



REDET - LEAD AGENCY OF TEMCO

TEMCO

TEMCO

Newsletter

On behalf of the citizens, TEMCO evaluates elections to determine if they are credible, free and fair

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TEMCO's Values

- Impartiality
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Transparency
- Credibility
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Legality



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*TEMCO Press Conference held on 14th February, 2015
Left to Right: USAID Elections Specialist Mr. Alexander Offei-Mintah,
TEMCO Manager Dr. Benson Bana and Political Analyst Dr. Lupa Ramadhani*

TEMCO to Observe the 2015 Electoral Processes in Tanzania

Launching of the TEMCO Observation Mission

As a membership organisation, the Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO) is a domestic election observation group which is citizen-based, non-partisan, impartial and autonomous. It's membership size has been increasing considerably since its inception, from 22 organisations in 1994 to 162 like-minded civil society organisations in 2015. These organisations include faith-based organisations, trade unions, academic institutions, youth and women groups, professional organisations as well as business groups. TEMCO has the Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania (REDET) - serving as its lead agency. On behalf of the citizens, TEMCO objectively and empirically evaluates elections to determine the extent to which they are peaceful, credible, free and fair. TEMCO has monitored and observed all the four General Elections in Tanzania, the 2003 By-Elections and the 2010 Zanzibar Referendum. In all these occasions, TEMCO's election observation strategy has consistently been comprehensive coverage of the electoral cycle.

The major thrust of TEMCO is to build voter confidence and participation as well as to facilitate oversight of the electoral processes. Impartiality, integrity, objectivity, credibility, transparency as well as professionalism, legality and accountability are the values that govern the behaviour and conduct of TEMCO observers.

In preparation for observation of the October 2015 general elections, TEMCO launched a programme called the Observation of Tanzania Electoral Processes (OTEP) in December 2014. The goal of the programme is to observe the Tanzania electoral processes, which include key components of the electoral cycle. Specifically, the programme is intended to:

- observe voter registration, constitutional referendum processes and the 2015 Tanzania general elections, and other key components, e.g. constituency demarcations, registration of voters, nomination of candidates, elections campaigning, voting, vote counting and assessing of the final referendum and general election results;



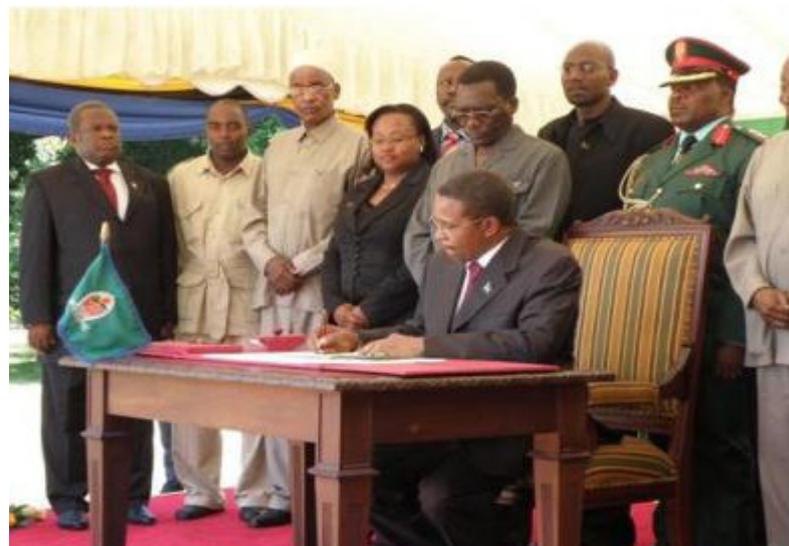
A cross-section of TEMCO LTOs following a training session in Feb, 2015

- observe and assess the fairness of the management of the proposed constitution referendum and elections, especially the impartiality of the legal context (i.e. the electoral law, regulations and directives), the electoral administration machinery, efficacy of the Electoral Management Bodies (EMB) [i.e. the National Electoral Commission (NEC) and the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC)], as well as activities related to policing elections;
- assess the fairness in the allocation and use of relevant state resources by the contending political parties, especially state subsidies and public media (government radio, television and newspapers);
- assess the extent to which, all factors considered, the referendum/elections results can be said to have been credible, free and fair;
- take stock of the major lessons that can be learned from the referendum/elections with a view to improving electoral efficacy, credibility and fairness in the future; and
- assess the implementation effectiveness of the Election Expenses Act. No. 6 of 2010.

