



MALAWI ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DECLARATION OF RESULTS FOR:

- Zgeba Ward, Karonga Nyungwe Constituency
- Mbalachanda Ward, Mzimba Central Constituency
- Lifupa Ward, Kasungu West Constituency
- Kandeu Ward, Ntcheu North East Constituency
- Lisanjala Ward, Machinga Likwenu Constituency
- Blantyre North Constituency
- Thyolo East Constituency

8TH OCTOBER, 2014, BLANTYRE

- My fellow Commissioners,
- The Chief Elections Officer, Mr Willie Kalonga
- All candidates and representatives of various political parties
- Members of the Diplomatic Corps
- Representatives of various Civil Society Organisations
- Management and staff from MEC secretariat
- Members of the press
- Ladies and gentlemen;

We had by-elections in five wards and two constituencies on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. Today, October 8, 2014 we gather here to give the official results that have been determined by the Commission.

I want to thank God Almighty for sustaining us this far. God has been very faithful to us since we launched the by-elections on 25th August 2014.

As you are aware, Thyolo East Constituency fell vacant because the winner also won on the Presidential race. As per electoral laws, he could not hold both positions but choose one.

For Mbalachanda Ward it is because ballot papers were misallocated during the Tripartite Elections. For rest of the wards and Blantyre North Constituency the elections were postponed because of deaths of candidates.

Today, I am pleased to report that in fulfilling its mandate, the Commission conducted by-elections to fill the vacancies in the two constituencies and five wards.

In the by-elections, the Commission started with a stakeholders' meeting and launch held simultaneously in the wards and constituencies on August 25, 2014. Then, there was registration and voter verification exercise which ran from September 4 to 8, 2014. This registration offered an opportunity to register those who had attained the age of 18 after the May 2014 elections or would attain the polling age by October 7, 2014 the polling date. Those who were already registered were supposed to inspect their details in the voters' roll. From this exercise, a total of 2,273 people registered for the first time in all the seven areas.

Since August 25, 2014 the Commission allowed aspiring candidates to collect nomination forms or to write a letter affirming their interest to stand, if they were already nominated in postponed elections. The nominations papers were received on September 9, 2014 and in total there were 40 candidates of which only three were females.

The Commission attempted to encourage women participation by giving a 25 percent discount on the nomination fees. Without fear of contradiction, everyone will agree with me that the number of female candidates could have been higher than the three we had.

All stakeholders have a responsibility of encouraging women participation in elections as candidates. We have next elections in 2019 and this is the right time to start institutional and system reforms that will support women participation. Women help make democracy happen by registering in large numbers and they should complete the good work by also contesting in elections.

Distinguished Commissioners, Ladies and Gentlemen, official campaign in these by-elections commenced on September 10 and in accordance with the electoral laws, all campaign activities ended at 6AM on October 5, 2014. I should take the opportunity to thank all contesting candidates, political parties and their followers for maintaining peace, calm and practicing civilized and issue-based campaign. There was no recorded incident of violence or intimidation perpetrated by candidates or their followers. The Commission also monitored the conduct during campaign by the candidates and political parties. We commend the behavior that has been demonstrated. I should also thank traditional leaders for hearkening to the call to treat all candidates impartially. There is no complaint registered with the Commission bordering on misconduct or mischief of traditional leaders.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, these by-elections are just coming a few months after holding the Tripartite Elections. I wish to commend all Commissioners and staff for the wonderful job done to see to it that the polls are a success. Once again congratulations.

I also wish to thank all the District Commissioners and Chief Executives, the District Elections Supervisory Teams, the Multiparty Liaison Committees and all stakeholders in all the councils for working hard despite other pressing office responsibilities. I should also thank the civil society organizations and of special mention, the National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE) for contributing to the success of the elections. Apart from conducting voter education meetings, NICE has managed to hold debates across the country in the run up to these by-elections. You deserve a special thank you for that. The debates helped the electorate to know their candidates better.

