

# Electoral Commission of the so Republic of South Africa



# National and Provincial Elections

2 June 1999

Report

# **Electoral Commission**

# of the

# Republic of South Africa

National and Provincial Elections 2 June 1999 The Electoral Commission is charged by the *Constitution* and the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996,* to manage national, provincial and municipal elections and to publish a report on every such election.

This is the Commission's report on the 2 June 1999 National and Provincial elections.

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Handing over of a certified copy of the first National Common Voters Roll by the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, Dr Brigalia Bam, to the then Deputy President of South Africa at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on 30 April 1999.

### INTRODUCTION

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On 2 June 1999, 16 228 462 South Africans went to the polls to cast their vote in our nation's second democratic general elections. Second generation elections, as they are termed, are regarded as pivotal in a nation's history because they are an indication that the premise of electoral democracy are acceptable and are becoming institutionalised in the political culture of a nation.

The national and provincial elections of 2 June 1999 had the benefit of the experiences of both South Africa's first democratic elections held in April 1994 and the local government elections of 1995/6. Many of the recommendations proposed to Parliament by the Independent Electoral Commission in October 1994 were taken into account in the planning, implementation and management of these elections.

Of significance in the preparations for the 1999 elections, was the creation of the first national common voters roll for all South Africans as required by the *Constitution*. In 9 days, 18 437 954 potential voters applied for registration at 14 650 registration stations throughout South Africa, in itself an indication of the enthusiasm and commitment of both South Africa's voters and political parties. Of the applicants, 18 172 751 were placed on the voters roll.

The registration stations were later transformed into 14 650 voting stations. This number reflects a 40% increase in the number of polling stations used in 1994, an example of efforts to take electoral services as close as possible to the people.

Timely planning and the use of advanced technology, made it possible for the Commission to delimit the country into a large number of voting districts, to register millions of voters, to create the national common voters roll within the available time and to manage the 1999 elections efficiently.

These elections were about entrenching a constitutional democratic culture and electoral processes into our national psyche. Despite the success of these elections, substantial work still remains in refining the electoral processes as well as in preparing for the first municipal elections under the 1996 constitutional dispensation. This report is, therefore, a tribute to the millions of South Africans who empowered themselves by determining their own future on 2 June 1999 and to the temporary and permanent staff of the Commission who worked tirelessly over months to prepare for and successfully manage the elections. We are grateful to the thousands of public servants, local government officials, security personnel and private citizens who assisted with registration, elections and security at the voting stations.

Of special mention are all political parties, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, the business sector, worker's unions, the arts and culture sector, traditional leaders, individual volunteers, government departments and related institutions who gave us their support and the constitutional space towards the delivery of a credible election.

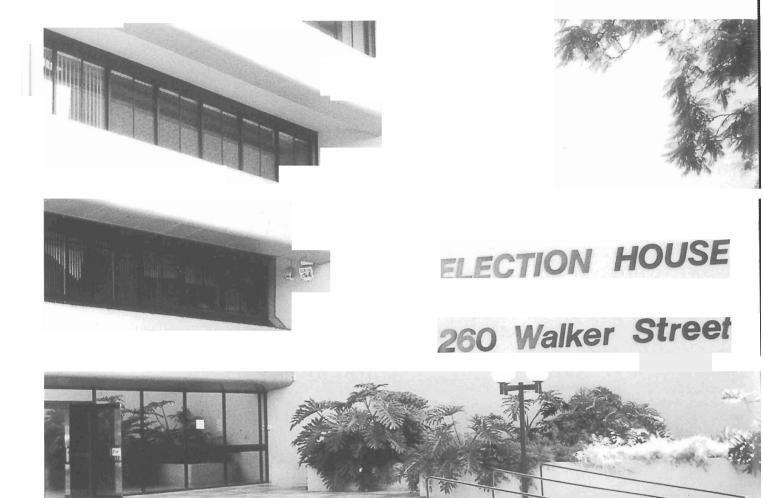
The gracefulness and patience of those voters who stood in queues longer than expected, waiting to exercise their democratic right to vote, was a humbling experience.

We also acknowledge the material and other support received from the international community.

In terms of section 14(3) of the *Electoral Commission Act*, the Commission hereby publishes its report on the national and provincial elections held on 2 June 1999, being satisfied that these elections were free and fair.

DR BRIGALIA BAM CHAIRPERSON

PROFESSOR MANDLA MCHUNU CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER



The Head Office of the Electoral Commission in Pretoria

"The building of the organisation began with the appointment of staff in both head office and in nine provincial offices. The provincial offices were established to ensure a presence in each of the provinces and to attempt to utilise already existent municipal infrastructure as the actual delivery vehicle of the elections themselves."

### **CHAPTER 1**

### **Building the Organisation**

### **Background and History**

The first South African Electoral Commission was established by the *Electoral Commission Act*, *1993* as part of the country's transitional process. That Commission was responsible for administering, organising, supervising, conducting, monitoring and adjudicating South Africa's first democratic elections held from 26 to 27 April 1994. The Local government elections of 1995/6 were regulated and managed by the provincial executives and administrations and co-ordinated by a Local Government Elections Task Group.

An Electoral Steering Committee, was comprised of persons from both the Electoral Commission of 1994 and the Local Government Election Task Group of 1995/6 was established in 1996. This committee was to oversee the functioning and planning of all electoral activities until the appointment of a new Electoral Commission as required by Chapter 9 of the *Constitution*. Through this process, the Electoral Steering Committee developed options for the new Electoral Commission to consider and evaluate upon its establishment, which occurred with the appointment of the members of the Commission in terms of the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996* on 1 July 1997

Section 190 of the *Constitution* describes the three primary functions of the Electoral Commission as being to:

- manage elections of national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies in accordance with national legislation;
- ensure that those elections are free and fair; and
- declare the results of those elections within a period prescribed by national legislation.

### **Appointment of Commissioners**

On 9 July 1997 the President appointed Justice Johann Kriegler, Dr Brigalia Hlope Bam, Ms Thoko Mpumlwana, Professor Herbert Vilakazi and Mr Fanie van der Merwe as the members of the Electoral Commission. Justice Kriegler was designated Chairperson and Dr Bam Vice-Chairperson. During February 1999, Justice Kriegler resigned and Judge Ismail Hussain was appointed as a member of the Commission in his place. The President also designated Dr Bam as Chairperson and Professor Vilakazi as Vice-Chairperson.

### Administration and Staff of the Commission

In terms of section 12(1) of the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996* Professor Mandla Mchunu was appointed as the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) on 1 November 1997. He thus became head of the Commission's administration and its accounting officer in terms of the *Exchequer Act*.

The building of the organisation began with the appointment of staff in both head office and in nine provincial offices. The provincial offices were established to ensure a presence in each of the provinces and to attempt to utilise already existent municipal infrastructure as the actual delivery vehicle of the elections themselves.

During elections the organisation expands to well over 230 000 staff before contracting once again to its core head office, provincial and local personnel.

The management model envisaged was to eventually keep head office as a policy making and strategic management component with registration and voting conducted as far as possible by municipal administrations and with supervisory functions located in provincial offices. Due to the fact that local government was still in the process of transformation, economies of scale, the availability of skilled resources and economic sense, a number of key implementation functions were, however, maintained at head office *e.g.* such as information technology, geographic information systems, procurement, logistics and financial administration. It was thus possible to limit head office staff to 159.

The staff complement numbered 198 in the 9 provincial offices. Of significance was the establishment of 441 local electoral offices with a wall to wall coverage of the entire Republic. In order to reduce costs and cognisant of the enabling provisions of section 5(1)(p) of the *Electoral Commission Act* to "appoint public administrations in any sphere of government to conduct elections", the Commission, through municipal councils, approached town clerks/chief executive officers (CEOs) of municipalities and requested them to take on the responsibility of managing elections in their areas of jurisdiction on an agency basis.

as aThese agents became known as local electoral officers (LEOs). Most municipal officialsersonapproached accepted the challenge and only 20 of the LEOs appointed were not municipal staff.1

Municipal councils were simultaneously enjoined to co-operate in this endeavour. The appointment of town clerks/CEOs as local agents made it possible to utilise the resources of municipalities in the conduct of the elections.

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In accordance with international commercial best practice, many non-core functions, such as financial administration and information technology were outsourced. This process was also occasioned by the Commission's inability to pay market related salaries to skilled technical staff. Additional staff were also in-sourced to boost capacity during peak activity periods. These were most pronounced in the finance, geographic information systems, delimitation, logistics and registration departments.

Experience from 1994 encouraged the implementation of stringent financial, budgeting, asset management and security controls.

Building the organisation occurred concurrently with the planning and implementation of the June 1999 elections. The time frame of two years from the date of appointment of the Commission until the elections proved a daunting challenge. In that time period, the Commission was required to establish its head office, provincial and local infrastructure, delimit voting districts, identify registration stations, undertake a complete registration of the South African populace, compile the national common voters roll, prepare the logistics and train staff for 2 June 1999, educate the voters about the electoral process, manage those elections efficiently and cost-effectively from a central location and announce the results within seven days after voting.

This report details the process involved in preparing for and managing the 1999 national and provincial elections, as well as some of the challenges and achievements on that journey. It is impossible to adequately do justice to the energy and commitment of the Commission's staff at head office, its nine provincial offices, its 441 local offices and at 14 650 voting stations. Each of 220 255 staff probably have stories to tell about the elections and how they contributed to consolidating democracy in our land. No document, no matter how comprehensive will adequately cover their stories and experiences. This document is the perspective of the Commission that is based in Pretoria but had reached out to every corner of South Africa.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Of these 20 LEOs most are private individuals and two are magistrates.

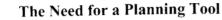


A voting station in Pretoria on election day, 2 June 1999. Pretoria News

"Registration/voting stations were essential during this process, as they would form the basis for both registration and subsequently voting. A voter would be required to register at the same facility where they would later vote in order to minimise confusion and bring certainty to the election process."

### **CHAPTER 2**

### **Voting Districts and Voting Stations**



Significant problems experienced during the 1994 elections related to the lack of a voters roll, perceived unreliable population statistics and a voter's ability to vote at any polling station of her/his choice. This process did not allow for proper planning, provisioning of voting stations, proper allocation of ballot papers, staff assignments, etc. The result was long queues, voting stations running out of ballot papers and in some instances voter agitation.

In 1996 the Electoral Steering Committee, after investigating international trends, recommended the use of a geographic information system (GIS) - an electronic map of South Africa - as the basis for electoral activities. This map would be used to create a system of geographically based voting districts. These voting districts would be used as administrative areas wherein a voter lived, registered and voted.

The requirements of the *Constitution* to create a national common voters roll, mitigated in favour of this idea. A voters roll requires, by and large, that a voter is restricted to a geographic area and the voting district would be an ideal geographic unit for that purpose. A voter who lived in a voting district would register at the single registration/voting station in that voting district, appear on the voters roll segment for that voting district and would return to the very same registration/ voting station on voting day to cast her/his ballot. This proposed voting district system was given statutory sanction in the *Electoral Act*, *1998*.

The first challenge faced by the then Electoral Steering Committee was the lack of and inaccuracy of the GIS data sets for South Africa. Large portions of the country and in particular the former homelands had never been mapped. Together, the Department of Land Affairs, the Electoral Steering Committee and later the Commission, project-managed the creation of a spatially accurate and comprehensive cadastral and topographical GIS data set for South Africa.

The Electoral Steering Committee also joined Central Statistical Services, later re-named Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) as a partner in the project. Together with Stats SA, the Commission managed the capture of approximately 96 500-census enumerator areas (EAs) into the GIS data set and linked the data from Census '96 to the electronic map.



Ident



The project created the first continuous spatial GIS data set as a national asset to be firstly Of utilised as an electoral planning tool, but also to be available as a developmental planning tool for the entire nation. In June 1997 various project teams commenced with the collection, creation, approximilation and quality checking of the geographic data sets with respect to: dis

• topographical data (1:50 000 map series with roads, rivers, contours); Gi

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- approximately 7 million land parcels including rural and urban cadastral data (erven, farm boundaries, streets, etc.); and
- approximately 96 500 census enumerator areas.

In some rural areas global positioning systems (GPS) equipment had to be used to determine the geographical location of census enumerator area boundaries as no maps for such areas existed at the time.<sup>2</sup>

The resulting data sets from the various project teams were combined and different spatial entities (i.e. cadastre and enumerator area boundaries) were aligned in a geographical information system.

The project was completed in 13 months with teams of people working around the clock, seven days a week, to meet the deadline for elections set by the *Constitution*. By international standards, this project was completed in record time.

Upon its formation the Commission took ownership of this project and saw its completion. The GIS tool would not only assist in the delimitation of voting districts but would also evolve into a powerful management system whereby progress in each of 807 municipalities or each of 14 650 voting districts could be tracked by colour coding maps (spatial management reporting).

### **Delimitation of Voting Districts**

The *Electoral Act, 1998* requires eligible voters to be included on the voters roll in the voting district in which they reside. The experience of the municipal elections of 1995/6 proved that it was impossible to register voters and then attempt to place them in the correct geographic areas.<sup>3</sup> It was accordingly decided to first delimit the country into voting districts and then to register voters within their pre-determined voting districts.

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{2}{2}$  During the Census '96 the country was divided into enumerator areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The local government elections required voters to be placed in wards - geographical areas far larger, in most instances, than voting districts.

- Of crucial importance was the idea that each voting district would have only one voting station.<sup>4</sup>
  After registration at a single registration station within the voting district the voter's name would appear on only one segment of the voters roll, being the segment of the voters roll for that voting district.
- Given the very tight deadlines, an automated computer software application was developed for the electronic and geographic delimitation of the country into voting districts, using census enumerator areas and their census population statistics as building blocks.

Voting districts were electronically created in accordance with a number of pre-determined rules,ne thefor example:

- In urban areas, approximately 3 000 voting age persons were grouped within a travelling/walking distance of 7.5km travelling/walking distance<sup>5</sup> from a voting station.
- In rural areas, approximately 1 200 voting age persons<sup>6</sup> were grouped within a 10km travelling/walking distance from a voting station. In order to promote objectivity, initial delimitation was performed electronically, randomly

and statistically, with the computer commencing the delimitation of each municipality alternately from North, South, West and East.

- Voting districts had to be as square as possible in shape in order to ensure that a voting station in the centre of the voting district would be equally accessible to all voters.
- GIS Railway lines, major roads, rivers, or other major physical obstacles should not cut voting districts.<sup>7</sup>
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A voting district with mobile voting facilities would still have only one voting station, which would move from place to place. Only one copy of the voters roll would be used in a voting district. As the name of a voter would be deleted from the voters roll upon voting, that voter could not vote a second time in that election. Later it was decided that a voting district could in addition have a mobile voting station operating as an integrated component of the stationary voting station.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Although distance rules were set, the vast majority of voters lived substantially closer to their polling stations. As polling stations were primarily based at schools, churches and community halls, they tended to be in the most populace areas of a voting district.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The population of a voting district was determined by the number of voters the one single voting station could comfortably accommodate in a single day of voting. Given difference in literacy levels between urban and rural areas, the number of voters per voting district in rural areas was substantially less than in urban areas. The sparseness of rural populations also mitigated in favour of fewer voters per voting district in rural areas of a voting district small enough for a voter without personal transport to walk to a polling station.

The criteria for the delimitation of voting districts were approved by the party liaison committee structures, and groups of political leaders often visited the Commission's delimitation department to satisfy themselves that no potential gerrymandering of voting district boundaries was taking place.

Using the delimitation computer application, each of the 807<sup>8</sup> municipalities in South Africa was delimited into the appropriate number of voting districts. The delimited municipalities were then checked by the operators for any obvious errors or shape anomalies. They also checked to ensure that no physical impediments would make the voting districts unworkable.

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Another custom-built computer software application was used to print maps of these municipalities together with their voting districts and street names in large format (A0 size). Smaller municipalities needed only one A0 size map while others required in excess of 100 maps to display the required level of detail. The quality assurance team performed significant in-house checking to ensure that the resulting hard copy maps were accurately delimited, and comprised of the best available relevant information. Approximately 284 GIS and delimitation staff worked in shifts around the clock, seven days a week to complete the first phase of the delimitation process on time.

By early August 1998, approximately 4 500 A0 maps containing 13 500 provisionally delimited voting districts had been created and dispatched to the 807 municipalities.

As local electoral officers (LEOs) had, at that point in time, still not been appointed in the municipalities, the Commission appealed to the town clerks/CEOs of municipalities to review the maps and to convene party liaison committees (PLCs) representing all political parties in their municipalities. The town clerks were asked to review the maps of voting districts and identify potential voting stations for each voting district. Together with the PLC in each municipality, the town clerk reviewed the maps, identified areas of political instability, areas where voting districts were restricted by physical impediments, etc.<sup>9</sup> The final recommendation on voting district boundaries and the venues to be used for both registration and voting rested with the town clerk and the PLC in joint session. Maps were amended according to practical considerations such as mountain ranges or freeways cutting through voting districts barring access to the registration/ voting station. In this process political sanction was gained for the boundaries eventually drawn. The process also involved local communities who came to take ownership of the boundaries within their areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Although at the time of the 2 June 1999 elections, South Africa had 843 municipalities, 36 of these municipalities were purely management structures rather than councils with physical areas under their control.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Many PLCs also involved traditional leaders and NGOs and the sensitivity towards traditional leadership boundaries was often taken into account.

a wasProvision was made on the maps for the town clerk and the various political parties to sign theirthenobjection or consent on the maps before sending the maps back to the Commission.

