Joint statement by international election observation missions to Zimbabwe’s
Harmonised Elections
30 July 2018

2 August 2018

We, the International Election Observer Missions present for the 30 July Harmonised
Elections in Zimbabwe, while appreciating the generally peaceful and orderly pre-electoral
environment and on voting day, express our grave concern about the regrettable outbreaks
of post-election violence.

At the outset, we extend our sympathies to the families and loved ones of those affected
by these troubling incidents.

While recognising the right to peaceful protest, we condemn vandalism and destruction of
property and call on political party supporters to abide by the law.

We denounce the excessive use of force to quell protests and urge the police and army to
exercise restraint.

We urge the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), to release the full and detailed results
expeditiously, in a transparent and accountable manner. This election presents an
opportunity for Zimbabwe to break the cycle of electoral contentions and post-election
violence.

We call on the leadership of all political parties and their supporters, in particular the two
main parties, ZANU-PF and the MDC Alliance, civil society, faith based organisations, and
all other stakeholders to safeguard the integrity of the political and electoral process.

We urge all stakeholders and citizens to pursue grievances peacefully and through the
established legal channels.

We encourage political leaders to show magnanimity in victory and graciousness in defeat.

On 30 July, the people of Zimbabwe went to vote in high numbers, aspiring for a new
beginning. We stand in solidarity with them as they look up to their leaders, and all
stakeholders to complete this process peacefully and credibly, and to ensure their votes
truly count.
Agreed by the following Heads of International Election Observation Missions in Harare, Zimbabwe on 2 August 2018:

His Excellency Hailemariam Dessalegn Boshe, Head of the African Union Election Observation Mission (AUEOM)

His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, Head of the Commonwealth Election Observation Mission

His Excellency Tete Antonio, Secretary of State for External Relations of the Republic of Angola and Head of the SADC Election Observation Mission

Justice Dr Patrick Matibini, Head of the SADC Parliamentary Forum Election Observation Mission

Judge Semistocles Kaijage, Head of Mission, ECF - SADC

Ambassador Ashraf Rashed, Head of COMESA Election Observation Mission

Elmar Brok, Head of the European Union Election

Masa Janjusevic, Head of the Carter Centre Election Observation Mission

Joint International Observation Delegation of IRI and NDI