I would also like to applaud all media houses that have been covering the polling process and worked around the clock to update listeners. For the polling exercise, let me single out Zodiak Broadcasting Station for keeping the nation informed throughout the process.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, let me thank UNDP and all donors supporting the basket fund for providing funds for the printing of ballot papers in South Africa. We do not take that support for granted.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, the by elections were generally held in a peaceful atmosphere from the launch up to polling.

There was of course one isolated case in Blantyre North at Lirangwe polling station where genuine voters were thought to be not eligible but it was resolved although unfortunately the affected persons did not vote. They were trying to avoid threats of violence that were being expressed by some monitors.

I wish, however to express concern over the turn out. It is very disappointing considering that the Commission mounted extensive civic and voter education in the by electoral areas. The Commission held mobilization meetings at the group village headman level, loud hailers were all over the place in the areas, posters and leaflets were distributed, announcements and messages in both print and electronic media and also the presence of NICE activities which included debates. It is now time we asked colleagues in the academy or research institutions to conduct a research on the causes of voter apathy in the country.

Another area of concern ladies and gentlemen is affirmative action. In all the seven races, there is no woman representative elected. It is indeed time as some circles have been advocating that there is need to review our laws to accommodate the election of women in positions of authority. If it is not a change of electoral system, a provision can be put in the law to facilitate the election of at least one woman in each district. The women form 52 per cent of our voter population and there need special recognition in the representation.

Declaration of Results

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I will now proceed to declare the results. Voting in the by-elections took place on October 7, 2014 from 6AM to 6PM in all polling stations. There were no official complaints lodged and the Commission has declared the by-elections free, fair and credible. The Commission has, therefore, determined the results as follows:-

- **Zgeba Ward, Karonga Nyungwe Constituency**

Zgeba Ward had five candidates. With a total of 9,576 registered voters, 3,914 registered voters turned out. This represents 40.87% voter turnout. There were 38 null and void votes. This represents 0.97%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Jonathan Jody M. Matandala, Independent, 610 votes
2. Spencer Jona Mwalweni, Independent 325 votes
3. Gibson Mulwa, Peoples Party (PP) 699 votes
4. Ganyavu Ngwira, Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) 1,585 votes
5. Victor Connex Nthara, Malawi Congress Party (MCP), 657 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Ganyavu Ngwira** of the **Democratic Progressive Party** Winner of the October 7, 2014 Local Government Elections in **Zgeba Ward** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Ganyavu Ngwira** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Mbalachanda Ward, Mzimba Central Constituency**

Mbalachanda Ward had three candidates. With a total of 18,484 registered voters, 5,383 voters turned out for polling. This represents 29.12% voter turnout. There were 40 null and void votes. This represents 0.74%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Palipose John Chipeta, PP, 326 votes
2. Moses M.J. Kamanga, DPP, 2579 votes
3. Davis C.K. Manda, Independent, 2438 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Moses M. J. Kamanga** of the **Democratic Progressive Party** Winner of the October 7, 2014 Local Government Elections in **Mbalachanda Ward** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Moses M. J. Kamanga** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Lifupa Ward, Kasungu West Constituency**

Lifupa Ward had six candidates. With a total of 24,153 registered voters, 4219 registered voters turned out for polling. This represents 17.47% voter turnout. There were 46 null and void votes. This represents 1.09%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Giff Magwalangwa Banda DPP, 1407 votes
2. Mathias Chimowa Banda MCP, 449 votes
3. Samson M.B.C. Banda, United Democratic Front (UDF), 41 votes
4. Jairos K. Bonongwe Independent, 2134 votes
5. Josophat Kadzkalowa Kasese Independent, 79 votes
6. Shadrack Keith Phiri PP, 63 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Jairos K. Bonongwe, Independent**, Winner of the October 7, 2014 Local Government Elections in **Lifupa Ward** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Jairos K. Bonongwe** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Kandeu Ward, Ntcheu North East Constituency**