In tracking this field work process, a 10 person call centre was operationalised using automatic call distribution (ACD) technology to distribute and manage both incoming and outgoing calls to municipalities. To support the integration of information gleaned from the town clerks, a colour-coded report was created to identify progress in the field relative to the stipulated IEC timetable. The first round of political party/stake-holder consultations lasted 61 days on average per municipality.

Essential to the political process was the creation of a central unit to resolve disputes among political parties with reference to voting station identification, voting district boundaries and voting station locations. During the entire process, only 6 true disputes were lodged with the Commission, all of which were amicably resolved within two weeks of being reported.

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#### Identification of Registration/Voting Stations

A registration/voting station identification team marked and/or verified registration/voting station the details on the maps and validated proposed amendments to the voting district boundaries. The Registration/voting station locations were then inserted into the GIS system and maps with the heir locating positions of voting stations were printed.

Amendments were endorsed or rejected through internal interrogation and, if the nature of the amendment was sufficiently contentious, the Commission would review it before the necessary changes were effected on the GIS. A set of revised and certified A0 maps were printed and dispatched to the municipalities as well as smaller (A3 size) maps for each of the voting districts.

Registration/voting stations were essential during this process, as they formed the basis for both
 registration and subsequently voting. A voter would be required to register at the same facility
 where they would later vote to minimise confusion and bring certainty to the election process.

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Registration /voting stations fell into three categories:

- Fixed permanent structures;
- Temporary structures such as shipping containers or tents; and
- Mobile facilities that would move within a voting district from point to point.

In remote rural areas, where large distances were unavoidable, mobile registration/voting stations were used. A vehicle travelled from a base point to a number of pre-determined stopping points in accordance with a published schedule. In this way, maximum accessibility was offered to voters.<sup>10</sup>

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It was intended to use venues in locations that offered easy access to voters, and at the same time provided a reasonable standard of accommodation and facilities to the voters and staff.

PROVINCE	PERMANENT VS	TEMPORARY VS	MOBILE VS	TOTAL
Eastern Cape	2 359	47	240	2 646
Free State	960	101	14	1 075
Gauteng	1 511	330	0	1 841
KwaZulu-Natal	3 120	143	77	3 340
Mpumalanga	810	29	38	877
Northern Cape	279	3	75	357
Northern Province	1 894	24	36	1 954
North West	1 122	107	23	1 252
Western Cape	1 259	49	0	1 308
TOTAL	13 314	833	503	14 650

The table below illustrates the breakdown of the **number of registration/voting stations** per province as well as their categorisation between permanent, temporary and mobile facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A mobile VS moves from location to location on voting day, takes the form of anything that is mobile (vehicle, cart, etc), and is usually chosen to service voting districts with low and dispersed population densities. The Northern Cape accommodates the highest number of mobile stations as a percentage of total provincial stations (21%), followed by the Eastern Cape (9%).

The table above shows that the largest numbers of registration/voting stations were to be found in KwaZulu-Natal (23% of the total) and the Eastern Cape (18%), whilst the smallest numbers were in the Northern Cape (2% of the total) and Mpumalanga (6%).

The numbers of polling stations in rural areas were dramatically increased from the number used in 1994, thereby providing greater accessibility for people to both register and vote. A breakdown of rural and urban registration/voting stations is set out below. The Northern Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, and North West Province had more rural than urban voting stations.

PROVINCE	URBAN VSs	RURAL VSs
Eastern Cape	558 (21%)	2 088 (79%)
Free State	594 (55%)	481 (45%)
Gauteng	1 732 (94%)	109 (6%)
KwaZulu-Natal	968 (29%)	2 372 (71%)
Mpumalanga	510 (58%)	367 (42%)
Northern Cape	179 (50%)	178 (50%)
Northern Province	195 (10%)	1 759 (90%)
North West	232 (19%)	1 020 (81%)
Western Cape	1 030 (79%)	278 (21%)
Overall Total	5 998 (40,9%)	8 652 (59,1%)
	Eastern CapeFree StateGautengKwaZulu-NatalMpumalangaNorthern CapeNorthern ProvinceNorth WestWestern Cape	Eastern Cape558 (21%)Free State594 (55%)Gauteng1 732 (94%)KwaZulu-Natal968 (29%)Mpumalanga510 (58%)Northern Cape179 (50%)Northern Province195 (10%)North West232 (19%)Western Cape1 030 (79%)

Contracts were concluded with the owners or occupants of buildings earmarked as registration/voting stations. These contracts were specially drawn-up to provide for irregular and interrupted periods of usage, with a particular view to the registration periods.

Seventy six percent (76%) of all voting stations were located in school buildings. A further 5% were located in churches and 16% were established in halls. Offices were used in 2% and stores in 1% of cases.

It was important to know what facilities such as water, electricity, toilets, etc. were available at each station. This had an influence on strategy regarding procurement, distribution and general electoral operations. The data was collected during the voting station identification process, and regularly updated.

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cart, Cape w the This data provided an integrated national picture of the situation in the field. Although the information was not 100% accurate, it allowed the head office to provide appropriate guidance so that most requirements and shortages could be resolved by local procurement.

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Variations and uncertainties in the election timetable made contracting quite difficult, and it was important for local electoral officers to maintain good relationships with the voting station owners. For this reason an early plan to pay rentals centrally was amended to allow the local electoral officers to pay the owners directly.

An electronic database was used to record and monitor the details of all the voting stations. The maintenance of a central database for 14 650 current voting stations presented significant logistical and communication challenges. However, good value was obtained from the information contained in the database.

Official lists of voting stations and addresses were published in the press before registration days and before voting, using the central database.

### **Final Delimitation**

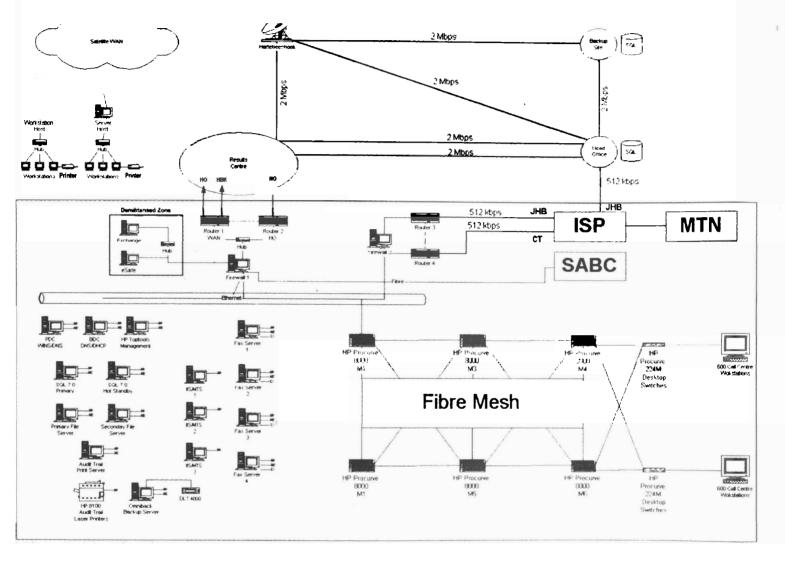
In the process of local consultation, many boundaries were changed and substantially more voting districts were created. The final number of voting districts reached 14 650, all of which had local, political and administrative support. The Commission also produced A3 size voting district maps for use during registration and for political parties.

It took 17 000 A3 size maps to cover the entire country. Approximately 20 copies of each map were made for registration and political party purposes, all of which were dispatched to the municipalities in time for the commencement of the first two weekends of voter registration (29 - 31 November and 3 - 5 December 1998). Each of the voting district maps included a barcode with the voting district number that was scanned with the Zip-Zip machines during the registration periods.

Subsequent changes to voting stations and/or voting districts were incorporated and new maps printed before each of the last two registration weekends in January and March 1999. New maps for each registration weekend were considered vital to the registration process with the dynamic nature of South Africa's localised political environment at times dictating changes to voting station locations.

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	In total, some 15 000 maps at A0 size and 1,200,000 maps at A3 size were produced to assist
e so	with management of election responsibilities over a 12-month period. The GIS databases have
	been utilised for the creation of spatial management and reports that were required for election
	planning, logistics, registration, results and processes.
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The architecture of the Wide Area Network

"Having determined the local management structure, the Commission needed to establish a method of communication with the newly established offices. This would require the setting up of a wide area data network, which would allow e-mail communication and the development of web-based computer applications."

### **CHAPTER 3**

### Local and Provincial Infrastructure

### Provincial, Municipal and Local Offices

Offices were established in each province. These would act as both a presence for liaison with provincial party liaison committees (PLCs) and with provincial governments as well as a supervisory and management hub for each province's local electoral officers. The offices were located in the provincial capitals of each province with the exception of KwaZulu-Natal (Durban) and the Eastern Cape (East London). Each provincial office had specific responsibilities in respect of the delivery of elections within that province in accordance with the policy and procedures determined and managed at head office level.

Local offices of the IEC were established on an agency basis. LEOs would primarily utilise municipal staff and infrastructure. LEOs were also responsible for the chairing and convening of municipal party liaison committees. These local electoral offices were established for one or more municipalities and LEOs were paid a monthly honorarium for their services. In, most cases the LEO was either the municipal chief executive officer (town clerk) or another member of the municipal staff. In a few instances a private individual was appointed where a municipal official was not available.

Given the variance in local capacity and the size of certain municipalities 441 local electoral officers were appointed to deliver the registration and election process for June 1999. These 441 LEOs covered the areas of all of the 807 municipalities. Many of these LEOs had, in fact already assisted during the delimitation phase in their capacities as municipal CEOs or town clerks.

The process of LEO appointment was done in consultation with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), which ensured that the interests of both municipal employees and the councils were taken into account in electoral matters. The use of municipal officials as LEOs allowed the involvement of municipalities in the management of all elections within their areas of jurisdiction.<sup>11</sup> It also allowed the Commission access to additional resources within the control of municipalities. The process was further enhanced by the quality of many of the LEOs experienced in the management of previous elections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Given the use of local officials, the Commission's LEO offices were accessible to voters in each community.

The establishment of local offices was, however, complicated by the imminent re-structuring of local government and the re-drawing of all m unicipal boundaries. Thus, two-year contracts were signed with LEOs in anticipation of the consolidation of many of the country's municipalities.

### The Wide Area Network

Having determined the local management structure, the Commission needed to establish a method of communication with the newly established offices. This would require the setting up of a wide area data network, which would allow e-mail communication and the development of web-based computer applications.<sup>12</sup>

The Electoral Steering Committee had embarked on a process of evaluating all potential means of communication between the head office and provincial and local offices. This process determined that no current network infrastructure existed to link the offices around the country. The evaluation panel had looked at all available technology and had recommended a V-Sat satellite based data network.<sup>13</sup> Not only was this the most reliable and cheapest option but it also allowed for flexibility, when the time was appropriate, to move satellite dishes at little cost to different locations after the restructuring of local government. The V-Sat based system linked all IEC offices via the satellite receiving station at Hartebeeshoek.

The Wide Area Network (WAN) would not only create a link in standardising electoral practice and communicating around the country, but it also became a national asset improving communication between municipalities around the country. Municipalities were now able, for the first time, to communicate on both electoral and non-electoral matters with each other.

The creation of the WAN also meant the installation of 1 623 computers at the local and provincial offices. Many of these municipalities had never had computers at their offices before and some municipal buildings were not even linked to an electricity grid. This necessitated extensive information technology (IT) accustomisation and training.

An IT call centre was established to assist local and provincial offices to operate the newly installed technology. Utilising a standard web-browser, LEOs and PEOs could operate the voter registration system, the electoral staff system and the results verification system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> In keeping with technological developments and the distributed nature of the IEC's business model, all IEC computer applications would be developed in a web-based format to be utilised through the IEC's intranet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Very Small Aperture Terminal or V-Sat is a satellite based communication system which provides both sufficient bandwidth as well as flexibility.



An eligible voter presents his bar-coded identity document and voter registration form to registration staff in the Gauteng province during the registration campaign to prepare the first National Common Voters Roll for Election '99.

"According to the Commission's records, 18 437 954 persons applied for registration as voters. The certified voters roll contains the names of 18 172 751 voters."

### **CHAPTER 4**

### **National Common Voters Roll**

### Registration

The *Constitution* and the *Electoral Act, 1998* required the Commission to produce a national common voters roll for South Africa.

A number of options were evaluated to ensure that the maximum number of voters could be registered within the limited time span available. Problems that non-literate voters would have in completing registration forms were noted. A process by which information had to be transferred by hand from registration forms into a central computer voters roll database posed the greatest challenge to the endeavour. There was no capacity to manually data capture nearly 20 million registration forms in the time period allowed. Furthermore data capture contained inherent risks of inaccuracy with its resultant disenfranchisement of voters.

It was resolved to accept the proposal of the Electoral Steering Committee and register voters using a bar-code scanning device during limited bursts of registration spread over a number of months. Key to this approach was the concept that voters would be required to go to their registration/ voting stations to register themselves and that a knock and drop campaign would take place prior to the registration period, informing voters within the voting district about where they should go to register.

To register as a voter, a person was required to be:

- a South African citizen, in possession of a South African bar-coded identity document; and
- over the age of 18-years at the time of voting.

In addition, to qualify to register within a particular voting district (i.e. to appear on the national common voters roll for that voting district) persons had to satisfy the Chief Electoral Officer that they were "ordinarily resident" within that voting district.

### **Zip-Zip Machines**

The technology underpinning the registration process was the bar-code scanner, popularly named the Zip-Zip machine.

At the commencement of a day's registration, the registration official would take the map for that voting district and, using the bar-code on that map, register the Zip-Zip machine to a particular voting district. All registrations of voters scanned during that day would then be linked to the bar-code number of that voting district.

During registration periods, eligible voters were required to complete a registration form<sup>14</sup> and then present their identity documents to a registration official. The official would locate the voters' address on the map. The registration official would then scan the voter's identity number into the Zip-Zip machine together with an enumerator area number within the voting district in which the voter resided.

The Zip-Zip machine issued a self-adhesive receipt which the registration official pasted into the voter's identity document as proof of registration.

In some instances registration officials were required to do manual rather than scanner based registration. The voter's particulars were manually typed into the Zip-Zip machine. This was particularly true for voters who were in possession of temporary registration certificates or temporary identity documents issued by the Department of Home Affairs<sup>15</sup>.

All identity numbers captured during that period were stored in the Zip-Zip machine against the number of the voting district scanned off the voting district map. At the end of each day of registration, the registration official would take the Zip-Zip machine to the LEO office and download the data into the LEO's computer. Through the wide area V-Sat data network, the registration data containing the identity numbers of each registered voter with its linked voting district number were consolidated onto a Microsoft SQL server database resting in the head office in Pretoria. Thus registration details were collected and consolidated nightly for the entire country during the registration period.

The database was then sanitised for duplicates and erroneous identity numbers. Once this process had been completed, the data was run against the National Population Register maintained by the Department of Home Affairs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Voters with a low level of literacy as well as voters with disabilities were assisted in this process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> During the first weekend of registration a number of registration officers used a manual system of registration either because of the failure of their Zip-Zip machine batteries or because they were not comfortable with the use of technology. This manual registration process greatly hindered the registration process and substantial efforts were devoted to re-register these voters' applications through the scanner method.

From this data the Commission populated its voters roll database with the last and first names of all the persons whose identity numbers were contained in the National Population Register database.<sup>16</sup>

This method of registering voters meant that voters addresses could not be scanned at the same time. The party liaison committee at the national level ratified the decision not to reflect a voter's address on the national common voters roll for purposes of the 1999 national and provincial elections.

#### **Registration Staff**

The Commission had planned to use teachers as the primary source of staffing for the registration process. This, however, had cost implications, as staff would be required to work long hours and over weekends.

A few weeks prior to the first weekend of voter registration planned for the end of November and beginning of December 1998, the Government informed the Commission that a budget for the payment of staff would not be forthcoming. The Government offered the deployment of public servants in lieu of the budget. The offer was accepted and the Commission provided the government with its requirements totalling 75 000 staff required for training as well as both the knock and drop and registration campaigns.

Government faced a difficult challenge in mobilising public servants to the task. It was not possible to mobilise the expected number of staff within the time period available. The Government was also ultimately dependent on the use of the military to boost the number of public servants willing to volunteer as registration officials.

Of greater significance, however, was the non-availability of staff for both training and the knock and drop campaign. These critical failings severely hampered the first registration weekend scheduled for 29 to 31 November 1998.

After the registration period all possible attempts were made to obtain the names and contact details of the participating public servants in order that they could be involved in future elections and voter registration campaigns.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> This process also allowed the Commission to identify fake identity numbers, the registration of deceased individuals and the registration of persons not eligible for registration such as non-South African citizens or persons underage as at the date of the impending election.

#### **First Registration Weekends**

To accommodate the lack of adequate staffing, the country was split into two components, one called the northern provinces made up of Gauteng, Northern Province, North West and Mpumalanga and the other the southern provinces made up of Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape. The first round of registration for the northern provinces took place during the weekend of 29-31 November 1998, while that for the southern provinces took place during the weekend of 3-5 December 1998.

The unavailability of staff to conduct the knock and drop campaign to inform voters in which voting district they resided and where they should register, profoundly impacted on the success of the first weekend of registration. In many areas of the country, voters were unsure of where to register, resulting in large numbers of people registering in incorrect voting districts and being required to re-register during subsequent periods of registration in the correct voting districts.

Other consequences of these late changes were the superficial training of staff in the registration processes as well as in the use of the Zip-Zip machine. Insufficient time to adequately charge batteries for the Zip-Zip machines caused problems. Lack of familiarity with the Zip-Zip machine also resulted in many registration staff opting for manual rather than electronic registration with its concomitant subsequent logistical problems.

Throughout the process, the internal call centre handled queries and follow-up calls to the various municipalities. Inputs by the call centre made it possible to keep a finger on the pulse of the activities at municipal level and to assist when a problem arose. The call centre provided support to both LEOs and the public.

Despite the staffing problems, a successful public information and voter education campaign ensured that voters were aware of the need to register.

### **Public Information Campaign**

Simultaneously, with the start of the general registration drive, a countrywide registration awareness campaign was launched.<sup>17</sup> During the registration weekends, 26 000 calls from the public were handled by the call centre. In supporting the LEOs, a further 20 000 calls were handled by the unit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Identifiable communities were often targeted through specific campaigns. In particular, the campaign was aimed at rural voters.

At the same time, a national 0800 public information call centre operated independently providing citizens with "where to register" details. This facility assisted the voter in identifying the voting station within his/her voting district by making a toll free call.

A computer based application was developed to allow both the public call centre and voters with access to the internet to determine where they should register by referencing the municipality name, suburb and cross-streets as supplied by the voter. The "VS Finder" application, as it became known, proved to be a very popular tool for use by the public.

The web site was used by people to determine whether their registration had been successful and to confirm that they had registered in the correct voting district.

The one-week staggered approach made it possible to address most of the deficiencies experienced during the northern provinces' registration weekend of 29-31 November 1998. Many problems encountered in the first registration weekend were to a large extent addressed in time for the southern provinces registration weekend of 3-5 December 1998.

During the first round of voter registration 8 836 012 voters applied for registration.

### **Subsequent Registration Weekends**

Further general registration weekends were held on 29, 30 and 31 January 1999 and 5, 6 and 7 March 1999. The two subsequent rounds of general registration ran much smoother as the concept of public servant volunteers had, by then, taken root. The Commission also appealed to the public to volunteer to assist in the registration process.

The problems experienced with the Zip-Zip battery life were addressed by electrifying enough of these machines for use in registration stations with access to electricity.

The second and third rounds of registration were also used as a check by voters to see whether they had been included on the voters roll. Copies of the interim provisional voters roll were produced and sent to voting stations during the second and third rounds of registration. Voters were urged to go to their registration stations to confirm that they were on the roll and placed in the correct voting district.

### **Door-to-Door Campaign**

To boost registration numbers, authorisation was granted in mid-February 1999 to PEOs and LEOs to embark on a door-to-door registration campaign. The campaign was based on the principle that areas with low registration turnout should be covered by visiting people in their homes.<sup>18</sup> The level of execution of this campaign was, however, unsatisfactory.

### **Reconciliation and Verification**

Reconciling the registration forms with the actual data on the voter registration system (VRS) became essential to ensure that all voters who applied for registration were correctly placed on the voters roll. Local electoral officers were requested to count their registration forms and make sure that the number of forms corresponded with the number of registered voters appearing on the VRS. Voters not on the system were then placed onto the roll by registering their forms with a Zip-Zip machine.

Disparities were indeed found, particularly in the larger metropolitan and district council areas. Many of these disparities resulted from a lack of training and the use of manual registration during the first registration weekend. This reconciliation exercise was completed on 25 March 1999.

### Rejections

As all applications for registration were verified against the National Population Register to ensure the eligibility of each registering voter to vote, some voters were rejected. The following table depicts the number of applications rejected based on the information obtained from the National Population Register.

Province	Non SA Citizens	Deceased	Under Age	Invalid ID	Total
Eastern Cape	14265	3745	28096	2	46108
Free State	10 740	2 679	7 448	l	20868
Gauteng	46 866	6 902	12 188	4	65 960
KwaZulu-Natal	11 968	7 161	17 754	5	36 888
Mpumalanga	12 618	2 365	7 243	0	22 226
Northern Cape	739	750	2 501	0	3 990
Northern Province	9 733	2 827	23 576	1	36 137
North West	8 334	2 997	8 084	0	19 415
Western Cape	5 962	2 044	5 582	4	13 592
Total	121 225	31 470	112 472	17	265 184

<sup>18</sup> This process was assisted by the participation of local communities, civic organisations and NGOs.

The *Electoral Act, 1998* permitted those individuals whose applications for registration were rejected, to appeal to the Commission. Time for appeals closed on 6 April 1999. Areas where some of the appeals succeeded, included the following:

- Some voters applied for registration without the prescribed identity document. Registration officials accepted some of these applications. These applicants' appeals were upheld, if applicants were by the time of appeal in possession of the correct identity document.
- A number of voters applied using identity documents that still represented them as non-South African citizens. Where on appeal these applicants produced evidence of their naturalisation, their appeals were upheld.
- Appeals were received from persons who are recorded in the National Population Register as being deceased. Where these people showed that they were indeed alive, they were placed on the voters roll.
- Some South African citizens from the former TBVC<sup>19</sup> areas held identity documents that represented them as non-South African citizens. These persons were all included on the voters roll upon appeal.

### **Public Inspection**

To allow for public inspection of the voters roll, registration stations were opened on Saturday 17 April 1999 across the country. Voters were invited to take advantage of this opportunity to correct their details on the provisional voters roll. This meant that most of the objections were dealt with administratively at voting stations on this day and at LEO offices during the objections period of 12-19 April 1999.

Objections against voters included on the voters roll or against registration details were accepted until the close of the inspection period on 19 April 1999. A total of 4 679 objections to the voters roll were considered by the Commission of which 1 475 were rejected. Objections were determined by the Commission and finalised on 23 April 1999. No appeals against the decisions of the Commission were taken to the Electoral Court. Details of **objections** are contained in the table set out below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The former homelands of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei that were issuing their own identity documents prior to 1994.

Reason for Objection	Number
Incorrect Voter details	857
Against inclusion in voters	86
Against exclusion from voters	3 225
Change of name/surname	289
Change of address	222
Total	4 679

### Prisoners

No provision had been made in the *Electoral Act, 1998* or the regulations issued thereunder, for special voting arrangements for prisoners. In the case of *August & Another vs The Electoral Commission and Others, 1999(3) SA1(cc),* the Constitutional Court ordered the Commission to make special arrangements for prisoners to register and to vote.

At that time, about 146 000 prisoners were detained in prisons throughout the country. The registration of prisoners took place on 16 -17 April 1999. Correctional Services staff were trained and utilised in the registration effort. Altogether only 20 998 prisoners used the opportunity to register. Prisoner apathy, lack of the requisite bar-coded identity documents and non-compliance with the detention criteria laid down by the Constitutional Court <sup>20</sup>could all be reasons for the relatively small turnout of prisoners applying for registration. The table below indicates the number of **prisoners who registered**.

Province	<b>Registered Prisoners</b>
Eastern Cape	2 818
Free State	1 842
Gauteng	4 437
KwaZulu/Natal	3 079
Mpumalanga	1 572
North West	1 672
Northern Province	482
Northern Cape	1 134
Western Cape	3 962
Total	20 998

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Prisoners could only register if they had been in prison during all the registration periods.

### **The Final Voters Roll**

According to the Commission's records, 18 437 954 persons applied for registration as voters. The certified voters roll contained the names of 18 172 751 voters. The table below indicate the overall **registration patterns** relating to areas analysed.

PROVINCE	VOTING AGE POPULATION	REGISTERED
Eastern Cape	3 232 009	2 454 543
Free State	1 537 070	1 226 174
Gauteng	4 687 626	4 158 087
KwaZulu-Natal	4 691 352	3 443 978
Mpumalanga	1 547 135	1 277 783
Northern Cape	481 022	377 173
Northern Province	2 412 064	1 847 766
North West	1 895 077	1 527 672
Western Cape	2 317 037	1 864 019
Total	22 799 626	18 172 751

### **Total accepted registrations**

### Gender

In all age categories, women outnumber men in registration: 9 895 302 as against 8 277 449. While demographically women do outnumber men in the voting-age population, the disparity on the voters' roll is significantly greater than in the population at large.

### Age

Only 48% of citizens between the ages of 18 and 20 (first-time voters) applied for registration. This is a lower proportion than any other age group. Although this low registration figure corresponds with international trends, it must be borne in mind that this age group has a particularly significant role to play in the consolidation of our democracy into the future.

### Rural-Urban

Almost twice as many urban voters compared to rural voters were registered: 11 928 423 as against 6 244 328.

In percentages, 85% of potential urban voters registered as opposed to 73% of rural voters. While this, too, seems to be in accordance with international trends, it does not imply that the underlying reasons for such trends should be ignored. The Commission is concerned about such disparities between **urban and rural registrations** as tabled below:

Age group	Urban	Rural
18 - 20	432 925	285 716
>20-30	3 413 824	1 721 360
>30 - 40	3 139 860	1 379 567
>40 - 50	2 251 580	1 053 435
>50 - 60	1 351 243	728 970
>60 - 70	798 028	597 948
>70 - 80	401 360	342 255
>80	139 603	135 077
Total	11 928 423	6 244 328
% of Total	65.64%	34.36%

The following table shows the urban/rural – formal/ informal split

	Actual	Total	% of group
	registration total	population	registered
Urban informal	965 320	1 222 654	79.0%
Urban formal	10 963 103	12 894 554	85.0%
Rural informal	4 638 273	6 373 263	72.8%
Rural formal	1 606 055	2 309 155	69.6%
TOTAL	18 172 751	22 799 626	79.7%

## Certification

April 30, 1999 marked the certification of the country's first national common voters roll which was handed over to the then Deputy-President, Mr Thabo Mbeki, on that date. Although only printed in hard copy later, the format of the voters roll is illustrated below.

	Natio	VOTERS ROLL onal & Provincial Elections 1	999
Province:		Aunicpality: Boksburg	Voting District: GBBB123C
Seq no	Surname	First Names	Identity No.
1	Mabulu	Tabisile	580224 5011 080
2	Mabulu	Xolani	431214 5022 083
3	Mabulu	Zola	690725 5013 085
4	Pretorius	Chantelle	720215 0315 073
5	Sibiya	Alfred Sidney	320627 5044 058
6	Tullen	Abraham Charle	es 790318 5033 094
1-6	Ma – Tu	Page 1 of 1	

## **Administrative Errors**

On the eve of the election itself, the Chief Electoral Officer, who is in charge of the voters roll, issued an instruction to Presiding Officers that an eligible voter who could produce proof of application for registration in a voting district, whose application had not been rejected but whose name did not appear on the voters roll, should be deemed to have been registered on that segment of the voters roll and allowed to cast a regular vote at that voting station.

## **Quality of the Voters Roll**

Overall the 2 June elections were held on the basis of the national common voters roll. All voters who had registered expected to find their names on the relevant segment of the voters roll in the voting station where they had registered. The legitimacy and political integrity of the elections depended on whether all people who voted were South African citizens who were eligible to vote and were so registered on the voters roll. The voters roll in turn prevented people voting twice or impersonating other voters. An exit poll conducted by the Human Sciences Research Council found that a high percentage of voters found their names on the voters roll where they expected them to be.

From an administrative point of view it could have been impossible to make all preparations for and to hold a sound and successful election if the voters roll was of a poor quality.

All management aspects of provisioning for electoral materials, electoral staff, etc. depended centrally on the numbers of voters expected at each voting station as reflected on the voters roll.

The Commission experienced no problems of provisioning at voting stations nor were instances reported where voters were turned back because of problems with the voters roll.

The Human Sciences Research Council reported that at the majority of voting stations voters spent a relatively short time in queues because of the reliability of the voters roll.

The high quality of the voters roll contributed significantly to the success of the 2 June elections



A cameraman at the Election '99 Results Centre studio of the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

"Television and radio were extensively used in the campaign with the Government Communication and Information Service contributing television and radio advertisements. The South African Broadcasting Corporation assisted with the provision of both discounted and free airtime. Community radio stations also actively participated in the dissemination of information to voters."

# **CHAPTER 5**

## Media and Voter Education

#### **Voter Education Plans**

The involvement of the general population in the voting process is a cornerstone of any democracy. Since 1994, the large voter turnout has attested to the general enthusiasm that South Africans had in participating in the democratic process of elections. To retain this participation, a comprehensive media and voter education strategy was embarked upon in partnership with civil society organisations. Special focus was placed on women, rural and first time voters. While registration figures indicated a high registration percentage for women voters, rural and young voters illustrated significantly lower levels of involvement. Less than 50% of 18 to 24 year old eligible voters registered.

The voter education strategy included community workshops, campaigns in schools and tertiary institutions, booklets, pamphlets, posters and comic strips. A 13-part drama series, called Khululeka, was developed and aired on SABC1 television.

#### Accreditation of Voter Education Institutions

In compliance with section 86 of the *Electoral Act, 1998* advertisements were placed for service providers to apply to be accredited as voter educators. Applicants would have to indicate their capacity to conduct workshops, ability for financial accountability and experience in undertaking educational projects. The accreditation endorsed the non-partisan and professional nature of successful applicants, but did not automatically qualify them for IEC financing to run voter education workshops.

Over 1 000 organisations and individuals applied for accreditation, of which about 300 were accredited. Most of these were non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs). In most cases individuals who applied had limited capacity for delivery.

#### **Training of Trainers and Voter Education Workshops**

In January 1999, accredited service providers were asked to submit proposals to conduct voter education workshops. One hundred and twenty six proposals were received countrywide. These proposals were sent to the provincial offices where selections were made.

The Commission's policy was to involve local organisations that better understood the local context. It was also felt that such a process would help build the local capacity of civil society organisations whilst ensuring that any skills gained would be left in the communities. All organisations that were selected had to enter into contractual obligations with the Commission.

The selected service providers participated in training of trainers' workshops. The train-the-trainer workshops were conducted by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), Sakaza Communications, the Deaf Federation of South Africa (DEAFSA), We-Shop, and African Pathways. These workshops targeted representatives of the service providers who would in turn conduct these workshops within their communities.

The first phase of the voter education drive focussed on encouraging people to apply for their identity documents (with the Department of Home Affairs) so as to be eligible for registration. The second phase prioritised registration and the final phase focussed on voting education. Service providers conducted about 4 500 workshops nation-wide, reaching about 400 000 people. Rural areas received priority.

The overall gender breakdown for participants at the workshops was about 65% women and 35% men.

The provincial offices facilitated the regional co-ordination of the workshops whilst also performing a monitoring role.

#### **Special Interest Groups**

A special focus of the voter education campaign was the disabled people. Through the Deaf Federation of South Africa (DEAFSA) and the South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB) 5 000 blind and deaf people were taken through workshops on the process of voting and the importance of elections in a democracy.

Pursuant to the Constitutional Court decision on prisoners, the Commission had to make special arrangements for voter education in prisons. With the assistance of the Department of Correctional Services and the civil society organisations, 19 151 prisoners ultimately received voter education.

#### Voter Education Material

Booklets, pamphlets and posters that focused on the three phases of the voter education strategy were produced.

A comprehensive booklet was developed with the Educational Support Services Trust (ESST) utilising funds raised from local businesses and the international community. Over six million booklets were produced and distributed in the 11 official languages.

#### **Debriefing and Evaluation Workshops**

After the elections all the nine provinces were visited to conduct debriefing and evaluation workshops with the service providers. Issues evaluated and discussed included the content and format of the voter education materials, access to rural communities, the attendance and response of participants, the support received from the IEC provincial and national offices, and proposed action plans for the forthcoming local government elections. It was agreed that the voter education programme had been one of the most inclusive and effective civil society initiatives.

#### **Mass Media**

Mass media remains an important element in any out-reach campaign. Both traditional and nonorthodox media campaigns were used to interest voters in the then forthcoming elections.

Television and radio were extensively used in the campaign with the Government Communication and Information Services contributing television and radio advertisements. The South African Broadcasting Corporation assisted with the provision of both discounted and free airtime. Community radio stations also actively participated in the dissemination of information to voters.

Radio was used as the primary method of communication with rural voters as well as those in the outlying areas of the country. Research has it that generally, radio has a wider coverage than television and print media.

Formal campaigns were augmented by regular press briefings by Commission members and officials. Workshops were held with editors and the print media to ensure that print media participated in the voter information campaign. A number of newspapers carried information, maps and election details free of charge.

Extensive use was made of posters, pamphlets, stickers, T-shirts and sun-visors. Marketing targeted major sports events and the Rand Easter Show and other provincially-based shows. These were distributed as widely as possible.

The entire campaign addressed issues of concern to voters and attempted to add to the transparency and credibility of the electoral process. It was particularly necessary to counter the danger of voter apathy that might have resulted from the protracted process of voter registration.

The public telecommunication and cellular service providers made their contribution by carrying election messages on their information services and also displaying election messages on the screens of cellular phone subscribers. One of the cellular companies entered into a commercial partnership with the Commission for the supply of voter information through a cellular phone number.



Political party posters displayed during the Election '99 campaign.

"Liaison with political parties in the planning and preparation stages as well as during the election period was considered essential. Parties were involved primarily through the structure of party liaison committees (PLCs). Such committees existed in all three spheres of government. This structure contributed immensely to the positive spirit that permeated all levels of election delivery."

# **CHAPTER 6**

# **Political System and Parties**

## The Electoral System<sup>21</sup>

The electoral system used in June 1999 was similar to that of 1994.

