



INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS AT THE NATIONAL POST ELECTION EVALUATION WORKSHOP HELD ON THE 12TH-16TH MAY 2014 AT KASKAZI BEACH HOTEL IN MOMBASA

Observe protocol

Ladies and Gentlemen I wish to take this earliest opportunity to once again thank each and every one of you in a very special way for your undivided dedication and commitment thus far to the work of the Commission through the General Election and finally through this integral stage of the electoral cycle, the post-election evaluation. When we came here we had our goals set and that was to have opportunity to interrogate ourselves. We needed to understand what worked as planned, what did not work, where the gaps were, what we could have done better and what valuable lessons we drew in readiness for future.

At the end of this three days of successful deliberations, we all need ask ourselves whether we have achieved this goals. Will our deliberations inform this valuable changes proposed for our future plans? And what new lessons do we draw from each other?

I did mention at the opening of this forum that this post-election evaluation process is a very important part of the election process and an activity within the electoral cycle. The culture of self-evaluation and continuous improvement which the Commission has been endeavoring to foster is a major reform aimed at realizing a better functional capacity. Not as the media reported the other day that this forum was convened in the wake of calls for the Commission to be disbanded. Creating a wrong impression that our action was a face-saving knee-jerk reaction to political utterances. The reality is that this was a planned activity within the electoral cycle and we are grateful to our partner UNDP for coming to our support.

Ladies and Gentlemen the spirit of team work was demonstrated at every stage of this process with many issues and valuable lessons been

drawn from many of us. Brilliant ideas have been floated and you will all agree with me it has been such an eye opener. I am inclined to say we have the best and most experienced election officers this country has ever had.

I urge all of us to embrace this valuable lessons and take them back to your respective Regional and constituency offices. They need to inform our future plans and preparations for the next general election. As we will all realize there is much to accomplish before we can truly say we have achieved our mandate.

As the Commission we have heard you and I want to ensure you that nothing said here of practical importance will be thrown to the gutters. We are purposed to leave a legacy in the electoral process in Kenya and world over and am happy to note that we are all in the same boat.

However I wish draw the veil and emphasize on the importance of collaboration and communication within ourselves. You realize with communication we save a lot and issues can be mitigated at the very

initial stages before they escalate to complicated stages. It emerges that we might have to invest heavily on the Commission and its stakeholders who are gathered here today.

Moving forward **ladies and gentlemen** we are expected after going through this process, that we will now be privy to and understand what we did and what remedies we need to embrace and actualize. The outcomes of this meeting as documented shall bore a report to be shared with all of you as the key stakeholders for your input and ownership. The proposed amendments shall be incorporated in the final report. This will further inform amendments to our Strategic plan for next financial year 2014-2015. We could have implemented a number of reforms thus far but it's time to transform.

I commit myself to making sure that the Commission facilitates in the necessary support required to ensure the next General Election we are not only ready but very ready. With those few remarks I wish to declare this meeting officially closed.

THANK YOU

GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU