



Media *release*

13 April 2017

Media briefing on the audit of the Register of Voters

- 1 On 31 March 2017, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) engaged KPMG Kenya (KPMG) to conduct the audit of the Register of Voters in accordance with Section 8A of the Elections Act.
- 2 In a detailed briefing to the media held on 13 April 2017, KPMG shared the approach and methodology for the audit as well as an update on Stakeholder engagement which is an integral part of KPMG's approach to the audit.
- 3 The detailed briefing noted that the audit of the Register of Voters is being carried out against a backdrop of mistrust and past mischief attributed to the Commission, the Register of Voters, and Political players. In the engagement with Stakeholders so far, it has been alleged that in the past, the Register of Voters was used to perpetuate mischief in the electoral process. The audit is therefore expected to build public trust in the Register, and inspire confidence that the Register can provide a foundation for credible, free, fair and peaceful elections.
- 4 KPMG's approach and methodology is founded on the Constitution, Election laws, and laws relating to population and citizen data. KPMG explained that the methodology's primary purpose is to secure the sovereign power of the people of Kenya as provided in Article (2) of the Constitution, political rights under Article 38, and verify accuracy against the criteria for registration as a voter set out in Article 83, as read together with Article 260 and Article 12.
- 5 KPMG is carrying out a detailed review of the legal framework governing voter registration, documenting the systems and processes used in voters registration, verifying every single entry in the Voters Register against data on IDs, Passports as well as the Register of Births and Deaths. KPMG will also review the biometric data and using proprietary software and systems, identify duplicates and any incomplete data in the register. In addition using the Register of Deaths, KPMG will identify any deceased persons and recommend their striking off from the Register. Using details from the Register of Births, IDs and Passports, KPMG will also carry out analytics to identify any underage voters who may be in the Register. Using population data, KPMG will also analyse the extent to which the Register reflects the diversity of Kenya whether by age, gender, geography and marginalised groups.
- 6 The audit process will conclude with a report on findings, exceptions and recommendations which will be submitted to the IEBC for implementation and submission to the National Assembly and the Senate in accordance with the law.
- 7 The IEBC is expected to present the updated Register to the electorate 90 days before the elections, i.e by 10 May 2017, for the electorate to validate their details including biometric data. It is expected that this process will inspire confidence



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that the Register is sufficiently accurate to serve as a foundation for credible, free and fair elections.

- 8 The Stakeholder engagement process is expected to keep Kenyans informed of the audit process and to equip them with the knowledge and understanding they need to have greater trust in the process.
- 9 KPMG has so far met with representatives of Political Parties, the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), and a group of Civil Society representatives under the banner Kura Yangu Sauti Yangu.
- 10 KPMG will continue to reach out to other key Stakeholders and provide regular public briefings on the process.

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