The National Assembly is allocated 400 seats. While the June 2 elections took place on a party list system, the 400 seats are allocated into 10 blocks, one block per region or province totalling 200 seats, and one block of 200 seats on a national basis. The nine regional blocks were allocated to provinces on the basis of the number of registered voters in each province. The breakdown for the regional component of the National Assembly is as follows:

Regional Seats in	Number of
the National	Seats
Assembly per	
Province	
Eastern Cape	27
Free State	14
Gauteng	46
KwaZulu-Natal	38
Mpumalanga	14
Northern Cape	4
Northern Province	20
North West	17
Western Cape	20
TOTAL	200

After the election, seats were firstly allocated to a political party-based on that party's support within a province. The remaining 200 seats were used to restore overall proportionality based on the proportion of the vote received by a party in the country as a whole.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> For national and provincial elections South Africa uses a proportional representation system with parties required to submit lists of candidates in ranking order to be elected off party lists.

The allocation of seats in a provincial legislature is based entirely on the proportion of a party's support in that provincial election. The nine provincial legislatures each have a different number of seats as indicated in the column below.

Provincial Legislature	e Number of
	Seats
Eastern Cape	63
Free State	30
Gauteng	73
KwaZulu-Natal	80
Mpumalanga	30
Northern Cape	30
Northern Province	49
North West	33
Western Cape	42
ТО	<b>ΓAL</b> 430

## **Party Liaison Committees**

Liaison with political parties in the planning and preparation stages as well as during the election period was considered essential. Parties were involved primarily through the structure of party liaison committees (PLCs). Such committees existed in all three spheres of government. This structure contributed immensely to the positive spirit that permeated all levels of election delivery. On an informal basis the party national liaison committee had met periodically since 1994 to discuss electoral matters. Regulations published under the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996* however, formalised this process. To ensure an inclusive process, regular briefing sessions were held with the new parties not included in the PLCs. Electoral funding for all parties contesting elections became one of the issues that constantly arose in the interaction with these new parties.

The delimitation of voting districts and the identification of voting stations had started the establishment of a network of 807 municipal party liaison committees. Nine provincial party liaison committees were established for the provinces and chaired by the Commission's representative in each province. Participation in a PLC was restricted to those parties represented in a particular legislature as well as any additional parties approved by the Commission. The United Democratic Movement, the Conservative Party and the Azanian Peoples Organisation were invited to join PLCs. Upon its dissolution, the Conservative Party was replaced by the Afrikaner Unity Movement (Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging, AEB). Every PLC constituted an advisory body and a structured forum for consultation with political parties.

## **Registration of Parties**

The *Electoral Commission Act, 1996* prescribed a system for the registration of parties. A total of 51 parties registered:

Party	Abbreviation
Abolition of Income Tax and Usury Party	AITUP
Africa Moral Party	AMP
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP
African National Congress	ANC
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO
Cape People's Congress	СРС
Christian Protestant Party of Southern Africa/Christen	СРР
Protestante Party van Suider Afrika	
Christian Democratic Party	CDP
Curriculum Vitae Political Party	CV
Dabalorivhuwa Patriotic Front	DPF
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP
The Employment Movement of South Africa	EMSA
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA
Forum 2000	F2000
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF
Gay and Lesbian Alliance	GLA
God's People's Party	GPP
The Government by the People Green Party	GPGP
Independent Civic Organisation of South Africa	ICOSA
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP
Insindiso Salvation Christian Voice Organisation	ISCVO
Justice and Freedom Alliance	JAFA
Keep it Straight and Simple	KISS
Labour Party	LP
Mass United Movement	MUM
Merit Party	MP
Minority Front	MF
National Coalition Party/Nasionale Koalisie Party	NACOPA
Nasionale Kleurling Party	
New Earth Party	NEP
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP

Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC
People's Liberation Party	PLP
People's Party	PP
The People's Progressive Party	PPP
Regte Party/Right Party	RP
Simunye in Christ Organisation	Simunye
Sindawonye Progressive Party	SPP
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA
South African Freedom Alliance	SAFA
South African Region of Independent Churches	SARIC
Super Party	SP
Unemployment Labour Alliance	ULA
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP
United Democratic Alliance	UDA
United Democratic Movement	UDM
Vukuzenzele Sekusile Party	VSP
Workers International Vanguard League	WIVL
Workers' Party	WP
Ximoko Party	XP

## **Deposits and Candidate Lists**

Registration as a party in terms of the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996* did not constitute registration for participation in an election. To participate in the election, a party had to:

- be registered in terms of the *Electoral Commission Act, 1996*;
- pay a deposit; and
- submit a list of candidates.

A deposit of R100 000 was required from each party wishing to contest the national election. To contest a provincial election a deposit of R20 000 was required. The deposits were refundable should the party gain at least one seat in the legislature concerned.

All in all 26 parties contested the June 2 elections. Only 16 of these parties contested the **national** elections. These were:

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) Minority Front (MF) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) The Government by the People Green Party (GPGP) The Socialist Party of Azania (SOPA) United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF) Abolition of Income Tax and Usury Party (AITUP)

The order on the ballot papers for both national and provincial elections was alphabetical, with the party at the top of the ballot paper being determined by the drawing of a lot. The African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) appeared at the top of each ballot paper.

## The parties contesting the provincial elections were as follows:

#### Eastern Cape

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### Free State

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) The Socialist Party of Azania (SOPA) Unemployment Labour Alliance (ULA) United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### Gauteng

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) Labour Party (LP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC)

#### Gauteng (Continued)

The Socialist Party of Azania (SOPA) United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### KwaZuiu-Natal

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansic (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) Mass United Movement (MUM) Minority Front (MF) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) The Socialist Party of Azania (SOPA) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### Mpumalanga

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) Sindawonye Progressive Party (SPP) United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### North West

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) United Christian Democratic Party (UCDP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### Northern Cape

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansic (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF)

#### Northern Province

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) Dabalorivhuwa Patriotic Front (DPF) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF) Ximoko Party (XP)

#### Western Cape

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) African National Congress (ANC) Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging (AEB) Democratic/Demokratiese Party (DP) Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie (FA) Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) National Coalition Party (NACOPA) New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party (NNP) Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) People's Liberation Party (PLP) The Government by the People Green Party (GPGP) United Democratic Movement (UDM) Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front (VF/FF) Workers International Vanguard League (WIVL) Africa Moral Party (AMP) A candidate management system was created for capturing and managing all the candidates standing on the parties' lists. The system was developed and tested during the months of April and May and went live in the early part of May 1999.

Lists were printed and made available to political parties to inspect, object and correct. A certificate was also printed for every candidate.

A number of parties provided incorrect or inadequate information with their candidate lists and this forced the Chief Electoral Officer to object to those lists. The affected parties involved had a predetermined period within which to remedy the defects.

Candidate lists were made available for public inspection and objection. Objections could be based on a number of factors, including the ineligibility of a candidate to contest an election. The Chief Electoral Officer objected to a number of candidates whose names did not appear on the voters roll. The Commission, however, resolved not to uphold these objections.

Ultimately 7 141 candidates participated in the election.

#### **Party Agents**

The presence of party agents at all electoral venues is important for the integrity of the electoral process. Parties were encouraged to appoint agents to view the voting and counting process at each of the 14 650 voting stations. The system was widely used although some parties were unfortunately unable to cover all the voting stations.

## **Restrictions on Political Parties**

Chapter 7 of the *Electoral Act, 1998* prescribed prohibited conduct relating to the exercise of undue influence, personation, intentionally making false statements, infringing the secrecy of the vote and contravention of the Electoral Code of Conduct. All registered parties were required to subscribe to the Electoral Code of Conduct before contesting the election. Breaches of Chapter 7 of the *Electoral Act, 1998* as well as the Code of Conduct were sanctionable by the regular courts as well as the Electoral Court.

## **Dispute Resolution**

To provide for alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, conflict management panels were established in each of the nine provinces in collaboration with the Electoral Institute of South Africa (EISA).

These panels mediated and settled 74 disputes and 63 facilitations were conducted to avert disputes. Thirteen disputes were referred to the police as they were not open to mediation, 12 of these being in KwaZulu-Natal. Most matters facilitated or mediated dealt with poster removals, intimidation, threats, intolerance, restricting voters from polling stations and harassment.



An international observer monitoring voting at a polling station.

"The legitimacy of an electoral process is enhanced by neutral national and international observers. To this end, both national and international observers were invited to observe the conduct of the 1999 elections. "The election was observed by about 11 000 observers, 369 of whom were international."

# **CHAPTER 7**

## **Observers and International Assistance**

#### **Donor and Other Assistance**

Considerable assistance was received from the international community. This assistance was in the form of technical personnel, equipment and money. Underlying this assistance is the building of capacity of South Africa's electoral staff through pairing them with experienced electoral officers from other parts of the world.

Eighteen electoral resource persons were made available for the registration period while 35 were made available for elections. These included high ranking election officials, some of whom were commissioners and CEOs from electoral commissions in both Africa and other parts of the world. Technical resource persons were placed in the provinces and head office. For the most part, donor countries were requested to fund technical resource persons from SADC countries and other parts of Africa.

These technical resource personnel provided capacity on financial management, electoral staff recruitment and training, human resource development, voter registration, communications, information technology and the management of election results.

The government of Japan donated eighteen vehicles and generators to be used for voter and democracy education between elections.

#### **Financial Assistance**

Funding amounting to approximately R20 million was received from Britain, Canada, USA, Austria, Netherlands, Japan, the Ford Foundation and the United Nations Development Project.<sup>22</sup> The Open Society Foundation is one of the funders that made their contribution directly to community organisations in the provinces.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> For expedience and the prompt delivery of service, some of the funding was channelled directly to NGOs for programs identified by the Commission.

The following countries gave financial assistance:

- **Britain**: This grant was used to provide for technical advisors from Africa and other parts of the world; and for programs which involved the setting up of conflict mediation committees in the nine provinces and a domestic observer coalition which fielded 10 000 domestic observers throughout the country
- Netherlands: for Voter Education
- **Austria**: for Voter Education for special groups
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID): for technical resource persons from Africa to be deployed to provinces.<sup>23</sup>

## Technical Resource Persons (TRPs)

A number of countries sponsored personnel to work with the IEC in various departments and throughout the nine provinces.

The aim of this exercise was to expose IEC personnel to electoral processes around the world in general and to help build capacity of IC staff in particular. TRPs that assisted the IEC were:

Free State	Shirley Miller	Canada
	Isaac Boateng	Ghana
	Mariit Patterson	Norway
Eastern Cape	Sam Graham	Trinidad & Tobago
	Georgina Chikoko	Malawi
	Barbara Reinhardus	Canada
	Aborgast Vitalis	Tanzania
	Heinz Deppe	Germany
Mpumalanga	Ted Wamusi	Uganda
	Christopher Pollard	Britain
	Manfred Gers	Germany
	Daniel Stroux	Germany
Northern Province	Antonio Spinelli	Italy
	Joel Sikazwe	Zambia
	Dennis Cozens	Britain
	Gladys Nduru-Kabahuma	Uganda

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> A portion of this grant was also used to promote voter education in provinces.

Northern Cape	Bione Golke Birkoff	Sweden
	Thorn Birger Drugge	Sweden
	Lucy Kassanga	Zambia
KwaZulu-Natal	Heinz Schnitzer	Germany
	Mahmat Ally Dahoo	Mauritius
	Joram Rukambe	Namibia
	Charles Manyonga	Zimbabwe
	Zvaipa Herbert Chigwada	Zimbabwe
	Ian Andrews	Britain
	Heinz George Schleidler	Germany
Gauteng	Agnes Gambura	Zimbabwe
	Lynn Puckeridge	Australia
	John Voll	Norway
North West	Hadija Mirro Nassanga	Uganda
	Noel Lee	Jamaica
	Brian McAndrews	Britain
	Hayford Apomah	Ghana
Western Cape	Sophia Aursnes	Norway
	Christian Grutle	Norway
Head Office	Jocelyn Lucas	Trinidad & Tobago
	Roger Grant	Britain

#### Observers

The legitimacy of an electoral process is enhanced by neutral national and international observers. To this end, both national and international observers were invited to observe the conduct of the 1999 elections. The South African Catholic Bishops' Conference and the South African Council of Churches acted as co-ordinators of the large number of domestic observer missions under the designation of the South African Civil Society Observers' Coalition (SACSOC). The United Nations Electoral Assistance Division was asked to assist in the co-ordination and deployment of international observers. Some South African missions abroad hosted observer groups for international voting.

The poll was observed by approximately 11 000 observers, 369 of whom were international. International observer groups were deployed to approximately 700 voting stations and covered all nine provinces while domestic observers covered almost all voting stations. The building of domestic observer capacity was emphasised.

All organisations that wished to observe the elections had to apply for accreditation. Upon meeting the required criteria, the organisation would be issued with an accreditation certificate. Seventy-two organisations, including resident diplomats, were accredited.

Various observer delegations arrived in the country during the days in the run up to the elections. The delegations were briefed by the Commission on election-related subjects and by the UN on deployment, roles and method of reporting.

Professor Nicephore Soglo, former President of Benin, led the OAU delegation. Sir David Steel, Speaker of the Scottish Parliament, led the Commonwealth Observer Group. The SADC delegation was led by Milton Phiri, the Zambian High Commissioner to Botswana and the European Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA) delegation was led by its President, Dr N. Scholten.



A voter marks his ballot before casting his vote. Sowetan

"A total of 16 228 462 South Africans went to the polls on 2 June 1999, representing 89,3% of all registered voters in the country."

# **CHAPTER 8**

# The Elections

In April 1999 the 2 June 1999 was proclaimed as the election date for national and provincial legislatures. The Commission welcomed the certainty that the fixing of the date brought to the planning of the election process. A number of factors were of particular concern:

- How to accommodate voters who would be out of their voting districts on election day;
- How to accommodate the elderly and the infirm who were not able to go to their voting stations;
- Reports of voters not being found on the voters roll;
- Staffing (given past difficulties in this area);
- Security.

#### Security Climate

The South African Police Services, the National Defence Force and the National Intelligence Agency joined forces under the overall guidance of a Cabinet Task Group that liaised closely with the Commission. Operational Centres were established around the country and the climate for intimidation, threats and violence was carefully monitored. The total commitment of the security establishment culminated in an election period that was almost entirely peaceful and violence free. Press reports even remarked on a decrease in crime on election day. The Commonwealth Observer Mission noted that:

"The elections took place in an atmosphere of tolerance and calm which we believe demonstrates the growing strength of South Africa's new democratic institutions and the commitment of its people to democracy. It is also our assessment that the conditions existed for a free expression of will by the electors and that the results reflect the wishes of the People of South Africa."<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Letter from Rt. Hon Sir David Steel, Chairman Commonwealth Observer Group to the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth dated 4 June 1999.

## **Special Votes**

Three days were prescribed for the casting of special votes: 26 May, 31 May and 1 June 1999. Voters were allowed special votes if they could not vote at their voting stations on 2 June 1999:

- due to physical infirmity, disability or pregnancy;
- due to their absence from the Republic on employment, business or study commitments;
- due to their absence from the Republic on government business; or
- because they were officials in the elections or members of the security services doing duty in connection with the elections.

A total of 31 950 people applied for special votes. To accommodate voting by the prescribed categories of voters beyond the borders of South Africa, every South African mission abroad served as a voting venue, a total of 89. The heads of mission appointed special voting officers.

Overseas voting was only permitted on 26 May 1996 to accommodate the timeous return of ballot papers and the marking of the voters roll to ensure no duplicate voting.

Election material was dispatched overseas via the diplomatic mailbag service as well as through the services of couriers. Voting started in Australia at approximately 21:00 on 25 May 1999 South African time and continued all over the globe till 02:30 on 27 May 1999 when the voting venues in the USA closed. At the closure of each station, the special voting officers faxed the details of voters to Pretoria from where the Chief Electoral Officer notified the presiding officers of the local voting stations of South African visitors abroad who had voted, for their details to be marked off on the voters roll.

The ballot papers themselves were returned by diplomatic bag to the Chief Electoral Officer in Pretoria. In respect of those in Government service, the Chief Electoral Officer delivered to the relevant local presiding officers the ballots cast overseas so that they could be counted and added to the local voting district total. These persons had been registered in the voting districts in which their head offices were situated, and there were only a few such voting districts.

The votes of South Africans visiting abroad were counted by the Chief Electoral Officer after election day and their results added to those of the voting districts in which those voters were registered.

A total of 2 206 special votes were cast abroad. People in government service cast 636 votes, visitors 1 570 and 116 ballots were rejected. Out of the total of 89 missions, 3 reported no votes cast, whilst the ballots of another 7 arrived after the cut-off date for counting.

#### **Declaration Votes**

Voters not in their voting district<sup>25</sup> on election day, could apply in advance for a declaration vote certificate. With that certificate, they could then cast their vote at any voting station in the country (but only for the national election if they voted outside of their province). After the issue of a declaration certificate, the name and details of the voter were phoned through to the offices of an LEO who then, through the wide area network, ensured that the voter's name was marked off on the appropriate segment of the voters roll.

The use of the wide area network for this purpose and the sheer volume of transactions processed put a severe strain on the bandwidth of the V-Sat computer satellite network. This sparked fears over the capacity of the network during the election itself and resulted in the restriction of the use of the network to essential transactions only.

#### **Tendered Ballots**

The Commission regulated a tendered ballot for voters whose names did not appear on the voters roll. Voters who believed that they were eligible to vote, but whose names did not appear on the voters roll and could not produce a receipt of registration, were provided with a tendered ballot paper that would not be counted unless a competent authority decided otherwise.

#### **Ballot Papers**

The national and provincial ballot papers were all locally produced using SAPPI UVDull paper. Ballot papers were printed by a plethora of printing companies and project managed by the Government Printer. Ballot papers were in full colour containing the name, emblem and abbreviated name of the party as well as a photograph of the party leader. Ballot papers were not numbered and not perforated. No stub was used and the papers were packed in books of one hundred glued at the top.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> For reasons such as employment, business, study, or close family or personal trauma.

