



CCMG CALLS FOR STRICT ADHERANCE TO ELECTORAL CODE OF CONDUCT IN THE FORTH COMING MONGU MAYORAL BY-ELECTION

PRESS RELEASE

8 April 2022

(For Immediate Release)

The Christian Churches Monitoring Group (CCMG) trained and deployed 16 Long-Term Observers to observe the Pre-Election environment for the Mongu mayoral by-election. The observers have provided weekly updates to the CCMG Secretariat on the electoral environment preceding Election Day. For poll day, CCMG has trained and will deploy 146 election monitors plus 16 roving monitors to be stationed at 146 polling stations for the Mongu mayoral by-elections slated for Tuesday 14th April, 2021.

CCMG calls on all aspiring candidates and political parties to play their role in ensuring peaceful and credible election by adhering to the prescribed campaign schedule as published by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to prevent clashing and harassment of party supporters at all party campaign events and meetings.

“We call on all contesting candidates, political parties and their supporters to adhere to the Electoral Code of Conduct and the campaign schedule in order to prevent clashing during campaigns, we call on political parties, candidates and their supporters to adhere to Covid-19 guidelines and measure put in place to mitigate against the spread of the virus,” said Fr. Emmanuel Chikoya.

We call on the Electoral Commission of Zambia to enforce the Electoral Code of Conduct without fear or favor in order to discourage members of rival political parties from instigating confrontations and to prevent any confrontations from escalating to violence during campaigns period. CCMG also calls on the Zambia Police Services to provide equitable security to all political parties during their campaign events and actively prevent potential acts of violence and investigate

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any such acts and ensure that perpetrators and instigators of violence are dealt with within the provisions of the law irrespective of political affiliation.

“The Police have a primary responsibility to maintain law and order and to provide protection to property and lives of all citizens, we expect that the police will demonstrate the highest level of professionalism in the application of the Public Order Act and ensure a peaceful and non-violent election in Mongu District,” Fr Emmanuel Chikoya added.

The Police are also reminded to protect journalists and citizens as well as avoid at all costs the use of force. Furthermore, CCMG calls upon the media to be professional and impartial during the discharge of their duties especially during the campaign period. We call on CSOs, FBOs and the Church to play an active role in providing voter education in order to enhance the participation of women, youths and persons with disabilities.

It is worth noting that based on our LTO reports, there are no reports of violence or violations of the Electoral Code of Conduct thus far. We, therefore, commend all stakeholders for maintaining peace and complying the Code and encourage you all to maintain a calm environment in Mongu District ahead of the polls.

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CCMG -Steering Committee

Fr. Emmanuel Chikoya, CCZ
CCMG – Steering Committee Chair

Fr. Francis Mukosa, ZCCB
CCMG – Steering Committee Member

Bishop Andrew Mwenda, EFZ
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