



ARRIVAL STATEMENT OF THE EISA ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE 2019 PRESIDENTIAL, LEGISLATIVE AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN MOZAMBIQUE

1 September 2019

The Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) announces the arrival of its election observation mission (EOM) in the Republic of Mozambique to observe the 15 October 2019 presidential, legislative and provincial elections. The EISA EOM is in Mozambique at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique, to conduct an independent assessment of the electoral process.

The EISA EOM is led by His Excellency, John Dramani Mahama, former President of the Republic of Ghana, who is deputised by EISA's Executive Director Mr. Denis Kadima. The EISA EOM is comprised of 20 long-term observers (LTOs) and 22 short-term observers (STOs) who are drawn from Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Election Management Bodies (EMBs). The LTOs arrived in Mozambique on 30 August 2019 and will be joined by STOs on 9 October 2019. While the STOs will depart on 18 October 2019, the LTOs will remain in the country until 30 October 2019. EISA's deployment of an EOM to the 2019 elections is the fifth since the 1999 elections.

The EISA EOM's assessment methodology is guided by the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation (DOP). The EOM will assess the extent to which the legal framework and procedures in the 2019 electoral process comply with Mozambique's commitments and obligations set out in the following international instruments: the OAU/AU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections; the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance; the Principles for Election Management, Monitoring and Observation (PEMMO) and the Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

EISA observers will be deployed to the 10 provinces of Mozambique and the City of Maputo to observe key processes beginning with the electoral campaigns, pre-polling activities, election day and post-polling activities. After election day, the EISA EOM will issue a statement on its preliminary findings and recommendations on the electoral process up until the close of polling.

These elections are the sixth to be conducted since the signing of the General Peace Agreement of 1992 and coincide with signing of the new peace accord signed in August 2019. The 2019 elections are a crucial mile for reconciliation and the consolidation of peaceful environment where democracy can thrive. A peaceful and successful election will therefore further cement the democratic gains made by the country over the past generation. EISA is pleased to be part of this historic moment in Mozambique.

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About EISA

EISA is a pan-African non-partisan, non-governmental organisation that was established in 1996. It strives for excellence in the promotion of credible elections, citizen participation, and the strengthening of political institutions for sustainable democracy in Africa. To achieve its mission through technical assistance and capacity building of Election Management Bodies (EMBs), political parties, parliaments, relevant departments of intergovernmental bodies and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) throughout the African continent. EISA envisions an African continent where democratic governance, human rights and citizen participation are upheld in a peaceful

environment. The Institute has a successful track record of providing technical assistance and advice to its pan-African, sub-regional and national partners throughout the continent, to build sustainable institutional frameworks for democratic governance.

Headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Institute's current and past field offices include Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe, a reflection of its broader geographical mandate.

Election observation provides an important foundation for EISA's support to democratic processes in Africa. Through the deployment of its international observer missions, EISA provides an independent professional assessment of electoral processes which provides a basis for electoral reforms. Through its observation missions, the Institute is also able to identify and document areas of support in the post-election phase to inform its post-election support in the host countries. EISA also uses its observer missions as a lesson learnt platform for EMBs and CSOs on the continent because its missions are composed of CSO and EMB representatives from countries that are soon to hold elections.