA Benjamin	M		INDEPENDENT		
010 SALIMA	059 NORTH	YONA Kaphamtengo C. H. B	M		MCP		
	060 CENTRAL	MANGIRA Benjamin Benzani	M		DPP		
	061 SOUTH	MUSSA Uladi	M		MPP		
	062 SOUTH EAST	KUFUNA Killioti	M		MCP		
	063 NORTH WEST	KANKHWANI Deriah	F		DPP		

011 MCHINJI	064 NORTH	MAZOMBWE Rachel Zulu	F	MCP
	065 NORTH EAST	CHITETE Alex	M	MCP
	066 EAST	CHISALE Solomon Thokozani Ellen	F	DPP
	067 WEST	MWALE Theresa Gloria	F	DPP
	068 SOUTH	WALUZA Jerome Gervazio	M	INDEPENDENT
	069 SOUTH WEST	BANDA Leobin Mussa Francis	M	DPP
012 LILONGWE	070 MAPUYU NORTH	CHIWOKO Christina Winnie	F	DPP
	071 MAPUYU SOUTH	NJOBVUYALEMA Joseph	M	MCP
	072 NORTH	MALIPA Bazilio LuniaTitus	M	MCP
	073 MSOZI SOUTH	DZOOLE Mwale Vitus Gomamtunda	M	MCP
	074 MSOZI NORTH	KAMANYA Godfrey	M	INDEPENDENT
	075 KUMACHENGA	BONDO Maurine Katani	F	MCP
	076 NORTH EAST	THYOLERA Lefani Maxwell	M	MCP
	077 CITY WEST	BHAGWANJI Edwin	M	DPP
	078 MPENU NKHOMA	BANDA Azizi Joyce	F	INDEPENDENT
	079 MPENU	NGOZO Makala Watson	M	MCP
	080 SOUTH EAST	GWENGWE Willard Alfred	M	MCP
	081 EAST	CHING'OMA Ezekiel Peter	M	MCP
	082 CENTRAL	LOWE Lobin	M	MCP
	083 CITY CENTRAL	JONAS Shadreck	M	DPP
	084 NORTH WEST	CHAFUKIRA Fillimon Ishmael	M	MCP
	085 CITY NORTH	KALERO Jolly Saweta Dyson	M	INDEPENDENT
	086 SOUTH WEST	SENDEZA Jean Muonaowauza	F	MCP
	087 CITY SOUTH EAST	PENUMLUNGU Agnes Namndau	F	DPP

	088 CITY SOUTH WEST	ADAM Wells John	M	DPP
	089 MSINJA NORTH	CHALERA Peter Stanley Patisi	M	MCP
	090 MSINJA SOUTH	BELEKANYAMA Kambewa Waidon Lingson	M	MCP
	091 SOUTH	MTHYOKA Patson Kachingwe	M	MCP
013 DEDZA	092 NORTH	CHILONDOLA Patrick Zebron	M	MCP
	093 CENTRAL	GWENGWE Sosten	M	MCP
	094 SOUTH WEST	MLOMBWA Clement Claude	M	MCP
	095 NORTH WEST	MENYANI Wodala Alekeni	M	MCP
	096 EAST	CHIKAONDA Hyacinta Palingana	F	DPP
	097 SOUTH	TEMBO John Zenus Ungapake	M	MCP
	098 WEST	CHINKHONDO Phillippo	M	MCP
	099 CENTRAL EAST	MKOMBA Mc Steyn Swithin	M	MCP
014 NTCHEU	100 NORTH EAST	CHIMULIRENJI Everton Herbert	M	DPP
	101 BWANJE NORTH	KAMWENDO Steven Stafford	M	DPP
	102 BWANJE SOUTH	KANYUMBA Grandson Lucious	M	DPP
	103 CENTRAL	CHINGOLA Vincent Jones	M	DPP
	104 SOUTH	CHIMALIRA Damson	M	DPP
	105 NORTH	LIPANDE Shadreck Assan	M	DPP
	106 WEST	HIWA Chikumbutso John	M	DPP
015 MANGOCHI	107 NORTH	MATOLA Ibrahim	M	UDF
	108 NORTH EAST	MWECHUMU Alfred Mkwanda	M	UDF
	109 MALOMBE	AJINGA Hilalie Hassan	M	UDF

110 MANGOCHI EAST	MDAYA Abubakar	M	UDF
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111 SOUTH	ASIBU Shamil	M	UDF
112 SOUTH WEST	CHIWAYA Clement Terence Dr	M	UDF
113 CENTRAL	LALI Mahmudu	M	UDF
114 NKUNGULU	AIPIRA Stephen Leonard	M	INDEPENDENT
115 WEST	JOOMA Ralph Pachalo	M	DPP
116 MONKEY BAY	MAKUMBA Abdallah Shabani	M	INDEPENDENT
117 LUTENDE	YAKITI Malisie Moffat	M	UDF
118 MASONGOLA			
119 CENTRAL EAST	MPAWENI Auifi Yaumi	M	UDF
120 NORTH	MASEKO Gertrude Hendrina	F	DPP
121 WEST	PILLANE Nasrin	M	DPP
122 SOUTH	NNENSA George	M	MAFUNDE
123 NORTH EAST	MULUZI Atupele	M	UDF
124 CENTRAL	KALIATI Shaibu	M	UDF
125 CENTRAL EAST	YAHAYA Ernest	M	UDF
126 EAST	KAMU Kenneth Thomas	M	UDF
127 SOUTH	KAMBA Harry Fabiano	M	UDF
128 LIKWENU	JANGIYA Mwalone	F	UDF
129 SOUTH EAST	NDOMONDO Wilson Rev	M	UDF
130 NSONDOLE	CHILUNGA Jenipher Deborah	F	DPP
131 THONDWE	SINGANI Lemani Annie Anambewe	F	DPP
132 CHINGALE	CHIRWA Chijere Phiri Lonnie	F	DPP

	133 CHANGALUME	MASEKO Grace Zinenani	F	DPP
	134 LISANJALA	LUKA Enock Elias	M	DPP
	135 MALOSA	BANDA Joyce	F	DPP
	136 NTONYA	MASANGWI Ted Salule	M	DPP
	137 CENTRAL	MUSSA Yunus	M	DPP
	138 LIKANGALA	KHWEPEYA Mac Ronald John Table	M	INDEPENDENT
	139 CHISI	MANGULENJE Chizalo Peter	M	INDEPENDENT
019 CHIRADZULU				
	140 SOUTH	KAZEMBE Eunice	F	DPP
	141 CENTRAL	KASAMBWE Mononga Philomena	F	INDEPENDENT
	142 NORTH	MAUWA Roka Margaret	F	DPP
	143 EAST	MUSSA Henry	M	DPP
	144 WEST	NAMATUMBO George	M	DPP
020 BLANTYRE	145 NORTH	PHISO Francis Lucky	M	DPP
	146 NORTH EAST	CHAZAMA Bwanali Emily Cecilia	F	DPP
	147 RURAL EAST	PHOYA Henry Duncan	M	DPP
	148 SOUTH WEST	MPHANDE Juliana Nanyoni	F	DPP
	149 CITY CENTRAL	PENDING BY-ELECTION		
	150 MALABADA	SANGALA Aaron Mpusya	M	DPP
	151 CITY SOUTH	KUNKUYU Moses Kalonga Shawa	M	INDEPENDENT
	152 CITY EAST	BANDE John Francis	M	DPP
	153 BANGWE	SHABA Mpofu Henry	M	UDF
	154 CITY SOUTH EAST	NTELEMUKA Jefrey	M	DPP
	155 CITY WEST	GOWELO Thomie Trasizio	M	DPP
	156 KABULA	NJAWALA Felix	M	INDEPENDENT

	157 WEST	GAMAH Wells Mari Rungfuss	M	DPP
021 MWANZA	159 CENTRAL	DAUSI Nicholas Harry	M	INDEPENDENT
	160 WEST	CHIBINGU Zakalia Jackson Paul	M	DPP
022 THYOLO	162 NORTH	KALINDE Annita	F	DPP
	163 WEST	MCHACHA Charles Thomson	M	DPP
	164 CENTRAL	NAMAKHWA Kingsley Sostins	M	DPP
	165 SOUTH	NAPOLO Eunice	F	INDEPENDENT
	166 EAST	MUTHARIKA Peter Prof	M	DPP
	167 SOUTH WEST	CHIYEMBEKEZA Allan James Dr	M	INDEPENDENT
	168 THAVA	NAWENA Lifred Lapuken	M	INDEPENDENT
023 PHALOMBE	169 SOUTH	NYADANI Daveson Feyala Therethere	M	INDEPENDENT
	170 CENTRAL	MULLI Felton	M	DPP
	171 NORTH	KACHIKHO Anna Andrew Namathanga	F	DPP
	172 EAST	LIPENGA Ken	M	DPP
	173 NORTH EAST	THAMANGA Douglas Jonas	M	DPP
024 MULANJE	174 SOUTH EAST	BONONGWE Benson	M	DPP
	175 SOUTH	MUHEYA Richie Biswick	M	DPP
	176 CENTRAL	NANKHUMWA Kondwani	M	DPP
	177 LIMBULI	NIHORYA Nkhoma Fraser	M	DPP
	178 BALE	LUKA David Richard Lupiya	M	DPP
	179 SOUTH WEST	CHAPONDA Thapatula George Dr	M	DPP

	180 PASANI	NOWA Cephas Peter	M	DPP
	181 WEST	KALIATI Patricia Annie	F	DPP
	182 NORTH	NAMACHA Stephen	M	DPP
025 CHIKAWA	183 SOUTH	TEMBO Joseph	M	DPP
	184 NKOMBEZI	MIA Mahommed Sidiki	M	DPP
	185 CENTRAL	MALIRO Mlaka Bernadetta	F	INDEPENDENT
	186 NORTH	MALUNGA Grain Wyson Philip	M	DPP
	187 EAST	CHIRWA Ragson Kamunda	M	INDEPENDENT
	188 WEST	ZINGALE John	M	INDEPENDENT
026 NSANJE	189 SOUTH	NTUPI Gloria Irine	F	DPP
	190 SOUTH WEST	FARAMENGA Vera Chilewani	F	DPP
	191 CENTRAL	KASAILA Francis Lazalo	M	DPP
	192 LALANJE	GANDA Sam	M	DPP
	193 NORTH	VIYAZYI Frank Elias	F	DPP
027 LIKOMA	016 LIKOMA ISLANDS	THUNDU Olivia Anita	F	INDEPENDENT
028 NENO	158 SOUTH	KACHERE Reen Bessie	F	DPP
	161 NORTH	TEMBO Gladys Benson	F	DPP

PENDING BY-ELECTION