The quality of some of the printing work done did not meet expectations. Initially books were not adequately cropped and in many cases the number of ballot papers contained in a book varied from pack to pack, some were more than hundred and others less. Although this did not, in any way detract from the legitimacy of the election, it created obstacles for presiding officers when they tried to reconcile the numbers of ballot papers used with those remaining.

Following a meeting between the Chief Electoral Officer and representatives of various organisations of disabled persons, a template was produced for use by blind people during the elections. This template was designed to make it possible for blind persons to vote for the party of their choice without anyone else being able to identify the party. This template was produced by Braille South Africa and was distributed to all voting stations throughout the country.

#### Security Material

As required by the *Electoral Act*, *1998* the Commission determined the manner in which a voter's hand was to be marked. While the use of a voters roll diminished the necessity of this action, visible indelible ink was imported for the purposes of marking the thumb nail of voters.

Security material dispatched to presiding officers also included the unique stamp for each voting station as well as the seals for the ballot boxes.

#### Logistics

The entire logistics operation was made easier by the development of a resource allocation tool based on the number of registered voters in a voting district as well as whether a voting district was urban or rural. The tool determined:

- the number of staff required at each voting station;
- a breakdown of their functions;
- the number of voting streams required per voting station;
- the number of ballot papers required;
- the number of ballot boxes required;
- the number of voting compartments required; and
- all other electoral equipment required.

Logistics management during the election period entailed the planning, organising and controlling of electoral materials and equipment, inventory and information from the point of origin (supplier) to the point of consumption (voting station).

The entire logistics plan focused on the following key criteria:

- Forecasting (procurement requirements),
- Customer service (delivery to LEO and presiding officers, promotional materials for the public),
- Transportation (bulk, normal, urgent, air),
- Warehousing and storage (processes and procedures),
- Warehouse specification and selection (geographic dispersion, size),
- Inventory control (warehouse stock management),
- Order processing (demand requirements and supplier management),
- Distribution planning (bulk, normal, urgent),
- Distribution communications (track and trace),
- Procurement (identification, specification and purchase),
- Materials handling (pallet jacks, forklifts),
- Stock returns (reverse distribution),
- Salvage and waste disposal (paper and stationary),
- Voting station equipment and furniture (tables and chairs, generators, tents, water cans).

The 14 650 voting stations were divided into 34 799 voting streams. Material used on voting day included:

• 96 597 pencils,

- 58 372 ballot boxes,
- 96 597 voting compartments,
- 60 000 000 ballot papers,
- 45 671 forms of various types,
- 87 900 candles,
- 108 348 voting compartments,
- 25 000 packs of tables and chairs,
- 246 965 pens,
- 2 012 722 paper clips,
- 107 769 rulers,
- 1 002 649 rubber bands,
- 29 300 toilet rolls.

As a cost saving measure, it was decided to use cardboard furniture and ballot boxes. The material was inexpensive to produce, economic to transport and did not have to be stored after the election. Cardboard tables, chairs, ballot boxes and voting compartments were used. These items were a major success from both a cost as well as a logistical perspective. The use of cardboard furniture saved storage and cartage costs.

Procurement proved to be an extensive exercise with approximately 150 line items procured. These included the printing of approximately 225 million pages, forms, ballot papers, etc. Both local and centralised procurement was relied on based on cost of purchase, distribution costs and availability. Generic electoral equipment was generally purchased centrally while consumables were procured locally.

A national distribution network was established for bulk material to nine provincial warehouses. Thereafter, material was distributed to LEOs who, in turn, were required to distribute to presiding officers. Distribution of security material and ballot papers was undertaken from a central security warehouse to local security warehouses designated by each LEO.

#### **Voting Stations**

In general, voting stations were the same locations previously used for registration and were primarily schools, churches and community centres. Significant effort was invested to provide tents as temporary structures for voting stations as well as generators, where required, to facilitate night-time voting. From a management perspective, the Commission was determined to obtain real time information from voting stations around the country. Therefore, it was imperative that voting stations communicate regularly with the Election Centre established with a 380-seat call centre to track election day activities.

It was negotiated with Telkom (the national telephone service provider) to install new phones at as many voting stations as possible. Telkom expressed confidence that it would be possible to handle the scale of the requirement (up to 9 350 new phones) and it was agreed that the Telkom installations would be the foundation of the communications plan. Eventually about 5 659 new phones were installed within the 8 weeks preceding voting day.

Approximately 2 000 cellphones were used to supplement the fixed telephone facility. In addition, approximately 3 000 civil defence type radios (NEAR Radios) were also deployed. This required the co-operation of the Department of Defence (Signals) and provincial disaster management authorities. These radios mainly served the rural areas where there was neither telephone nor cellphone coverage.

#### Details of **telecommunications at polling stations** are set out below:

PROVINCE	EXISTING PHONE	NEW PHONE	OFFICIAL CELL		NEAR RADIO		TOTAI VD'9
EASTERN CAPE	323	618	8	31	766	1746	2640
FREE STATE	308	496	18	3	0	825	1075
GAUTENG	595	347	59	0	0	1001	184
KWAZULU-NATAL	634	1248	92	2	ī	1977	3340
MPUMALANGA	204	443	52	0	0	699	87
NORTHERN CAPE	84	398	1	6	14	503	35
NORTHERN PROVINCE	314	493	0	0	0	807	195
NORTH WEST PROVINCE	164	615	16	17	0	812	125
WESTERN CAPE	196	1001	16	4	11	1228	130
TOTAL	2822	5659	262	63	792	9598	1465

#### Assets Rolled back from Voting Stations

Assets distributed to presiding officers included tents, generators, batteries, lights, gas lamps, gas cylinders, flagpoles and scanners (Zip-Zips). Rented equipment was used where possible. The conditions for rented equipment included self-insurance by the providers of such equipment. Where assets were procured, these were recorded in an asset register before delivery to presiding officers.

The table below provides a summary of the **main assets procured and dispatched** as well as the quantities rolled back.

Item Cøde	Item Description	Unit of Issue	Quantity Issued	Quantity Rolled back
50	Tents	Each	74	74
51	Generators	Each	120	118
69	Batteries	Each	2 534	2 499
70	Lights	Each	130	121
72	Gas Cylinders	Each	18	18
86	Scanners (Zip-Zips)	Each	25 575	23 317

All quantities rolled back have been verified through a recorded physical stock check in all provincial warehouses. Quantities not rolled back were reported through the asset management process. Confirmed losses were reported to the South African Police Services and case numbers obtained.

## **Electoral Staff**

A software application was developed for the recording of all election staff details. Recruitment was decentralised and left to the LEOs and PEOs. The total staff complement required was 261 025. The number of staff eventually recruited was 220 255, broken down into provinces as follows:

Provinces	Staff required	Staff Recruited
Eastern Cape	42 460	39 502
Free State	16 922	13 976
Gauteng	42 768	33 660
KwaZulu-Natal	55 956	49 017
Mpumlanga	16 657	15 111
Northern Cape	5 432	4 058
Northern Province	33 753	29 940
North West	23 624	16 415
Western Cape	23 453	18 576
TOTAL	261 025	220 255

The staffing levels varied from province to province if measured against the benchmarks set at national level. Provincial offices set their own targets, based on their knowledge of local circumstances.

Details of staff payments were captured on the electoral staff system (ESS) to facilitate payment of staff and the establishment of a database of persons to be used in future elections. The ESS facilitated the efficiency of cutting of cheques and of timeous payment of staff.

A cascading approach to training was adopted, the efficacy of which depended on the following procedure:

• Core Trainers would be appointed to train trainers (called training facilitators) recruited by local electoral officers.

Training Facilitators would train presiding officers and deputy presiding officers.

• Presiding Officers would train polling and counting staff.

Training materials were designed not only to share functional knowledge, but also to build the capacity of staff for future involvement in elections. Training materials were made more functional and user friendly and focussed on functional issues. A training video was developed and 3 000 copies were distributed countrywide to augment the other training methods. Printed material included the following:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Eleven different role cards	25 000
Role cards for counting	220 000
Instruction cards	40 000
Voting handbooks	75 000
Posters	20 000
Counting handbook	75 000
Counting posters	20 000

#### **The Election Centre**

To provide a focal point of managing activities, a central command and control centre was established, known as the Election Centre. The Commission selected the Pretoria Show Grounds as its venue for the Election Centre. The crux of the Election Centre was a 380-seat call centre where information would be captured from telephone calls received. The 12000m<sup>2</sup> split-level hall was located close to the Commission head office and provided sufficient space to accommodate the operational staff and management, political parties and media (television, radio and print media) from all over the world. Construction at the site commenced on 26 April 1999 and was completed on 23 May 1999, leaving sufficient time to concentrate on the final finishing touches in respect of décor, signage and last minute aesthetic adjustments.

A fundamental philosophy that informed the decision to centrally locate and manage a national Election Centre was borne out of the paramount need to ensure and maintain transparency, accessibility and real-time information to commission officials, political parties, the media and the public.

From this management hub, the Commission would track what was happening in each of 14 650 voting stations throughout the country.

Presiding officers would be required to report whether their stations were open, voter turnout during the morning, voter turnout in the afternoon and whether their voting stations were experiencing any problems. Over the election period, more than 80 000 telephone calls were received and handled by the call centre.

Problems were logged on a software application developed for the centre. All information was translated into maps and the GIS section produced real time graphic displays of the status of the election in the field. This information was simultaneously made available electronically to the media and political parties at the centre. Such information was also posted on the internet.

Given the nature of the Election Centre, it was resolved to invite political parties and the media to manage their activities from the centre as well. A total of 1 200 Journalists from around the globe were accredited to the centre and almost all of the political parties made extensive use of the offices, conference facilities and computers designated for their use at the Election Centre.

The Election Centre was a crucial and indispensable instrument ensuring that the ultimate objective of a free and fair election would not be compromised. In many instances, the technology used, and the processes and principles adopted, in the creation of the centre will serve as an international best-practice model in similar ventures.

## Voting

On 2 June 1999 voting hours commenced at 07:00 and ended at 21:00. It was hoped that the resource allocation system, staff training and the voting stream system would alleviate many of the queues experienced in previous elections. More than 50% of voters spent less than 30 minutes in a queue at a voting station and a further 13% waited less than an hour.<sup>26</sup> The speed of queues depended primarily on the use of the stream system. Where correctly implemented, the system proved its worth. The Commission was surprised by the number of places where queues developed and where voters waited in these queues for long hours.

Where queues did develop, voting stations remained open until all voters had voted. Only 1.5% of the 14 650 voting stations remained open past 21:00. To expedite the finding of a voter's name on the voters roll, the use of the Zip-Zip machine to determine the voter's sequence number on the voters roll was experimented with.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> HSRC report issued on 6 June 1999.

While the Zip-Zip machine was never intended for this purpose, many voting stations reported positive results from the use of this technology. In some areas, however, the use of the Zip-Zip machine as an additional aid was misunderstood and led to a degree of confusion.

Voters generally found their polling stations accessible with 79%<sup>27</sup> of voters travelling less than 30 minutes to their polling stations<sup>28</sup> while 96% of voters reported that the voting process was easy to understand and 85% of voters believed their vote was secret, with a further 3% unsure.<sup>29</sup> 99% of voters said that they were not forced or intimidated to support a particular political party.<sup>30</sup>

To adequately manage the process, LEOs appointed area managers who roamed from voting station to voting station assisting where necessary and delivering equipment if required. Each area manager was allocated about 10 voting stations to service. Logistical problems such as a lack of equipment or staff were not a feature of the 1999 elections.

A total of 16 228 462 South Africans went to the polls on 2 June 1999, representing 89,3% of all registered voters in the country. The Commission believes that the spoilt ballot rate of 1,55% (251 320) indicated that voters were generally well educated and aware of what they were to do on voting day. Valid votes cast totalled 15 977 142.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Ibid.

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{28}{76}$  the HSRC report also indicated that the most popular method of getting to a polling station was to walk.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> HSRC report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Ihid



Counting of votes begins.

"The best way of ensuring the legitimacy and transparency of the election process was to count and announce the result of the count at each voting station on the day of voting."

# **CHAPTER 9**

# **Counting and Results**

#### Counting

One of the main differences between the 1999 elections and the 1994 elections was the decision to count votes at the voting station where they were cast. This was a clear departure from the 1994 model in which the counting of votes was centralised, at municipal level. The distrust that surrounded the 1994 elections was no longer prevailing. The best way of ensuring the legitimacy and transparency of the election process was to count and announce the result of the count at each voting station on the day of voting. Furthermore, this approach eliminated the possibilities of real or perceived tampering with ballot boxes transported overnight or over long distances.

The final result of the elections had to be announced within 7 days of voting (including 2 days allocated to objections) and a way was sought to expedite the declaration of the results.

## **Election Centre**

The Election Centre with its call centre, fax facilities, media and political party presence was used as the venue to receive, verify and consolidate counts from voting stations and to calculate and announce the results of the elections.

When the voting stations officially closed at 21:00 on 2 June, or after the voters within the perimeter of the voting station had voted, the counting process began. The votes for both the national and provincial elections were counted and the results of the count entered on the national and provincial results slips respectively. Information required in the results slips included the details of the counting officer, the voting district number, objections (if any), the types of special votes and a reconciliation of the number of ballot papers received and used at a voting station. The counting officer and the political party agents who were present at the counting station were required to sign the result slips. The counting officer then phoned the results through to the call centre operators at the Election Centre where the results were captured on the results verification system (RVS).

The counting officer then announced the results outside the voting station and packed all election materials and results slip in a prescribed manner for transportation to the offices of the LEO of that area.

At the offices of the LEO, the election material was handed over and the LEO who had to immediately fax the results for each voting station to the Election Centre. The LEO also captured the results of the count on the results verification system and transmitted it to the Election Centre through the wide area network.

As results were received and captured into the Election Centre for a particular voting district, the system automatically checked the different inputs (telephone, fax and wide area network) and highlighted any discrepancies for the attention of the verification officers. In total 64 000 faxes were received at the Election Centre. Until certified by the Commission all results transmitted were provisional counts and were not regarded as a final result.

The verification section followed up on all the discrepancies and were able to refer issues to the provincial electoral officers and local electoral officers or escalate problems to senior management for resolution. The status of a result was initially unverified (once the telephone results has been captured ) and became either temporarily verified if the same result was received from another source (fax or WAN) and finally verified if all three sources reflected the same result for a voting district. If a discrepancy was detected, the result for the voting district had a mismatch status until all the issues were resolved.

As the results became available on the RVS system, maps were generated providing a visual representation of the data and were projected onto large displays (in the main hall of the Election Centre), plotted on hard copy maps and also made available in electronic maps through the Commission's intranet.

Issues such as redundancy, efficiency and uptime became vital over this period. If one critical server went down for even one minute, it could have been perceived as a critical breakdown, 99% uptime was, therefore, unacceptable and all precautions were taken to ensure a 100% goal. The Election Centre was connected not only to a disaster recovery site, but also to the satellite earth station at Hartebeeshoek and to the Commission's head office.

The Election Centre had a fibre backbone meshed between eight switches. Each desktop was connected to dual backup switches which themselves were connected to multiple other switches on the backbone. Repair of the workstations was never an option and they were simply swapped out in the unlikely event of failure. These servers housed fault tolerant network connections and were linked to two switches each.

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) made available two massive generators to which separate UPS boxes were attached. This would ensure that there was no disruption through a power failure.

The critical results data from around the country was replicated between two database servers. This data was not only pushed to the backup sites, but also to the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), a local cellular provider as well as to the Commission's internet service provider (ISP). The ISP ran a load balancing system over three servers which afforded 23 million hits in a five-day period. The Commission's web site <u>www.elections.org.za</u> was one of the most popular internet sites internationally over this period.

Once the Commission had certified the provisional count of results for all voting districts, the election results were formally calculated and the seat allocations for the National Assembly and the nine provincial legislatures were done.

At 19h00 on June 7, the results of South Africa's second democratic national and provincial elections were announced by Dr Brigalia Bam, Chairperson, on behalf of the Electoral Commission. This event, 5 days after voting day, was facilitated by the consolidation of the entire results capturing and determination operation under one roof.

The Election Centre was not only an operational facility where the results were received from all over the country, but also a place where politicians and the media monitored the results process in a transparent and accessible manner and where the media kept the nation, and in fact the world, informed.

#### **Roll-back**

Deconstruction of the Election Centre and roll-back of all equipment used commenced on 7 June and was completed within a matter of days. The bulk of equipment used at the Election Centre, including IT infrastructure (cabling), call centre equipment, PABX units, electrical and communication lines, flooring, generators, partitioning and office furniture, had been rented and was duly returned to the service providers. Commission assets used at the Election Centre included some 600 personal computers and 25 servers. These were rolled–back to one of the Commission's warehouses where they are kept in secure storage for future use, including the forthcoming municipal elections. The 4 facsimile servers used at the Election Centre were installed at the Commission's head office and are currently used to full capacity.

