## THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

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## Press Statement on the Conclusion of Exercise for Display of the National Voters Register and Commencement of Period for Display of Lists of Persons Recommended for Removal from the Voters Register, May 2025

The Electoral Commission informs the general public that the exercise for Display of the National Voters' Register, which commenced on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, ends today, Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025, in the majority of polling stations countrywide.

However, as communicated earlier, for the 620 polling stations, where the commencement of the display of the Voters' Register was delayed due to technical challenges encountered during the production of the registers, the Commission will conduct the display for the full statutory period of twenty-one (21) days. This period is from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, when the display commenced in each of the affected areas. It will be concluded on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

The Commission further designated  $25^{\text{th}}$  April –  $8^{\text{th}}$  May 2025 as the period for display of Voters' Registers for Special Interest Groups (SIGs), namely, the Youths, Persons with Disability (PWD), and Older Persons at the village level. That exercise ended as well.

## There shall be no extension of the Display exercise.

The purpose of the above display exercise was to enable voters to check for the correctness of their particulars on the Voters' Register and to raise objections to the inclusion and/or removal of a voter's particulars from the Register.

During this exercise, the Commission allowed members of the public to scrutinize the Voters' Register and report to the Display Officer, the following categories of persons (if they appear on the Register) for removal:

- a. Those who have died;
- b. Those who are under 18 years of age;
- c. Those who reside or originate from a parish other than the one they are registered in; and,
- d. Those who appear more than once on the Voters' Register.

Furthermore, during this exercise, the Electoral Commission also displayed the lists of citizens of voting age who were registered and verified as Ugandan citizens by the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) under the continuous registration exercise, but who did not indicate their preferred polling stations for purposes of voting. This display was intended to facilitate the assignment of polling stations to these individuals as well.

Following the conclusion of the Display, the Commission shall now proceed to display the lists of all persons recommended for deletion or inclusion by the Tribunal from the National Voters' Register, for a period of ten (10) days, that is, from <u>16<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025</u> at each respective Parish/Ward Headquarter.

The purpose of this exercise is to enable any person who may have been wrongly recommended for deletion to raise an objection to the Parish/Ward Tribunal.

The Parish/Ward Tribunal shall consider and make the final decision concerning recommendations for inclusion, deletion, or correction made by the public.

For avoidance of doubt, the Parish/Ward Tribunal is appointed by the Magistrate of the area, and is comprised of two elders (*of 60 years and above*) one male and one female, and three other members appointed in consultation with political parties and organisations participating in the elections in the area.

At the end of the entire exercise, all returns will be retrieved from the field and recommendations effected by the Electoral Commission. A final National Voters Register for the 2025/2026 General Elections will then be produced.

All complaints arising from the Display Exercise of the National Voters Register shall be addressed to the Returning Officers of the respective Electoral Districts and shall be handled following Article 61(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and Section 15 of the Electoral Commission Act, Cap 140.

At the conclusion of the Parish Tribunal process, the Commission will collect all the data for preparation of the final National Voters Register in time for conducting the first cycle of elections under the General Elections Roadmap, namely, elections of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Committees (Youths, Persons with Disability and Older Persons), which are scheduled for June 2025.

The Commission wishes to remind the public that registered voters can still access and confirm their voting details from the Electoral Commission website: <u>https://ec.or.ug/register</u>.

The Electoral Commission appreciates the support of various stakeholders in the electoral process for their role in mobilising the public to participate in the Display of the Register.

The Commission further reminds all stakeholders to participate in all the electoral activities as scheduled in the Roadmap for the 2025/2026 General Elections.

Justice Byabakama Mugenyi Simon CHAIRPERSON, ELECTORAL COMMISSION