



GLENVIEW SOUTH BY- ELECTION REPORT: 2- 8 SEPTEMBER 2019

1. Introduction

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) conducted an Election monitoring mission for the Glenview South By-Election held on the 7th of September 2019. ZHRC commenced monitoring of this By-Election from the 3rd to the 8th of September 2019. A total of 10 ZHRC monitors conducted the exercise, led by the Chairperson, Commissioner Dr E.H. Mugwadi and 2 Commissioners, Dr E. Sithole (the Deputy Chairperson) and Commissioner Pastor P. Chiriseri. The ZHRC monitors formed 3 teams led by a Commissioner. A total of 9 candidates (2 females and 7 males) were contesting for the seat. On polling day the teams succeeded in observing all the 27 polling stations within the Constituency. The Glenview South Constituency voters roll was comprised of 20 338 registered voters, only 5 250 votes were cast compared to 17 446 during the 2018 harmonised elections¹.

¹ ZEC report, as reported in the Herald on 8 September 2019.

The monitoring of the By-Election was conducted in line with the Constitutional mandate granted to ZHRC, in terms of Section 243(1)(b) and (c) of the Constitution². The report is informed by the findings made by the ZHRC through the pre, during and post By-Election monitoring exercise. Owing to limited human and financial resources, the ZHRC undertook pre monitoring 4 days before By-Election Day and the post monitoring was only conducted for a day on the 8th of September 2019. During the monitoring phase ZHRC engaged various stakeholders inclusive of the candidates, political party agents, Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) officials, Zimbabwe Republic Public Police (ZRP) and the public. Overall the ZHRC assessed that the electoral environment was calm, the By-Election was conducted in a fair manner. ZHRC did not observe any incidence or violence. Moreover, the ZHRC did not receive any complaints on human rights violation relating to the By-Election.

2. Objectives

- 2.1.** To assess the electoral environment, ensuring the observance of human rights and freedoms.
- 2.2.** To monitor the political parties compliance to electoral procedures.
- 2.3.** To develop a report with recommendations to relevant authorities of electoral processes.

3. Methodology

The ZHRC employed the following methodology techniques:

- 3.1. Media reports:** ZHRC monitored the media reports related to the Glenview South East By-election in print media, television and social media platforms during the pre-By-Election stage.
- 3.2. Observation:** In observing and assessing the electoral environment the ZHRC monitors made reference to the Constitution Amendment (NO.20) Act 2013 and national legislation such as the Electoral Act [Chapter 2:13] that stipulates electoral processes of Zimbabwe.

² To promote the protection, development and attainment of human rights and freedoms and to monitor, assess and ensure observance of human rights and freedoms;

- 3.3.** Follow-up on issues that were noted through the media monitoring function of the ZHRC, as well as seeking clarity on allegations that may have been raised by different interviewees being directed to the relevant stakeholders to respond.
- 3.4. Engagement Meetings:**
- 3.4.1. Engaged ZEC:** ZHRC dialogued with ZEC officials³; to be informed on preparedness for the By-Election, challenges faced and recommendations for future improvement.
- 3.4.2. Engaged the ZRP:** ZHRC monitors engaged the police commanding the constituency who were; the Officer In Charge of Glenview Police, the Deputy District Police Officer, telephonic conversation with the Harare Provincial Officer, telephonic conversation with the National Police spokesperson as well as police details manning the 27 polling stations visited by ZHRC. The discussions were centered on ascertaining any issues of public order in the constituency. ZHRC also sought to find out if there were any cases reported to the police connected to the Glenview South Constituency By-Election.
- 3.4.3. Consulted political parties⁴:** ZHRC dialogued with candidates or party representatives. ZHRC interacted with 8 out of the 9 candidates or their political party representatives. These interactions were aimed at gathering information on any issues affecting the political parties during the electoral period, challenges encountered, their assessment of the complaints mechanisms and recommendations on areas that need improvement in future electoral processes.
- 3.5. Consulted the public:** ZHRC interacted with the public⁵, assessing their perceptions on the electoral processes, addressing any human rights issues they witnessed affecting the electoral environment, and comments on areas that need improvement in the future.

³ ZHRC interacted with the Constituency Elections Officer, the Deputy Constituency Elections Officer, three senior members of ZEC, and Elections Presiding Officers at all the 27 polling stations in the Constituency.

⁴ ZHRC managed to interact with the following parties; (in order of how these interviews were conducted)- MDC A, Independent Candidate P.C. Ndengu Negombwe, ZANU PF, LEAD, The UANC, UANC, ZAPU and Free Zim Congress.