### The Results and Seat Allocation

The results of the national and provincial elections held on 2 June 1999 with their concomitant seat allocations are set out below:

### **National Assembly**

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	228 975	1.43%	6
African National Congress	ANC	10 601 330	66.35%	266
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	46 292	0.29%	1
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	27 257	0.17%	1
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	1 527 337	9.56%	38
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	86 704	0.54%	2
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	1 371 477	8.58%	34
Minority Front	MF	48 277	0.30%	1
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	1 098 215	6.87%	28
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	113 125	0.71%	3
The Government by the People Green Party	GPGP	9 193	0.06%	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	9 062	0.06%	0
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	125 280	0.78%	3
United Democratic Movement	UDM	546 790	3.42%	14
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	127 217	0.80%	3
Abolition of Income Tax and Usury Party	AITUP	10 611	0,07%	0
Total Result		15 977 142		400
Spoilt Ballots		251 320		
% Poll			89.30%	

### Number of Registered Voters : 18 172 751

### Eastern Cape Legislature

#### Number of Registered Voters : 2 454 543

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	20 857	0.96%	0
African National Congress	ANC	1 606 856	73.80%	47
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	3 673	0.17%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	136 859	6.29%	4
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	3 575	0.16%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	7 166	0.33%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	70 141	3.22%	2
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	24 837	1.14%	1
United Democratic Movement	UDM	296 015	13.60%	9
Vryheidsfront /Freedom Front	VF/FF	7 287	0.33%	0
Total Result		2 177 266		63
Spoilt Ballots		30 469		
% Poll			89.94%	

# Free State Legislature

## Number of Registered Voters: 1 225 730

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	9 827	0.90%	0
African National Congress	ANC	881 381	80.79%	25
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	4 390	0.40%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	58 163	5.33%	2
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	8 798	0.81%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	5 1 1 9	0.47%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	56 740	5.20%	2
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	12 548	1.15%	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	1 235	0.11%	0
Unemployment Labour Alliance	ULA	2 974	0.27%	0
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	8 543	0.78%	0
United Democratic Movement	UDM	18 194	1.67%	0
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	22 996	2.11%	1
Total Result		1 090 908		30
Spoilt Ballots		16 943		
% Poll			90.38%	

# Gauteng Legislature

### Number of Registered Voters: 4 154 087

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	42 581	1.16%	1
African National Congress	ANC	2 485 064	67.85%	50
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	11 447	0.31%	0
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	5 895	0.16%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	658 231	17.97%	13
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	32 493	0.89%	I
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	128 717	3.51%	3
Labor Party	LP	1 088	0.03%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	142 563	3.89%	3
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	26 774	0.73%	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	1 988	0.05%	0
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	8 596	0.23%	0
United Democratic Movement	UDM	71 604	1.95%	1
Vryheidsfront /Freedom Front	VF/FF	45 749	1.25%	1
Total Result		3 662 790		73
Spoilt Ballots		40 843		
% Poll			89.16%	

## KwaZulu Natal Legislature

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	53 745	1.81%	1
African National Congress	ANC	1 167 094	39.38%	32
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	5 801	0.20%	0
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	5 052	0.17%	0
Democratic/demokratiese Party	DP	241 779	8.16%	7
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	9 762	0.33%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	1 241 522	41.90%	34
Mass United Movement	MUM	2 261	0.08%	0
Minority Front	MF	86 770	2.93%	2
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	97 077	3.28%	3
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	7 654	0.26%	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	3 451	0.12%	0
United Democratic Movement	UDM	34 586	1.17%	1
Vryheidsfront /Freedom Front	VF\FF	6 804	0.23%	0
Total Result		2 963 358		80
Spoilt Ballots		46 141		
% Poll			87.38%	

### Number of Registered Voters: 3 443 978

# Mpumalanga Legislature

### Number of Registered Voters: 1 277 783

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	12 626	1.81%	0
African National Congress	ANC	958 504	39.38%	26
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	4 523	0.20%	0
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	1 091	0.17%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	50 426	8.16%	1
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	9 020	0.33%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	15 991	41.90%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	27 925	0.08%	1
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	7 303	2.93%	0
Sindawonye Progressive Party	SPP	4 318	3.28%	0
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	2 599	0.26%	0
United Democratic Movement	UDM	16 039	0.12%	1
Vryheidsfront/ Freedom Front	VF/FF	19 171	1.17%	1
Total Result		1 129 536	0.23%	30
Spoilt Ballots		21 502		
% Poli			90.08%	

## Northern Cape Legislature

# Number of Registered Voters: 377 173

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	5 004	1.53%	0
African National Congress	ANC	210 837	64.32%	20
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	1 722	0.53%	0
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	1 360	0.41%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	15 632	4.77%	1
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	1 735	0.53%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	1 728	0.53%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	79 214	24.17%	8
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	2 158	0.66%	0
United Democratic Movement	UDM	2 936	0.90%	0
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	5 446	1.66%	1
Total Result		327 772		30
Spoilt Ballots		4 897		
% Poll			88.20%	

## Northern Province Legislature

## Number of Registered Voters: 1 847 766

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	18 281	1.10%	1
African National Congress	ANC	1 464 432	88.29%	44
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	6 598	0.40%	0
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	8 931	0.54%	0
Dabalorivhuwa Patriotic Front	DPF	8 229	0.50%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	23 486	1.42%	1
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	5 365	0.32%	Ō
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	5 644	0.34%	ō
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	28 159	1.70%	1
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	23 325	1.41%	1
United Democratic Movement	UDM	41 700	2.51%	1
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	10 727	0.65%	0
Ximoko Party	XP	13 817	0.83%	0
Total Result		1 658 694		49
Spoilt Ballots		25 137		
% Poll			91.13%	

## North West Legislature

# Number of Registered Voters : 1 527 672

Party	Acronym	Number of Votes	%	Seats
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	12 227	0.94%	0
African National Congress	ANC	1 030 901	78.97%	27
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	6 637	0.51%	0
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	42 593	3.26%	1
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	7 157	0.55%	0
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	6 759	0.52%	0
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	29 931	2.29%	1
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	9 613	0.74%	0
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	124 874	9.57%	3
United Democratic Movement	UDM	16 785	1.29%	0
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	17 964	1.38%	Ī
Total Result		1 305 441		33
Spoilt Ballots		21 722		
% Poll			86.87%	

## Western Cape Legislature

### Number of Registered Voters : 1 864 019

Party	Acronym		%	Seats	
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	44 323	2.79%	1	
African National Congress	ANC	668 106	42.07%	18	
Afrikaner Eenheidsbeweging	AEB	2 854	0.18%	0	
Democratic/Demokratiese Party	DP	189 183	11.91%	5	
Federal Alliance/Federale Alliansie	FA	4 153	0.26%	0	
Inkatha Freedom Party	IFP	2 895	0.18%	0	
National Coalition Party/Nasionale Koalisie Party	NACOPA	1 126	0.07%	0	
New National Party/Nuwe Nasionale Party	NNP	609 612	38.39%	17	
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	7 708	0.49%	0	
People's Liberation Party	PLP	915	0.06%	0	
The Government by the People Green Party	GPGP	2 453	0.15%	0	
United Democratic Movement	UDM	38 071	2.40%	1	
Vryheidsfront/Freedom Front	VF/FF	6 394	0.40%	0	
Workers International Vanguard League	WIVL	672	0.40%	0	
Africa Moral Party	AMP	9 513	0.60%	0	
Total Result		1 587 978		42	
Spoilt Ballots		13 499			
% Poll			85.92%		



The Election Centre.

"As results were received and captured into the Election Centre for a particular voting district, the system automatically checked the different inputs (telephone, fax and wide area network) and highlighted any discrepancies for the attention of the verification officers. In total 64 000 faxes were received at the Election Centre. Until certified by the Commission all results transmitted were provisional counts and were not regarded as a final result."

# **CHAPTER 10**

## Conclusion

#### **Cost of the Elections**

The Electoral Commission's financial statements and accounts are submitted to Parliament by way of a statutory prescribed annual report. It was, however, felt that this report should give an indication of the costs of the 1999 national and nine provincial elections.

In the calculation of these election costs, the on-going running costs of the Commission and its administration, as well as money spent on the registration of voters for the establishment of the national common voters roll, were excluded and only money spent directly on the elections taken into account.

The result of this calculation showed that R529 210 483 was spent on the elections, *i.e.* R29-12 per registered voter. If taken into account that in every province two elections were run simultaneously, the amount spent per voter per election is R16-39.

#### **Political Climate**

The political climate had cooled considerably over the previous five years. With few notable exceptions, political violence and intimidation did not manifest itself in any significant manner in the run-up to these elections. The Commonwealth Observer Group noted in their report that:

"The elections took place in an atmosphere of tolerance and calm which we believe demonstrates the growing strength of South Africa's new democratic institutions and the commitment of its people to democracy."<sup>31</sup>

#### Pronouncement

The Electoral Commission is satisfied that the 1999 national and provincial elections were particularly transparent, democratically contested and finally free and fair.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Letter from Rt. Hon Sir David Steel, Chairman, Commonwealth Observer Group, to Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, dated 4 June 1999.

#### STAFF Core staff 322 15 000 Maps produced - A0 size **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION** - A3 size 1 200 000 **SERVICE (GIS)** Delimited voting stations 14 650 Party Liaison Committees established 807 Voter education workshops 4 500 VOTER EDUCATION 400 000 Persons involved 75 000 Staff 25 000 Portable Barcode Scanning Units (Zip-Zip) Voter Registration Applications received 18 437 954 Voters Registered 18 172 751 Urban - 65.64% 11 928 423 VOTER REGISTRATION Rural - 34.36% 6 244 328 Male - 45.55% 8 277 449 Female - 54.45% 9 895 302 265 203 Rejected applications 49 989 Upheld appeals against rejections Registered political parties 50 POLITICAL PARTIES Participated in elections (national & provincial) 26 Parties that gained in National Assembly 13 out of 16 220 255 Staff Total votes cast 16 228 462 VOTING Valid ballots 15 977 142 Spoilt ballots - 1.55% 251 320 Percentage poll 89.3% 2 000 Cellular phones **TELECOMMUNICATIONS NEAR Radios** 3 000 Voting stations with Telkom facilities 9 000 WAN Locations 475 WIDE AREA NETWORK (WAN) (VSAT Satellite Technology) +/- 100 tons Materials distributed - during registration +/- 3 000 tons - during elections LOGISTICS Security parcels 60 000 60 000 000 **Ballots** papers 3km Fiber optic cables UTP cables 30km Fax lines 120 ELECTION CENTRE PABX units with 1000 telephones 3 600 Computers Servers 25 Calls to the National Public Call Centre 320 000 Calls to the Internal Call Centre at registration weekends 26 000 COMMUNICATIONS 20 000 Calls made in support of Local Electoral Officers & MEDIA 1000 National & International Media Personnel Accredited Media interviews and press conference at election period 130 International 369 **OBSERVERS** National 10 631

# **KEY ELECTION '99 STATISTICS**

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Electoral Commission wishes to extend its gratitude to the following individuals, organisations and entities for their support of Elections '99. Contributions received ranged from financial, technical and human resources to discounts and expertise. The extent of generosity received warrants special mention of these supporters. Our apology is extended to those who supported the Commission in delivering these elections that have been accidentally left out of this list.

#### **INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

Commonwealth of Australia/Australia Agency for International Development (AUSAID) Canada/Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Commonwealth Federal Republic of Germany Hellenic Republic (Greece) International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) Japan Kingdom of Denmark/Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) Kingdom of the Netherlands Kingdom of Norway Kingdom of Sweden/Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) Republic of Austria Republic of Finland United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland/Department for International Development (DFID) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) United States of America/US Agency for International Development (USAID) United States Information Services (USIS)

# NON-GOVERNMENTAL

ORGANISATION

#### NATIONAL

African Pathways Deaf Federation of South Africa (DEAFSA) Educational Support Services Trust (ESST) Electoral Institute of South Africa (EISA) Idsay Community Projects Itireleng Education Projects Joint Education Projects Institute for Democratic Alternative in South Africa (IDASA) WE-SHOP Employment Project for the Visually Impaired

#### EASTERN CAPE

Eastern Cape Voter Education Consortium East London Municipality East London Traffic Department NBS Properties Disaster Management Mediation & Transformation Practice ECCO City Sub-structure Provincial Administration of Eastern Cape

#### FREE STATE

Affirmative Management System (AMS) Benesa Bloemfontein Archdiocesan Youth & Development Botshabelo Child Care Centre Botshabelo Guidance Centre Botshabelo Multi-Disabled Centre Botshabelo Multi-Functional Centre for Citizenship, Education & Conflict Management Democracy For All **Dintletse Enterprise** Free State Consulting Association Info Age Ketla Ruta Kganya Community Based Organisation Lerato Youth Club Lesiba Construction Lotang Implementation for the care of the Aged Mangaung Resource Centre Mangaung Society Masego Legal Advice Centre National Council of African Women (NCAW) Nightingale Training & Community Development Rouxville Legal Advice Centre South African Council of Churches Sunrise resource Centre Tell Botshabelo Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

#### GAUTENG

Albinism Society Bantu Kuqala Cooperative for Research & Education (CORE) Leadership Development Council Mahube Development Ntaka NIR/Election Consortium Siyathuthuka South African Graduate Development Association Tjepi Ulwandle Development & Training Project

#### **KWAZULU-NATAL**

ABSA South Durban Advocate BS Khuzwayo Bambanani Community Development Democracy Development Programme D Hlengethwa Community Project Durban Metro Council **ECCO** Commission Education of the Disabled Emakhuzeni Development & Training Consultants Fundani Community College Gamalakhe Liaison Committee Impumelelo Development Programme JMG Community Organisation Khanyiselisizwe Community Based Organisation KwaZulu-Natal Community Support Programme Midlands Black Business Chamber Mthimude Zenzele Nokuthula Dube & Associates Ogwini CBO Network Organised Development Consultancy Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness Practical Ministries Rural Youth Democracy Programme Sakhisizwe Shield of Democracy Twin Sewing Club Vulamehlo Development Council Youth Development Forum

#### MPUMALANGA

AMB Holdings Barberton Community Radio Station Castle Wine & EK Green Enkangala Local Reconstruction & Development Committee Lowveld Youth Association Lucky Nkosi Attorneys Metropolitan Insurance Company Mpumalanga Council of Churches Mthimunye Attorneys South African Breweries (Nelspruit) Nhlava Training & Development Consortium Phuzekhemisi Secunda Community radio Station Shane, Morgan & Attorneys THETA South Africa Breweries (Witbank)

#### NORTHERN CAPE

Association for Community & Rural Advancement Inqubelo Resource Centre Karoo Mobilisasie Beplanning Kuruman Moffat Mission Trust Mphatlalatsane Development Agency Namaqualand Resource centre Northern Cape Education Training Agent Northern Cape Educare Trust Rekonstruksie Organisasie School Levers Opportunity Training Surplus People's Project

#### NORTHERN PROVINCE

Akanani Rural Development Association **Dilokong Econ Education Foundation** Homats Community Projects Itereleng Educational Project Joint Education Project Karuwa Lehlabile Development Project Lindsay Community Project Lotavha Legal Advice Office Mokerong Advice Office Messina Advise Office Nethworo Education Project Northern Province Development Corporation Northern Province Training Trust Nzhelele Interdenominational Ministries Phagamang Community Resource Centre SA Institute for Business & Career Studies Tlhatlolanang Health & Nutrition Centre

#### NORTH WEST

Kgatelo-Pele Institute Vote North West '99 Sangoco North West North West Council of Churches

#### WESTERN CAPE

African Centre for Constructive Resolution Development (ACCORD) Black Sash Catholic Justice & Peace Centre for Conflict Resolution - UCT Commission for Gender Equity Community Dispute Resolution Trust Community Law Centre Gender Advocacy Programme (GAP) Gun Free South Africa (GFSA) Human Rights Committee Institute for Democratic Alternative for South Africa (IDASA)

#### WESTERN CAPE (continued)

Interdenomination African Ministers Association of South Africa (IDAMASA) Inter-Religious Commission on Crime and Violence and ECCOC Khululekani Legal Education Action Programme (LEAP) N2 South Cape Rural Development Forum Nu Life Theatre Group Peace Development Programme Sakaza Communications Siyaya Voter Education Consortium South African Catholic Bishops Conference South African Graduate Development Association (SAGDA) South African Red Cross Street Law Trauma Centre for Survivors U Managing Conflict (Umac) Voter & Democracy Education Trust (VODET) Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum West Coast Network **Ouaker Peace Centre** 

#### **CORPORATE SOUTH AFRICA**

A le Bokwe A1 Video AfriGis Akanani Rural Development Projects Alphoa Sand & Klip Andersen Consulting Andy's Roadhouse Ariel Technologies Arthur Andersen Bendor garden Pavilion **Big Three Tours** BMW of South Africa **Botanical Gardens** Brian Piesely Brother Business Machines **BSB** Printers Canon Printers Carewell Clouds End Motel Coca Cola South Africa **Computer Foundation** Country Chicken Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Dancers Data Inn Datacentrix Dilokon Ocono Education Foundation **ESJ Supplies** Ethniks Systems Ex Pro **Executive Partners** Far North Plumbing

Fish & Chipper Freda's catering Game Stores Gestetner of South Africa **GIS Business Solutions** Hensta Structured Cabling Hewlett Packard Houerskool Noordeland Holiday Inns Homats Community Projects Independent Stationery Inra Catering InterConnect Systems Intergraph Internet Solutions Jazz Technologies Karuwa Development Projects Kentucky Fried Chicken Kopano Social Club Kruger Park Lodge Kwetliso Technologies Lehlabile Development Levega Marketing Light House Lock & Key Specialists Lotavha Legal Advice MA Lukoto Bus Service Magoebaskloof Hotel Mahatlana Young Boys Cultural Mathethabalas Catering Matlafatso Stationers Mercedes Benz of South Africa Merrythoughts Florists Messina Legal Advisors Messina Stationery Michael Ford cc Microsoft South Africa Minolco Mokerong Advice Office MUM & PUP Nethworc Education Projects Ngwenya Taxi Associations Nic Signs Palm Park Hotel Phakgamang Community Pietersburg Signs Pine Pride Price Cooper Waterhouse Progressive Women Caterers Radio Bushbuckridge Radio Turf Radio University of Venda Ranch Motel Resource Centre RightFax Rissik Café **Robertsons Holdings** South African Breweries Volkswagen South Africa

