



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **BVR Update**

#### **1. Results of the BVR exercise**

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has conducted Biometric Voter Registration where approximately 5,43 million voters were registered as at April 2018. During the entire course of the exercise, the Commission published the BVR statistics on its website, at <http://www.zec.gov.zw/>.

#### **2. Security of the BVR data**

The ZEC has an established data centre where BVR data is securely stored. Both physical and technical access is restricted to authorised ZEC personnel only.

#### **3. Cleaning of the BVR data**

The Commission is currently correcting data entry errors made by the Voter Registration Officers. Examples of the errors found in the data cleaning exercise include voters assigned to the wrong polling stations, duplicate IDs and typographical errors.

#### **4. The de-duplication and adjudication process**

BVR is a method of registering voters which encompasses capturing of demographic, biometric and delimitation data. The Commission will use the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) to identify multiple registrations. All records identified as duplicates will undergo an adjudication process to analyse and deliberate on the action to be effected.

However, an amendment on removal of duplicates has been tabled before Parliament through the Electoral Amendment Bill which is still under consideration.

#### **5. Compilation and Inspection of the Provisional Voters' Roll**

The Commission is looking forward to come up with a Provisional Voters' Roll (PVR) in the month of May 2018 which will be ready for inspection

from 19-29 May 2018. It is referred to as Provisional Voters` Roll because it may undoubtedly contain some errors that the public may pick out for correction during inspection before it is gazetted as the final voters roll. In fact, the inspection of the provisional voters` roll is in itself a cleaning process as it will assist in removing errors related to addresses, date of births, wrong ID numbers, polling station postings and names.

An exemption list shall be published and printed alongside the Provisional Voters` Roll to educate and give registrants an opportunity to rectify any anomalies.

The Commission will display polling station specific Provisional Voters` Rolls at all established polling stations where all those who registered from 14 September 2017 to 6 April 2018 are encouraged to confirm their registration and their details during the inspection period.

Continuous voter registration during inspection will be at provincial, district and ward centres.

The Commission plans to make the Provisional Voters` roll easily accessible through the use of:

### **Bulk SMS**

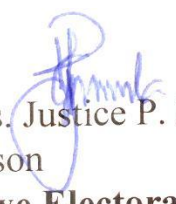
The ZEC will send sms messages to all registrants who provided valid cellphone numbers confirming their demographic data and polling stations.

### **Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) Code 265**

USSD is a protocol used by cellular telephones to communicate with the service provider`s computers, including a prepaid call-back service which is what the ZEC will use up to Election Day.

The BVR technology for now is for voter registration purposes only and will not be used during polling.

The Commission is therefore encouraging eligible registrants to register at all ZEC provincial and district offices.

  
Hon. Mrs. Justice P. M. Chigumba  
Chairperson  
**Zimbabwe Electoral Commission**