⁵ ZHRC interacted with citizens at the shopping center such as Makombva, Glenview 1, 3 and 4 shopping centers. ZHRC also talked to people attending and coming from the ZANU PF distribution programme on the 5th of September 2019.

- 3.6.** Interaction with other Election observers⁶ in the Constituency. This aimed at exchanging notes and identifying areas of best practices as well as providing recommendations on any areas noted.

4. Obstacles Encountered in Monitoring the By-Election

In carrying out the monitoring exercise, ZHRC encountered the following obstacles;

- 4.1.** The ZHRC commenced the monitoring exercise of the By-Election only 4 days before the election and ended a day after the casting of the votes (2-8 September 2019). Thus, any events that transpired outside the above stated period have not been reported by the ZHRC.
- 4.2.** The ZHRC did not manage to get detailed feedback on issues that it raised with police. The District Officials indicated that they had not received any instructions from their superiors to communicate with ZHRC. It was also evident that some of the Officials were ignorant of the ZHRC mandate and its role in election monitoring. The ZHRC Chairperson made an effort to contact the National Spokesperson for the ZRP and the Harare Provincial Officer, who expressed their appreciation of ZHRC's mandate and gave a greenlight for the District officials to assist ZHRC. Nevertheless, the District officials insisted that they were under a directive that all issues raised by the ZHRC should be put in writing and sent to the Police Headquarters. It was also indicated that all communications to do with human rights issues occurring in the Constituency should be addressed to the Police Headquarters. Hence, it was difficult for ZHRC to address any human rights violation allegations that could have transpired throughout the electoral cycle. Therefore, this report is absent of any information gathered from consultations with the ZRP.

⁶ ZHRC had an interface with Election observers from the Zimbabwe Elections Support Network (ZESN), Zimbabwe Youth Council (ZYC) and the Zimbabwe Youth in Tourism (ZYT).

5. Findings

5.1. Electoral Environment

Section 155 (1) of the Constitution provides that elections must be held in a peaceful, free and fair manner, and that they should be free from violence and other electoral malpractices. Information gathered from different stakeholders during the reporting period indicated that the environment was peaceful and calm. Reports from all the candidates engaged confirmed this assertion. The campaign Manager for the ZANU PF party highlighted that;

“This is one of the most peaceful elections that one can talk about. We remain indebted to ZEC for working very hard in educating all of us (contesting political parties) on the code of conduct for elections. We have managed to co-exist very well. We have not heard of any inter-party violence in regards to this election. Our people are showing great political maturity”.

Despite the fact that the ZRP refused to be engaged on further information on the electoral environment they indicated that the constituency was peaceful, since the proclamation of the By Election. ZEC further stated that they had not received any reports on election related violence, through its interface with stakeholders in the Multi Party Liaison Committee (MPLC) meetings. Moreover, the public interviewed by the ZHRC, equally indicated that there was peace in the Constituency. The community were busy with their businesses as usual and the highlighted that they had not experience any incidents of election related violence as was encountered in the past.

5.2. ZEC Preparedness for the By Election

ZHRC noted that ZEC was prepared for the By-Election. From the 4th of September 2019, ZHRC witnessed the training of polling officials, election agents and the police which took place at Glenview 4 Primary School. Through the interaction held with some of the trainees, it was evident that there was an understanding of how to execute their different roles during the By Election. ZEC indicated that it was conducting a classroom based training, in order to manage a smaller number, with each presiding officer and his/her team rehearsing together at once.

A day before polling day ZHRC observed that voting material at the 27 polling stations was in order. ZHRC applauds ZEC for continuously embracing inclusivity in its processes, such as providing for voting booths for persons with disabilities across all polling stations. ZHRC also witnessed that Glenview South Constituency polling stations displayed their signature clearly. Placards for directions to polling stations were placed in every direction and easy to identify. Moreover, political party representatives interacted with indicated that they were all prepared for the By-Election, despite all of them indicating that they faced financial challenges in fully undertaking their campaigns.

5.3. Voter Education

Section 239(h) of the Constitution read with Section 40B of the Electoral Act places a responsibility on ZEC to conduct voter education, disseminating information on elections to the electorate. Through the Multi Party Liaison Committee meetings, ZEC imparted knowledge to political parties on the Code of Conduct and electoral processes with the intention of them to cascade information to their supporters. In as much as political parties confirmed that ZEC shared information on electoral processes through Multi Party Liaison meetings, they were of the view that in future ZEC needs to intensify raising awareness in communities since their visibility in the communities during this By-Election was limited. Some members of the public who were interviewed by the ZHRC monitors established that the presence of voter educators was not as apparent as in previous electoral process, supporting the political parties' notion that ZEC visibility amongst communities was limited.