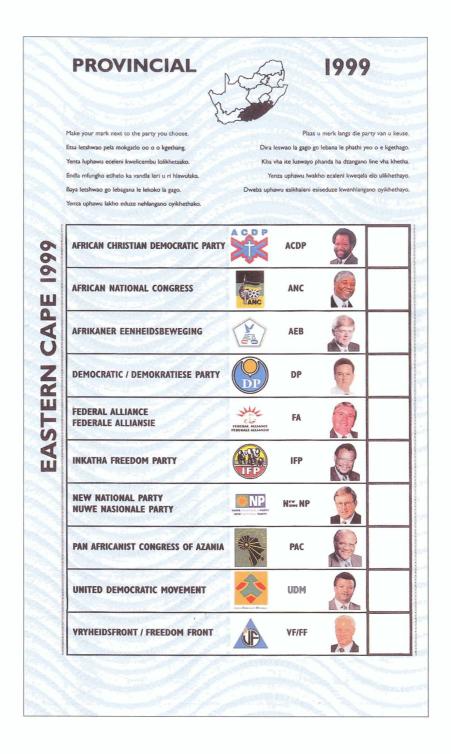
#### PARASTATALS

Denel Eskom Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Government Communication & Information System (GCIS) South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) South African Revenue Services (SARS) Telkom Transnet

#### **GENERAL**

Black Lawyers Association (BLA) National Democratic Lawyers Association (NADEL)

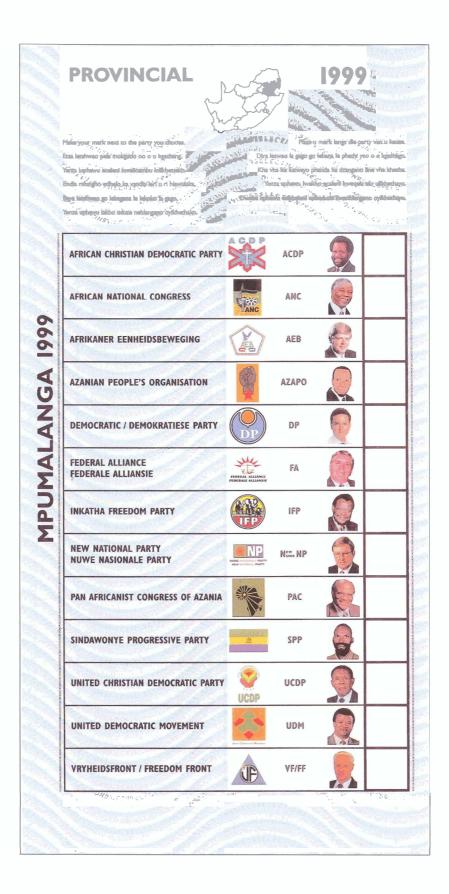
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AFRIKANER EENHEIDSBEWEGING	AEB	AEB	
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	IFP	IFP	2
		MF	
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THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF AZANIA	SOFA	SOPA	3
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UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT		UDM	
VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT		VF/FF	
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indla mfungho etihelo ka vandla leri u ri hlavulaka. Isya letshwao go lebagana le lekoko la gago. fenza uphawu lakho eduze nehlangano oyikhethako.	Yer	nza uphawu lwak	ho ecaleni kweqela ek	o ulikheth
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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	ANC	ANC		
AFRIKANER EENHEIDSBEWEGING	AEA	AEB		
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UNITED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY	UCDP	UCDP		
UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT		UDM		
VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT	A	VF/FF		

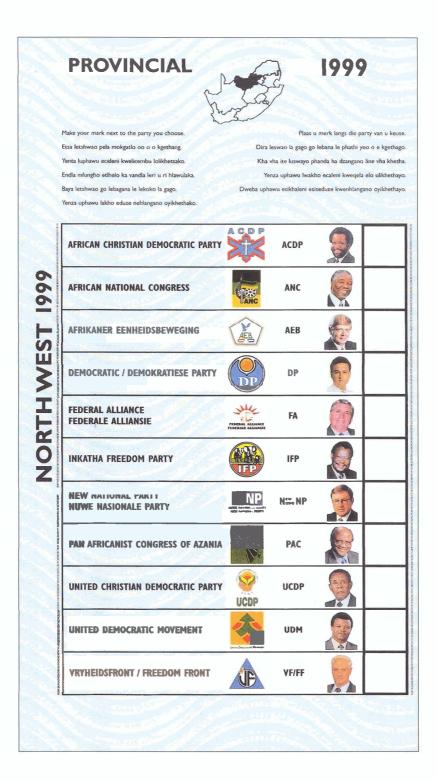
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1	Make your mark next to the party you choose. Essa letshwao pela mokgato oo o o kgethang. fenta luphawu eceleni kwelicembu lolikhetsako. Endla mfungho etthelo ka vandia leri u ri hlavulaka.	Kha	leswao la gago go vha ite-luswayo p	u merk langs die party van u lebana le phathi yeo o e kge handa ha dzangano line vha k ho ecaleni kweqela elo ulikhe
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	AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	C DOST ANC	ANC	
	AFRIKANER EENHEIDSBEWEGING	AEB	AEB	
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	DEMOCRATIC / DEMOKRATIESE PARTY		DP	27
	FEDERAL ALLIANCE FEDERALE ALLIANSIE	PEOPERAL AUGANER	FA	
	INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY	<b>Willip</b> IFP	IFP	
	LABOR PARTY	<b>P</b>	LP	
	NEW NATIONAL PARTY NUWE NASIONALE PARTY		Nowe NP	
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and the set of the set	THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF AZANIA	SOPA	SOPA	0
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	UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT	*	UDM	
	VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT	JP	VF/FF	

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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	TANC	ANC		
AFRIKANER EENHEIDSBEWEGING	AEA	AEB		
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION		AZAPO		
DEMOCRATIC / DEMOKRATIESE PARTY		DP		
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PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA	*	PAC		
THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF AZANIA	SOPA	SOPA	3	
UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT	Exercise Masses	UDM		
VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT	<b>E</b>	VF/FF		



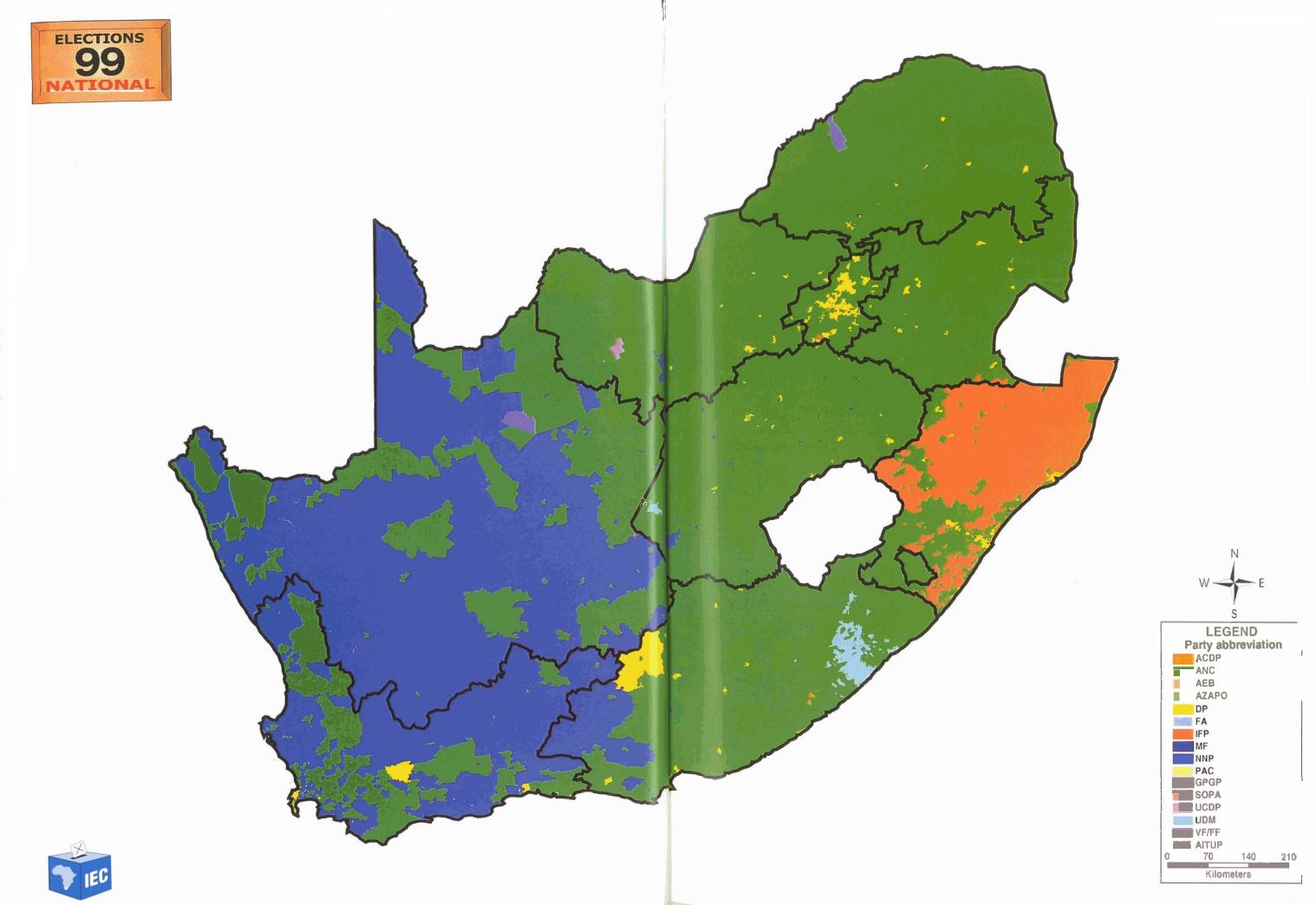
#### PROVINCIAL 1999 Make your mark next to the party you choose. Plaas u merk langs die party van u keuse. Etsa letshwao pela mokgatlo oo o o kgethang. Dira leswao la gago go lebana le phathi yeo o e kgethago. Yenta luphawu eceleni kwelicembu lolikhetsako. Kha vha ite luswayo phanda ha dzangano line vha khetha. Endla mfungho etihelo ka vandla leri u ri hlawulaka. Yenza uphawu lwakho ecaleni kweqela elo ulikhethayo. Baya letshwao go lebagana le lekoko la gago. Dweba uphawu esikhaleni esiseduze kwenhlangano oyikhethayo. Yenza uphawu lakho eduze nehlangano oyikhethako. AC DF 1 **AFRICAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY** ACDP 6661 **AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS** ANC NORTHERN CAPE AFRIKANER EENHEIDSBEWEGING AEB AEB 100 AZAPO AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION M **DEMOCRATIC / DEMOKRATIESE PARTY** DP FEDERAL ALLIANCE MA FA FEDERALE ALLIANSIE FEDERAL AULANCE 100 **INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY** IFP NEW NATIONAL PARTY **NP** Nuwe NP NUWE NASIONALE PARTY PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA PAC UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT UDM **VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT** VF/FF (P 12

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INKATHA FREEDO	M PARTY		IFP	
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PAN AFRICANIST C	ONGRESS OF AZANIA	*	PAC	
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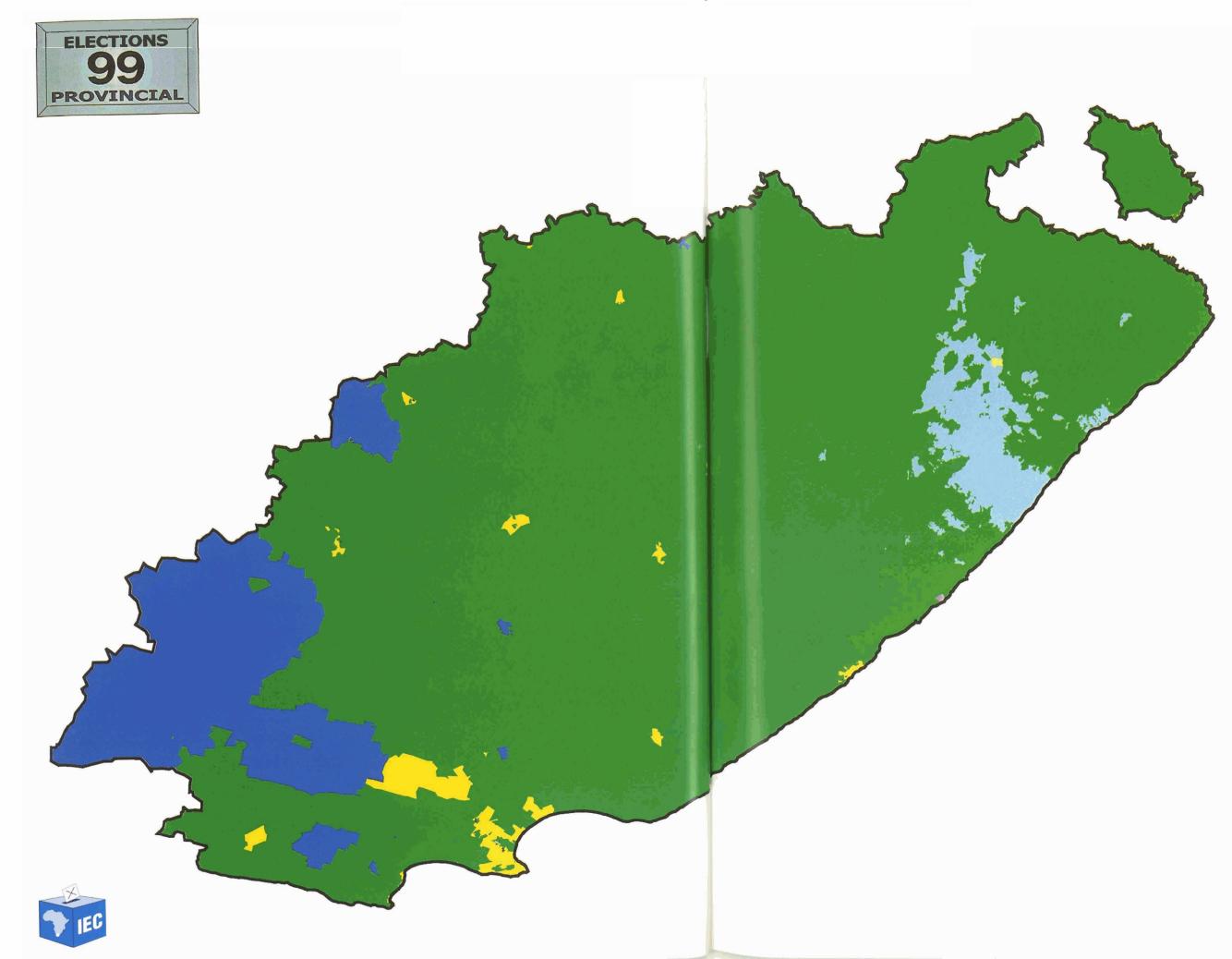


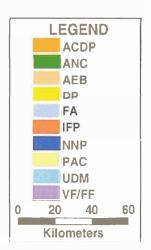
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1 10 A	NATIONAL COALITION PARTY NASIONALE KOALISIE PARTY		NACOPA	2	
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1 01- 12	PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA	*	PAC		
ajamereceptification	PEOPLE'S LIBERATION PARTY	PLP	PLP		
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and the second	VRYHEIDSFRONT / FREEDOM FRONT	<b>IP</b>	VF/FF		
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# SOUTH AFRICA - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT



# EASTERN CAPE - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT





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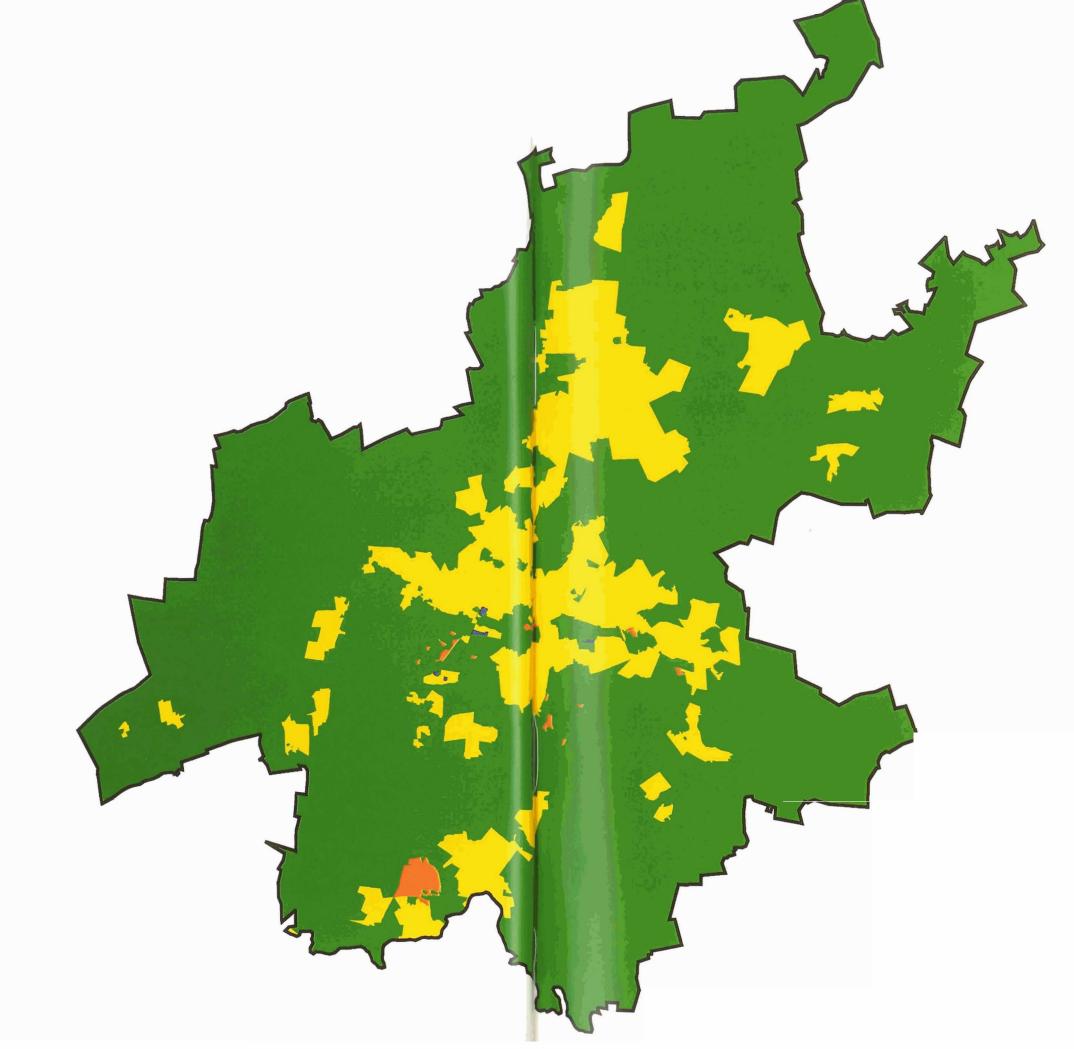
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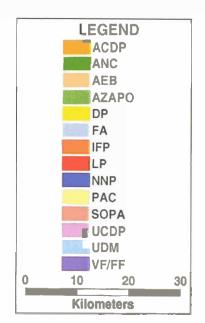
**GAUTENG - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT** 





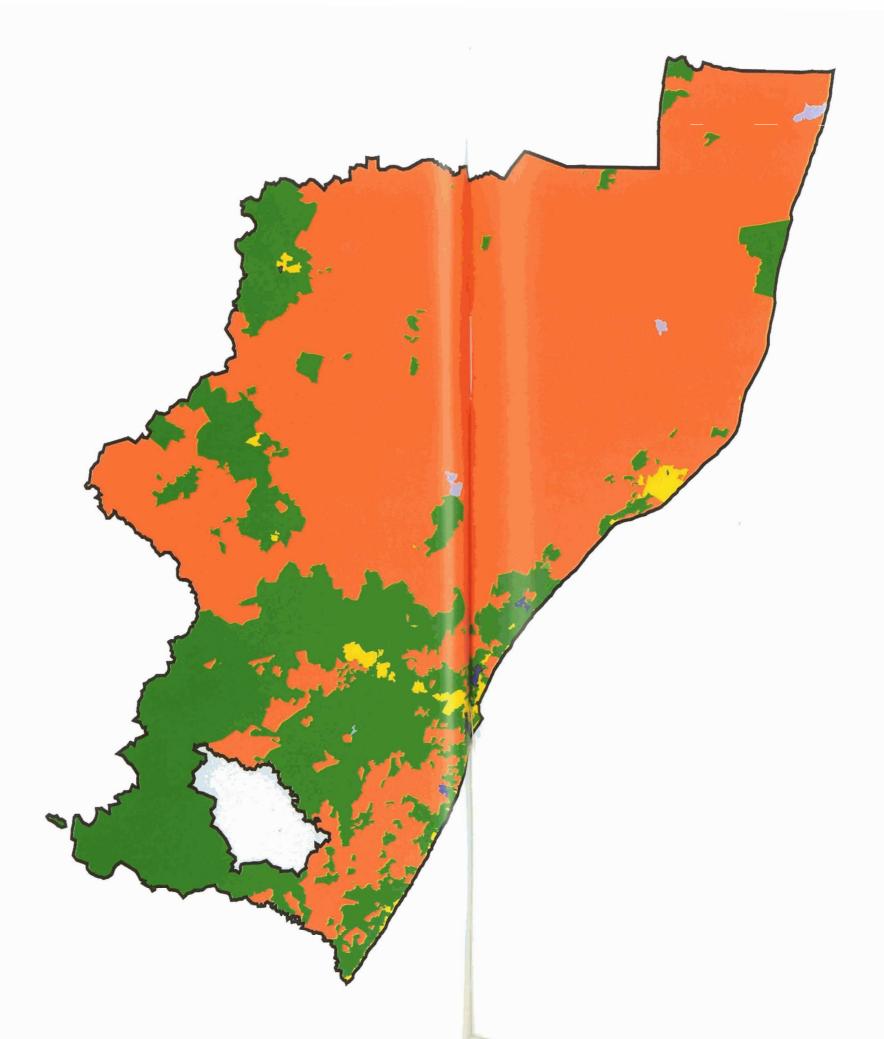






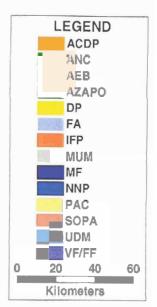
# KWAZULU-NATAL - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT



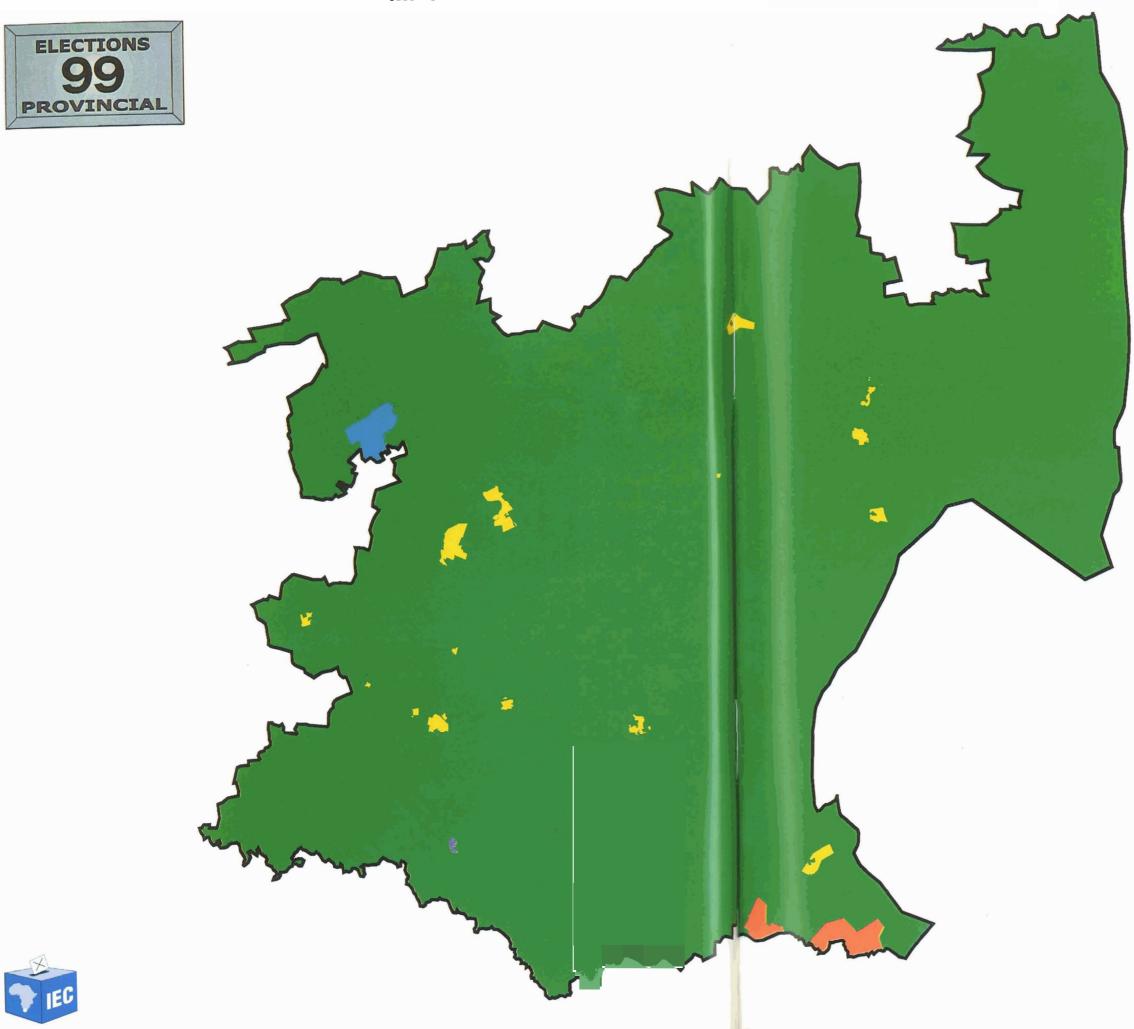




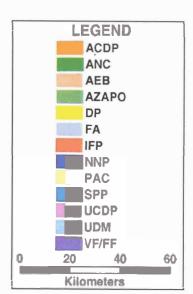




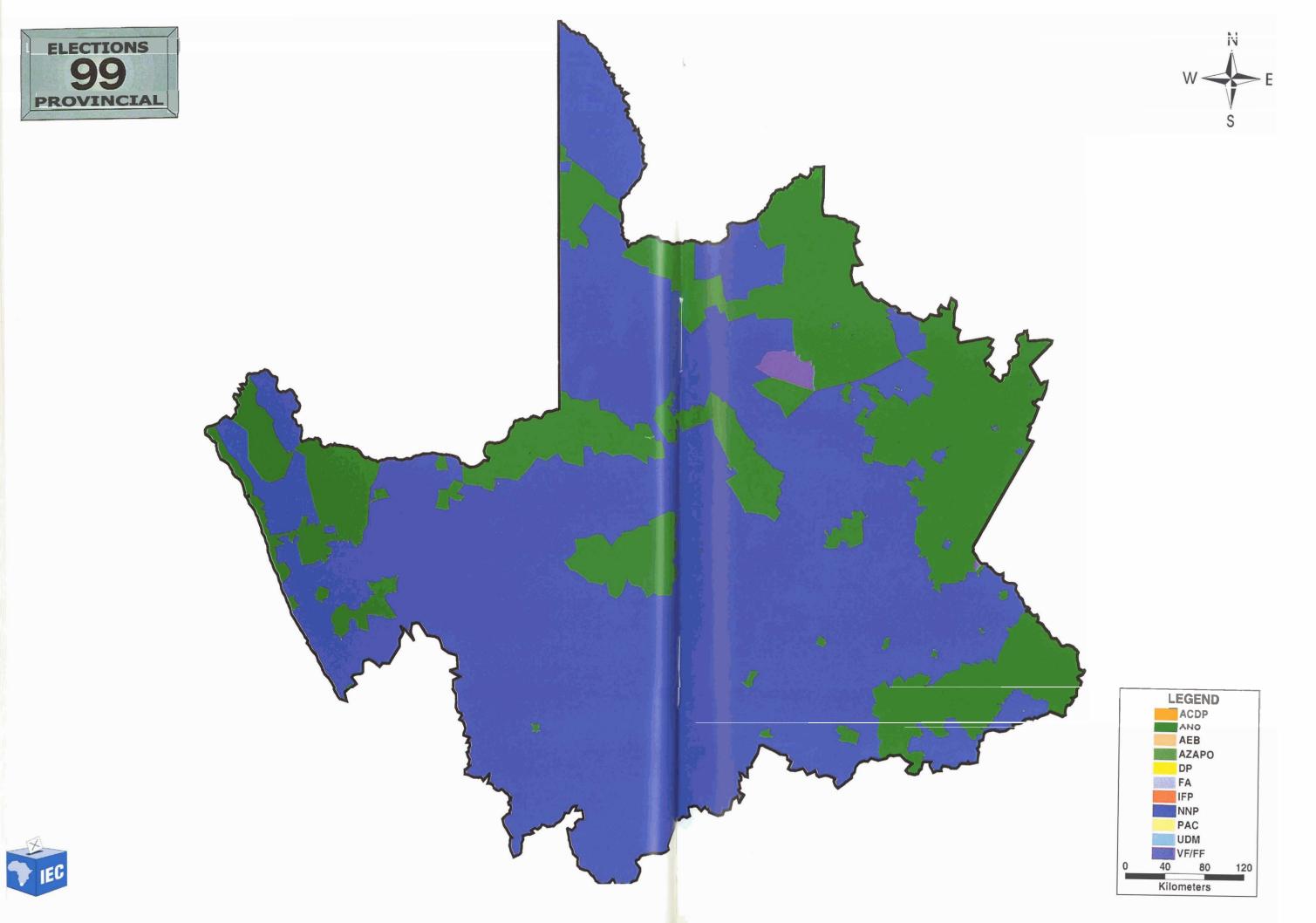
# **MPUMALANGA - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT**







# NORTHERN CAPE - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT

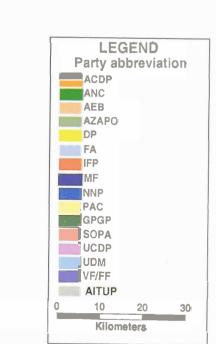


# NORTHERN PROVINCE - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT

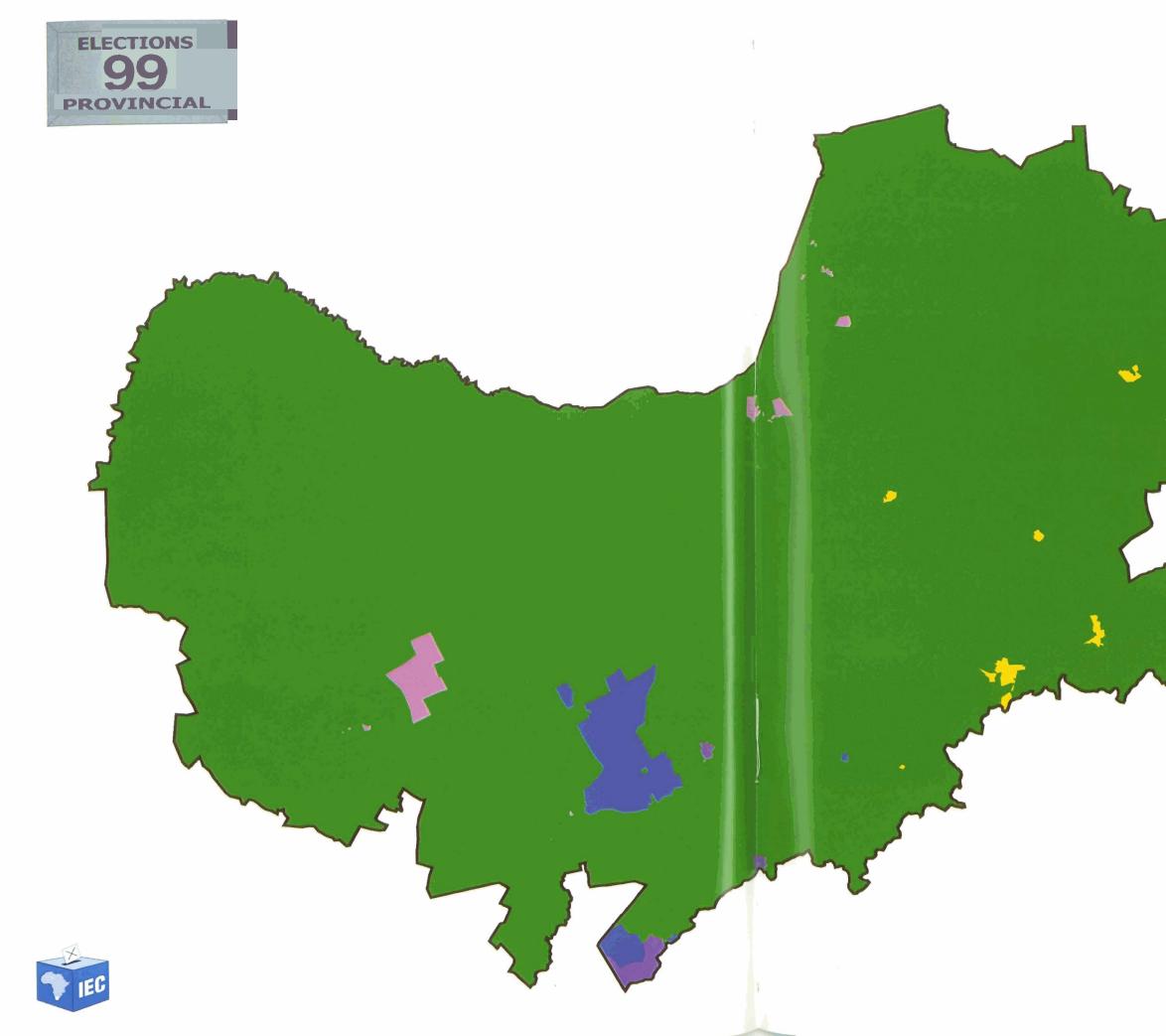




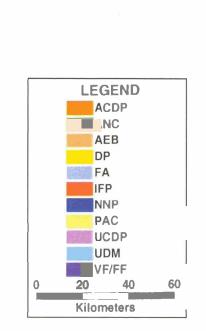




# NORTH WEST - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT







# WESTERN CAPE - LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT

