

Media statement

Development partners congratulate the people of Malawi for turning out in large numbers to choose their leaders through casting their vote in the tripartite elections. We commend the voters for their patience and calm. Development partners welcome the preliminary observer statements which suggest that the polling process was generally up to regional and international standards, including the counting at the polling center level despite considerable challenges. We await the final assessment of the electoral process by the observers when the electoral process is completed.

Development partners welcome the joint statement issued yesterday by MEC, MHRC, CMD and MESN which was endorsed by political parties. We particularly welcome the commitment by all to give MEC the space, time and support needed to complete the tallying process in a transparent manner and with accuracy. We also take note of the commitment made by parties not to declare themselves winners before MEC announces the official results. Should political parties have any complaints, we encourage them to abide by the MEC complaints mechanism.

We are deeply concerned about reports that the Director General of MBC has been sent on enforced leave and the perceptions this creates. We appeal to all, in particular the political parties, to support the Malawi Electoral Commission and its Chair at this critical stage in the electoral process. We take note of the commitments made for acceptance of results and urge all to stay calm throughout the electoral process to ensure that the voice of the Malawian electorate is heard.

British High Commission

Delegation of the European Union to Malawi

Embassy of Ireland

Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway

Embassy of the United States of America

United Nations system in Malawi