



VISION
Electoral
Excellence



VISION

Electoral Excellence

The long-term Vision of the
Electoral Commission of South Africa

The Electoral Commission

The Electoral Commission is established by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa as an independent body, subject only to the Constitution and the law. It must be impartial in exercising its powers and perform its functions without fear, favor or prejudice. The Electoral Commission is accountable to the National Assembly.

The Commission

Commissioners are appointed through a public process culminating in an appointment by the President of the Republic of South Africa for a term of seven years, which is renewable only once. The Electoral Commission consists of five members, one of whom must be a judge. The details of the Commissioners are as follows:



Mr Glen Mashinini
Chairperson



Ms Janet Love
Vice-Chairperson



Judge Dhaya Pillay
Commissioner



Dr Nomsa Masuku
Commissioner



Mr Mosotho Moepya
Commissioner

Review

Political and organisational maturity amongst registered political parties has greatly advanced since the first democratic elections in 1994. Expectations that political parties and the public have of an electoral administration have in this time also changed significantly. In response, the administration of elections has also become more structured and efficient since 1994.

Although the Electoral Commission as an organisation has distinguished itself over the years and constantly improved on the service and facilities it offers to all its stakeholders, the political and macro-social environment in which it operates have changed drastically.

This changed environment impacts the work of the Electoral Commission and it was appropriate for the Commission to once again reflect on its legal mandate, obligations and the strategic priorities.

The legal framework

- The Constitution
- Electoral Commission Act
- Electoral Act, 73 of 1998 and Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 27 of 2000
- Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 117 of 1998
- The Political Party Funding Act, 6 of 2018

Vision, Mission and Values

Having considered its legal mandate and obligations, the Commission outlines the vision and the values it holds and will advance, and the mission it will embark on. It firmly believes that these statements of commitment will enable it to realise its legal mandate.

Vision

To be a pre-eminent leader in electoral democracy

Mission

The Electoral Commission is an independent constitutional body which manages elections of legislative bodies and ensures that those elections are free and fair through the participation of citizens, political parties and civil society in order to strengthen electoral democracy.

Impact Statement

Manage free and fair elections of public representatives into legislative bodies to strengthening electoral democracy

Values

To enable the Electoral Commission to serve the needs of all stakeholders, including the electorate, political parties and candidates, permanent and temporary staff, the media, civil society and others, the organisation subscribes to the following organisational values:

1. Impartiality – to act free of favour
2. Integrity – the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles
3. Accountability – to take responsibility for one's actions
4. Transparency – invite trust by revealing that one has nothing to hide
5. Responsiveness – the quality of reacting quickly and positively

Strategic priorities of the Commission

To give effect to its vision and the quest for continuous development and improvements in its actions and operations, the Commission will give priority to the following strategic outcomes and envisaged outputs.

1. Strengthen institutional effectiveness

- 1.1 Exercise leadership and governance, monitoring and evaluation to ensure the effective implementation of the Electoral Commission's core mandate, strategic outcomes and outputs, aligned with the corresponding budget allocations and risk mitigation.
- 1.2 Strengthen assurance management and governance procedures within the Electoral Commission.
- 1.3 Provide a cutting edge, stable, secure ICT environment that meets all functional needs of the Electoral Commission and supports innovative business processes.
- 1.5 Recruit and retain a talented permanent staff complement to meet operational requirements as well as constitutional obligations.
- 1.6 Develop and up-skill institutional capacity to enable the Electoral Commission to deliver on its constitutional mandate.
- 1.7 Effectively manage financial resources in compliance with legislation.

2. Delivery of free and fair election of representatives

- 2.1 Manage free and fair elections in accordance with the applicable electoral timetables to ensure the efficient and credible execution of the mandate of the Electoral Commission.
- 2.2 Maintain a credible national common voters' roll enabled by cutting-edge technology.
- 2.3 Provide accessible voting facilities and comprehensive logistical resources at all voting stations to meet operational demands for main electoral events.
- 2.4 Strive for excellence at voting station level to enhance the integrity of elections.

3. Inform and engage citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy

- 3.1 Provide impactful and visionary research and thought leadership to strengthen electoral democracy.
- 3.2 Actively promote and foster awareness and participation in electoral processes through civic and democracy education programmes.
- 3.3 Interact with domestic, regional and international stakeholders to build an understanding of the Electoral Commission's role in delivering credible elections.
- 3.4 Advance and promote electoral processes through communication campaigns on diverse platforms to sustain visibility across the electoral cycle.

4. Contribute to the enhancement of the transparency in elections and party funding

- 4.1 Manage party funding and donations in compliance with legislation.
- 4.2 Provide consultative and cooperative liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and political parties and candidates to facilitate free and fair elections.
- 4.3 Provide effective management of the registration of political parties to strengthen multi-party democracy.



SOUTH AFRICA

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