

ZIMBABWE ELECTION SUPPORT NETWORK



ZESN CALLS FOR EXPEDITIOUS APPOINTMENT OF ZEC COMMISSIONERS

27 June, 2016 – The Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) is calling for the expeditious appointment of the six commissioners of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), whose interviews were held on the 9th of June, 2016. It is imperative for the new commissioners to be sworn in immediately given the limited time before the 2018 harmonised elections and the number of electoral reforms and processes that need to be implemented before the elections.

The posts became vacant following the expiration of terms of six Commissioners on the 31st of March namely; Mrs Joyce Kazembe, Mr Daniel Chigaru, Mr Theophilus Gambe, Dr Petty Makoni, Mrs Sibongile Ndlovu and Mrs Bessie Nhandara.

ZESN notes that an independent Commission led by persons of high integrity and proven technical abilities in election management is crucial to the holding of credible, free and fair elections in Zimbabwe. Therefore individuals who are non-partisan and have a proven track record of integrity, competence and experience in the conduct of affairs in public management and elections in particular must be appointed to fill in the vacancies.

The ZEC is currently seized with a number of critical issues to implement, such as the voter registration model to be adopted and will benefit from a full quorum of Commissioners. “The appointment of ZEC Commissioners must be done forthwith to enable the Commission to prepare for the elections effectively. There are a number of processes that ZEC must complete before the 2018 elections such as media reform, reviewing of voter education methodologies, the creation of a conducive electoral environment as well as the adoption and implementation of a sound voter registration model that electoral stakeholders accept and have confidence in,” said ZESN Director Rindai Chipfunde Vava.

ZESN reiterates its calls for the government to speed up alignment of electoral related laws with the Constitution to ensure the creation of a democratic electoral environment and processes that guarantee the respect and enjoyment of universal suffrage and fundamental freedoms. ZESN remains committed to the promotion of democratic elections in Zimbabwe.

PROMOTING DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN ZIMBABWE

ZESN Director: +263712415902

Zesn2011@zesn.net / info@zesn.net or visit www.zesn.org.zw

Facebook Page: Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN)

Twitter Handle: @ZESN1