



National Electoral Commission – [NEC]

OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown
Sierra Leone



PRESS STATEMENT

15th October 2012

Nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential

Parliamentary Candidates

The National Electoral Commission successfully conducted nominations for Five Hundred and Eighty Six (586) Parliamentary candidates. There is no reported case of objection to candidates during the Parliamentary nomination.

Presidential and Vice-Presidential Candidates

Nine (9) Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates were nominated for nine (9) out of the ten (10) registered political parties in Sierra Leone. All Presidential candidates nominated are male (100%); and of the nine Vice-Presidential candidates nominated, Five (5) are male (55%) and four (4) are female (45%).

Destruction of Obsolete Election Materials

Destruction of obsolete election materials including invalid voter ID Cards from the Exhibition phase will take place on Saturday 20th October 2012 in all the districts nationwide. Political parties, the security, electoral observers and the media are invited to observe the process.

Procurement of Election Materials

Procurement of both sensitive and non-sensitive materials is in progress. The Commission has started receiving some non-sensitive materials from the various vendors.

Setting up of Regional and District tally centres

The Commission is on the verge of completing the setting up of Regional Tally Centres in Bo, Makeni and Kenema. These centres will be used to tally results for the various elections that will be conducted in 2012 in each region which will fast track the announcement of the 17th November 2012 elections. Provision is being made for the Western Region Tally Centre at the Wellington premises.

Electoral Education

In order to increase public awareness of the electoral process the Commission has embarked on the following electoral education strategies:

- Holding regular forums for stakeholders including the Political Parties Liaison Committee Meeting (PPLC);
- Organising regular press conferences on NEC updates;
- Engage Ward Electoral Education Committee members (WEEC) for dissemination of elections messages in all 394 wards nationwide;
- Design and produce copies of elections messages on voting steps which will be aired on SLBC TV and other media outlets as well as video centers nationwide;
- Design and Produce banners and posters on elections messages on the voting steps which will be posted at strategic places nationwide;

Start of Campaign Period

As already declared, campaign officially starts on 17th October 2012 and ends on 15th November 2012. Political parties, Candidates and their supporters and other stakeholders are advised at all times to abide by the Code on Election Campaign Ethics, Code of Conduct for Political Parties Registration Commission, and all relevant laws.

Signed:

Dr. Christiana Thorpe
Chief Electoral Commissioner/Chairperson
National Returning Officer