

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

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Press Statement on Closure of Polling for Village Local Councils 2018

The Electoral Commission appointed 10th July 2018 as polling date for election of Village Local Councils in all the 60,800 villages in Uganda. The polling process commenced this morning and has been successfully concluded. Preliminary reports from the districts indicate that in most areas, registered residents (voters) turned out in large numbers to elect their leaders at the village level.

The Electoral Commission congratulates all those Ugandans who turned up to exercise their right to vote for their leaders and those who have been elected.

The Commission established a Query/Complaints Desk at the Headquarters for purposes of receiving complaints and offering guidance to our officials and members of the general public.

Some of the issues raised at the Desk include persons who did not register in the Village Residents' Register but turned up with National Identity Cards, demanding to vote in the elections. These would not be allowed to vote as per the guidelines for this election;

The Electoral Commission notes that elections had to be called off in some electoral areas mainly because unregistered residents disrupted the exercise when they were turned away. Available data from the field indicates that elections were not held in about 635 electoral areas in the following electoral regions:

No.	Region	Villages	No.	Region	Villages
1.	Albertine Region	58 villages	7.	Central North Region	42 villages
2.	Far Eastern Region	15 villages	8.	Central South Region	24 villages
3.	Kampala Region	127 villages	9.	Northern Region	56 villages
4.	Mid-west/Rwenzori	33 villages	10.	South West Region	31 villages
5.	West Nile Region	07 villages	11.	Kira Region	230 villages
6.	Elgon Region	12 villages	12.	Karamoja Region	0
Total Number of Villages where elections were not held:					635

Arising from the above data, out of 60,799 villages, a total of 635 villages did not hold the elections, which reflects a 99% performance.

The Electoral Commission informs residents in the affected villages that the elections will be held tomorrow Wednesday 11th July 2018, starting at 7:00am.

The Electoral Commission appreciates Ugandan citizens for the smooth conduct of the elections. The Commission further appreciates the field election officials, the Uganda Police Force, and all other stakeholders for the smooth and peaceful conduct of the elections across the country.

Justice Byabakama Mugenyi Simon
Chairperson, Electoral Commission