5.4. Voters Roll Inspection

ZEC informed the ZHRC that before the undertaking of the By-Election a Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) clean up exercise of the voters roll was undertaken and some changes were effected. The most significant change was the removal of approximately 700 voters who voted in the Constituency during the Harmonised Elections in 2018 and equally an approximate of another 700

voters who did not vote in the constituency, had been added to the voters roll⁷. ZHRC monitors were further informed that a total of around 5 334 changes had been made to the voters roll. ZEC stated that these changes had been shared with stakeholders during the Multi Party Liaison meetings. Moreover, these changes were Gazetted by ZEC for public consumption.

Section 21 of the Electoral Act provides for the inspection of the voters roll, and that it is a public document. Further Section 21(1) of the Electoral Act, allows voters roll inspection by members of the public to check whether their personal details are captured correctly, and if not to have the mistakes rectified. Further the inspection exercise assist in voters to identify their respective polling stations. During a meeting with the ZEC Constituency Elections Officials, it was stated that political parties had been provided with a soft copy (placed on a disc) of the voters roll, enabling them to inspect it.

However, some political parties were disheartened that ZEC did not give the public an opportunity to inspect the Voters Roll. MDC A⁸ mentioned that the voters roll inspection was not conducted. ZEC was said to have stated that it would post the Voters Roll at polling stations before the polling day. The aspiring candidate for MDC A stated that through his party's perusal of the Voters Roll, they noticed that some people had been shifted from the Constituency, and some were still in the constituency, but changed polling stations. He was concerned that this had the risk of deterring the electorate from voting once they fail to find their names at their usual polling station and not attempt to search for their name at other polling stations.

ZANU PF's⁹ representative comments with regards to inspection of the voters roll indicated that ZEC had provided them with the soft copy of the voters roll on discs, ZEC informed the parties of the changes that were effected since the

⁷ It was reported that some voters who resided around the Glenview 7 , and 4 extension areas, who had voted in the Glenview South Constituency during the Harmonised elections, after the BVR clean-up exercise, the were now belonging to the Zvimba Constituency. There were some from the Amalinda Community, who were registered under Zvimba Constituency, were now belonging to Harare Constituencies.

⁸ ZHRC interacted with the aspiring candidate for the MDC A. Mr V Tsvangirai.

⁹ ZANU PF was represented by its campaign manager, Mr Masara.

2018 harmonised elections. The ZANU PF representative was conversant of some of the changes as he stated that children who had attained the age of 18 years had been added, people who were added by error into the constituency were taken out during the clean-up exercise, those from Glenview 7 extension, and that those who were registered under Zvimba during the previous election now belonged to Glenview South Constituency. He found no problem with the way ZEC had executed the procedure of inspecting the voters roll.

The LEAD party¹⁰ representative on the other hand stated that they did not have much information on the changes factored on the voters roll, since the day the issue was deliberated at the Multi Party Liaison Committee meeting the political party was absent. The LEAD representative indicated that they noticed from assessing the information on the discs that some people were missing, despite such a person having possession of a BVR slip indicating that they belonged to the Constituency. LEAD made remarks that meetings were not sufficient to ascertain the changes that had been made to the voters roll. The political party suggested that in the future ZEC should conduct intensive engagements with political parties and communities in order to enrich understanding of such developments.

The UANC¹¹ party representative stated that with regards to the voters roll inspection, unlike in previous elections, ZEC had omitted to conduct this procedure for the public. He stated that ZEC had indicated to them that they could not carry out the exercise due to the limited timeframe. The UANC representative reiterated that the electorate should have been afforded time to inspect the voters roll. He further stated that one of the major developments was an increase of 2 more polling stations from the previous harmonised elections, resulting in the shuffling of electorate to different polling station to the one they used in 2018.

¹⁰ The party was represented by Mr Simango (Director for elections), Mr Paradza (chief election agent) and Mr Tare (the Chairman).

¹¹ The party was represented by the Chief Election Agent Mr L. Mwende.