Kandeu Ward had seven candidates. With a total of 18,789 registered voters, 2277 registered voters turned out for polling. This represents 12.12% voter turnout. There were 23 null and void votes. This represents 1.01%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Andrew Alexander DPP, 491 votes
2. Raynox Master, Gobede Independent, 346 votes
3. Dave Kachingwe, New Labour Party (NLP), 46 votes
4. Harold Jones Liwonde, MCP, 607 votes
5. Francis Doba Gama Maliro, UDF , 415 votes
6. Gabriel Edward Misomali, Independent, 225 votes
7. Stanly Duma Siyasiya, PP, 124 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Harold Jones Liwonde** of the **Malawi Congress Party**, Winner of the October 7, 2014 Local Government Elections in **Kandeu Ward** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Harold Jones Liwonde** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Lisanjala Ward, Machinga Likwenu Constituency**

Lisanjala Ward had nine candidates with a total of 13,120 registered voters, 4111 registered voters turned out for polling. This represents 31.33% voter turnout. There were 47 null and void votes. This represents 1.14%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Ashraf Tepani Botha, Independent, 1056 votes
2. Davy F.C Chitedze, Independent, 1510 votes
3. John Chipojola Dyton, Independent, 227 votes
4. Suzen Yasin Gama, PP, 59 votes
5. Loveness Katembo, Independent, 131 votes
6. Richard Matenje, Independent, 226 votes
7. January Sozibele, Independent, 16 votes

8. Chancy Often Tiwale, DPP, 414 votes
9. Charles Mbewe Thomondo, UDF, 425 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Davy F.C Chitedze, Independent**, Winner of the October 7, 2014 Local Government Elections in **Lisanjala Ward** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Davy F.C Chitedze** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Blantyre North Constituency**

Blantyre North Constituency had six candidates. With a total of 38,959 registered voters, 14485 registered voters turned out for polling. This represents 37.18% voter turnout. There were 255 null and void votes. This represents 1.76%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. Wyson Dominic Makungwa, Independent, 694 votes
2. Willy Chikaiko Maulana, MCP, 131 votes
3. Paul Jonas Maulidi PP, 2071 votes
4. Aubrey Mokwacha, Independent , 52 votes
5. Caleb Charles Ng'ombo, UDF, 900 votes
6. Francis Lucky Phiso, DPP, 10382 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Francis Lucky Phiso** of the **Democratic Progressive Party**, Winner of the October 7, 2014 Parliamentary Elections in **Blantyre North Constituency** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Francis Lucky Phiso** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

- **Thyolo East Constituency**

Thyolo East Constituency had four candidates. With a total of 54,762 registered voters, 8173 registered voters turned out for polling. This represents 14.92% voter turnout. There were 76 null and void votes. This represents 0.93%. The results of the voting are as follows:

1. January Chewasi Bwanali, Independent, 1756 votes
2. Florence Bertha Chisanga, MCP, 145 votes
3. Elisha Joel Milanzi, Independent, 703 votes
4. Gerson Timothy Solomoni, DPP, 5493 votes

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I, Justice Maxon Mbendera, SC, do hereby declare Candidate **Gerson Timothy Solomoni** of the **Democratic Progressive Party**, Winner of the October 7, 2014 Parliamentary Elections in **Thyolo East Constituency** By-Election.

On behalf of the members of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the Malawi Electoral Commission, I congratulate Candidate **Gerson Timothy Solomoni** on the occasion of his victory in the By-Election.

On behalf of the Commission, I congratulate the winners and wish them well. The electorate have entrusted you with these positions basing on your campaign promises. My advice is that this is a contract and do not betray the trust. You should work hard to fulfill their promises. As you celebrate your respective victories, you should do so responsibly. For those who did not make it this time around, there is still another chance in 2019. Accept defeat gracefully.

At the end of the day, it is democracy that has won.

May God Bless you All.

Bless Mother Malawi

I thank you for your attention.