On the By Election Day, ZHRC observed that the Voters Roll was clearly displayed outside all the polling stations, voters would check their name and identify their respective polling stations. ZHRC noticed that some people who would have failed to locate their name at one polling stations, were not aware of where they could enquire about their name missing on that specific polling station. ZHRC monitors observed that at least one ZEC official presiding at each of the polling station (comprised of 2 or 3 other polling station) was in possession of a laptop which he or she would use to locate the name of an electorate and redirect them to their respective polling station. However, when ZHRC monitors enquired from the public whether they inspected the voters roll, one woman at Glenview 3 Primary school polling stations stated that she did not hear any call for the public to conduct such an exercise. ZHRC, is of the opinion that ZEC should ensure in future elections that everyone is afforded the opportunity to inspect the voters roll and understand any changes effected to it.

5.5. Freedom of Assembly and Association

Section 58 of the Constitution promotes citizens right to assemble and associate, in line with their choices and that they may not be compelled to belong to an association or attend gatherings contrary to their choices. Feedback received from the electoral body, political parties and communities pointed to the fact that this right had been respected throughout the electoral preparation phase. ZEC reported that through their stakeholder meetings, they had not received any reports in regards to infringement of the right to assembly or association. The Free Zimbabwe Congress candidate, R. Nyamayedenga reported that during her campaigns, she did not encounter any interferences, serve for a few insults by community members who did not have faith in her candidature. The UANC, MDC A, ZAPU and LEAD representatives stated that their supporters would openly express their affiliation without any fear. Campaigns and political party meetings were not disturbed by any opposing political party. ZANU PF party representative also highlighted that the constituency had been very peaceful and tolerant of diverse political differences. He further mentioned that the political party had not encountered any challenges in conducting their activities, neither did they hear reports of any other party complaining of interference. Community members interacted with

around the Makomva business center indicated that people had been free to attend political meetings of their choice. They also stated that even people with known different political views would socialise without any disputes.

5.6. Partisan Distribution of Aid/ Vote Buying

The ZHRC monitors were informed of allegations of partisan aid distribution which could in essence result to vote buying. These allegations were raised by the MDC A, LEAD and one of the Independent candidate. They indicated that ZANU PF had distributed groceries and used state resources to drill boreholes¹² during the electoral period.

The public at Makomva shopping center at the flea market area confirmed that grocery distribution took place at an orphanage close to the police camp, and the programme was stated to be for ZANU PF members only. ZHRC monitors witnessed distribution taking place to people wearing ZANU PF party regalia. Thus, ZHRC consulted two ZANU PF officials about the allegations and they stated that the programme was coordinated by their party, but it did not target party members only. The programme was aimed at supporting the vulnerable members of the community such as widows, the elderly, orphaned and anyone with special needs. Further, even those who belonged outside the Glenview South Constituency such as Glenview North were also benefiting from this programme. ZHRC observed some beneficiaries who had received 375mls of cooking oil, 2kgs sugar and flour. However, the allegations that the food distribution was for ZANU PF political party members alone was trumped after ZHRC consultation with the public who have benefited from the exercise. The ZHRC monitors consulted two elderly women who were coming from the distribution point who confirmed that the exercise was benefiting “*isu machembere and shirikadzi zvisinei nebato* (the elderly and widows regardless of one’s political affiliation)”. ZHRC urges political parties to desist from distributing food aid during the electoral cycle as it could be perceived as vote buying.

¹² This exercise was mentioned to have been carried out through the DDF (District Development Fund) department.

5.7. Violence and Intimidation

Section 133A (*subsections c to e*) of the Electoral Act, defines intimidation (among other things) as causing or threatening to cause unlawful damage to a person's property, or withholding or threatening to withhold from a person any assistance or benefit to which that person is legally entitled; or persuading or attempting to persuade another person that it will be possible to discover one would have cast their vote; as well as illegally doing or threatening to do anything to the disadvantage of a person. Furthermore, Section 155 (1)(d) of the Constitution provides that an election should be held free from violence and other electoral malpractices. During the monitoring mission, ZHRC noted that in as much as there were no reported cases of physical violence, the environment itself confirmed that there was peace throughout the electoral period. Citizens within the constituency were going about with their daily affairs with no disruptions.

5.8. Access to media by candidates

Section 155 (2)(d) of the Constitution provides as follows; *"The State must.....provide all political parties and candidates contesting an election.....with fair and equal access to electronic and print media, both public and private;.."* An independent candidate highlighted that independent candidates were not accorded the same media coverage compared to the presumably major political parties. He indicated that the State and private media were divided along political lines with each covering the ZANU PF and the MDC A parties respectively. He also mentioned that at one point he went to the Herald and Daily News newspapers with his "campaign story", but they just received the article and never published it until the day before elections (the day he was consulted by the ZHRC monitors). He further highlighted that it is costly to have a political advert aired on radio stations. He once enquired for advert fees at Star FM radio station he was advised that it would cost \$250 for a 30 seconds long advert per day. He indicated that this charge was beyond his reach. Other wishful candidates did not raise any concerns on media coverage of the By-Election.

5.9. Experiences of Female Candidates

There were two female candidates contesting in the Glenview South by-Election race, being Rosemary Nyamayedenga for Freezim Congress and Ellah Zisani for the UANC party. ZHRC monitors consulted the chief election agent for The UANC party and Rosemary Nyamayedenga. The feedback received from The UANC party was that their candidate was able to carry out her political activities freely without any harassment or ill-treatment by either the community or fellow contesting candidates. It was also mentioned that even during the stakeholder meetings, their party and their candidate was treated with respect.

Rosemary Nyamayedenga confirmed respect for her and the party during stakeholder meetings and when interacting with fellow contesting candidates. However, she raised concern of insults and name calling by some unruly members of the community whilst carrying out her door-to-door campaigns. She mentioned that they would make remarks such as “what do you have to offer as a woman?” Rosemary also mentioned that her house was entered into by some unidentified intruders, two days before the elections, who stole some of her belongings. She also mentioned that her neighbours told her that they heard the intruders saying that they had arrived at Rosemary’s house. Hence, she alleged that it could have been politically motivated and she was targeted owing to the fact that she was a female candidate. She informed ZHRC monitors that she reported the incident to the police. Despite these incidences, she indicated that the electoral environment for her as a woman had been fair.

5.10. National Clean up exercise scheduled for the 6th of September 2019

ZHRC monitors only learnt of a clean up exercise that was taking place at the Glenview 1 shopping center, on Friday the 6th of September 2019, a day before the election. ZHRC received complaints and witnessed some members of the public wearing the ZANU PF party regalia walking towards the command center. These members were stated to be preparing for the arrival of the President or his delegate to officiate the clean up exercise. The MDCA and the UANC representatives stated that they had raised a complaint with the Constituency Elections Officer, in this regard. They questioned why the

exercise was conducted in a constituency preparing for elections scheduled to take place the following day. Thus, they perceived the clean up exercise as a campaign. Moreover, they indicated that ZANU PF party was contravening the electoral laws which prohibited the convening of political party campaigns 24hours before an election. Mr Negombwe the independent candidate raised concerns about the same incident stating that the timing and location of this exercise was not ideal. In addition he alleged that the clean up exercise was guised as a campaign. He suggested that if the exercise was not linked to the By Elections it should have been conducted in Glenview North Constituency which was not undertaking elections. ZHRC is in agreement that political parties should desist from conducting any political party activities which the public are likely to perceive as a campaign within the 24hr timeframe before a scheduled election.

6. Polling Day

The polling stations opened at the scheduled time of 7am and closed at 7pm. The polling officers were placed at their stations and the material required for voting was sufficient at each polling station. Although there were cases of persons redirected to other polling stations, the coding for the polling stations was clear, minimizing electorate getting lost or uncertain of the polling station where they would vote. In the event that one got lost, Presiding Officers had laptops to look up the person's name on the voters roll, directing them to the appropriate polling station.

The ZHRC monitors noted two disruptive incidents. The first related to ZEC officials cooking in the tent polling station at Glenview Shopping Centre 4 (B). The cooking utensils were blocking two polling booth, disrupting voters. Moreover, cooking in the polling station and using a gas stove in a tent, near cardboard polling booths could risk the outbreak of a fire. The ZHRC recommends ZEC to locate another place for ZEC officials to partake their meals which is not within the polling station.

The second issue related to the use of candles and gas lamps within tent polling stations. For instance, at Glenview 3 Shopping Centre Tent B the ZHRC monitors

observed that the polling station had two gas lamps, one was working whilst the other had a fault. The working gas lamp was not emitting enough light thus, the ZEC officials had resorted to the use of candles which had been placed inside cardboard polling booths. Once again risking the occurrence of a hazard in the event the cardboard caught fire. Therefore, ZHRC recommends ZEC to invest in generators to light up tent polling stations, resorting to safer modes of lighting.

6.1. Turned Away and Redirected Voters

ZHRC noted that there had been a significant number of voters that were either turned away or redirected at most of the polling stations visited. In some instances those that were redirected to their polling stations would completely give up and return back home without voting. ZHRC noted that there were Voters Rolls displayed outside polling stations however, there were no ushers to assist the voters to identify their names or to advise them to check on the next polling stations even where there were several polling stations at one place, such as at Glenview 3 primary school. In the absence of ushers, ZHRC monitors had to assist some electorate in checking their names on the displayed voters' rolls at Glenview 4 and Glenview 9 Primary Schools.

At Glenview 9 (B) Primary school, as at 15:30Hrs, there were 55 voters turned away. The reasons for such were stated to be that the persons were not registered in the constituency or completely not registered or defaced identity documents or that they would be in possession of an invalid identity documents. These incidences point to the gaps in conducting voter education and voters roll inspection with communities. Citizens who interacted with the ZHRC indicated that they had historically voted at the polling station, with some in possession of their registration slips indicating the same polling station. These citizens stated that they were never informed of any changes. As for those that were redirected, the major reasons were that they were either registered in the wrong ward, or that they were registered in the same ward but a different polling station. The challenge noticed by ZHRC in regards to the redirected voters was that some of them would not pursue going to the correct polling station, and chose to go back home. At Glenview 3 Primary school, some voters would just go back home once they fail to identify their names at the displayed voters roll

at just one polling station. Election agents at Glenview 3 (B) shopping center informed ZHRC that there had been a number of swops for polling stations amongst voters. For example, those who used to vote at Glenview 3 tent, during the past election, were redirected to either Glenview 6 primary school or to Chemhanza stadium and vice-versa. This was stated to have caused some of the electorate to give up completely on voting at the By Election.

6.2. Counting Posting of results

Voting ended at 7pm and counting was done as prescribed by the law. ZHRC managed to observe the counting of results at Glenview 4 and 3 primary schools. The counting was conducted in an orderly manner with the electoral officials and agents operating in an agreeable manner. ZHRC did not encounter any complaints in regards to the counting of results. ZEC published polling stations results at all polling stations soon after counting was done. However ZHRC observed that ZEC deviated from the normal procedure of displaying overall results at the Constituency Command Centre. The following morning, 8th September as at 11.00am, ZHRC monitors observed that overall results were not displayed at the Constituency Command Centre, only ward results were displayed at the ward centers.

6.3. ZEC staff welfare issues

The ZHRC received no complaints with regard to staff welfare. ZEC indicated that it had received staff backup from the civil service of its members such as teachers working at the schools used as polling stations. The elections officials stated that they had all the necessary materials to be able carry out their duties effectively during the election. Polling officers were housed at schools where shelter was decent and security was offered by the police. ZHRC recommends in future elections for ZEC to make arrangements for staff in consideration of weather patterns of the day, ensuring that the staff particularly deployed to tent polling stations are working in a conducive environment. For instance, since the By Election day was very cold there was need for the provision of heaters and sufficient lighting for the tents.

7. Conclusion

ZHRC observed that the Glenview South by election was conducted in a peaceful and calm environment. ZHRC urges the citizens of Zimbabwe to maintain such harmony in all future elections. ZHRC applauds ZEC for the work it undertook during the whole electoral period. Furthermore, encouraging the electoral body to take into consideration the different areas that require improvement which formed part of the recommendations for this report. ZHRC also wishes to extend its appreciation to the electoral body, contesting candidates, other observers and the community for the support and cooperation during the monitoring period.

8. Recommendations

8.1. Zimbabwe Electoral Commission

- 8.1.1. Ensure that Voters Roll inspection is conducted and is communicated well on time to all contesting parties and the public.
- 8.1.2. Put in place measures to assist the public in identifying their names on the displayed Voters Roll as well as directing to their specific polling stations.
- 8.1.3. Intensify voter education and awareness raising amongst communities.
- 8.1.4. Locate another place for ZEC officials to undertake their meals which is not within the polling station.
- 8.1.5. Use generators to light up tent polling stations, resorting to safer modes of lighting.

8.2. Political Parties

- 8.2.1. Political parties should make sure that they attend and participate in the Multi-Party Liaison Committee meetings, in order to be aware of the issues affecting the various contesting political parties.
- 8.2.2. Political Parties to adhere to the Electoral code of conduct at all times.

8.3. Parliament of Zimbabwe

- 8.3.1. To consider enacting a law that prohibits distribution of aid once an election is proclaimed, so as to avoid cases of allegations of vote buying and partisan aid distribution.