The TEMCO observation mission has been accredited by the National Electoral Commission to observe the registration process through the BVR system.

Establishment of TEMCO Secretariat

The TEMCO core management team consists of eight professionals, including the head of mission, deputy head of mission and programme manager, political analyst, accountant, media analyst, administrative and logistics coordinator, administrative assistant and office attendant. In addition, consultants with specialised expert knowledge on specific areas will be hired to offer their services to the project as and when needs arise. These might include statisticians, political science researchers, legal analysts, gender analysts and IT experts. TEMCO offices are located on the Ground Floor of the DUP Building, University of Dar es Salaam.



H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania signing the Election Expenses Bill into Law

Recruitment, Training and Deployment of Long Term Observers

As usual, TEMCO recruited its Long Term Observers (LTOs), on merit, through a competitive process. To become an observer, an individual needed to be nominated by a TEMCO member organisation, possess a degree from a recognised institution of higher learning, be impartial and non-partisan, and have experience in monitoring and observation of electoral processes. Interviews were conducted on 4th February, 2015 and subsequently 202 LTOs were selected out of 300 applicants. Particular attention was paid to equitable representation with 40.1% of the selected LTOs being women, across a varied range of age.

Training of LTOs was conducted for two days, on 13th and 14th February, 2015 at Blue Pearl and University of Dar es Salaam, respectively. On the first day, participants were trained on the administration of key observation and

data collection instruments for voter registration and constitutional referendum. The second day was dedicated for legal requirements for both voter registration and constitutional referendum. LTOs were also taken through the TEMCO's Code of Ethics for Observers. The training was, to a large extent, interactive allowing for wider participation whereby questions were raised, comments made, clarification sought and additional information provided. TEMCO planned to deploy a total of 180 LTOs to observe the trial voter registration using BVR machines which commenced on 23rd February, 2015 in Njombe Region. TEMCO will be deploying more observers as NEC scales up registration to other zones in the country. TEMCO will also deploy the same number of observers to observe the processes leading to the 2015 constitutional referendum including campaigns, voting, vote tabulation, declaration of results and post-referendum episodes. The map below shows a provisional deployment plan in different regions.



Biometric Voter Registration Rolled Out

Stakeholders Views of the BVR

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) came under serious scrutiny from various stakeholders, especially political parties, complaining of the failure to update the Permanent National Voter Register (PNVR) since the 2010 elections. The PNVR was established in 2004 using the Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) technology and was used for the first time during the 2005 general elections. The last update was done in 2008 in which two million new voters were registered (See Table 1).



Table 1: Updating of Voters Registration, 2007-2008

No.	Region	Total Number of Registered Voters	Updating of PNVR, First, 2007/2008	Corrections	Deaths
			New Registered Voters		
1	Arusha	723,874	73,629	27,798	1,109
2	Dar es Salaam	1,912,662	231,547	97,869	1,476
3	Dodoma	849,561	90,122	32,617	2,910
4	Iringa	758,262	84,201	31,670	10,183
5	Kagera	1,048,294	133,700	56,244	10,502
6	Kigoma	666,114	65,136	21,604	1,383
7	Kilimanjaro	739,529	78,129	32,874	3,803
8	Lindi	450,620	61,965	28,574	2,476
9	Manyara	533,894	49,602	18,357	905
10	Mara	752,906	88,967	33,738	2,049
11	Mbeya	1,056,126	104,272	34,460	5,566
12	Morogoro	988,113	92,516	36,878	2,761
13	Mtwara	658,220	85,535	39,164	3,130
14	Mwanza	1,586,919	188,679	79,938	3,795
15	Pwani	518,841	48,582	22,686	1,744
16	Rukwa	489,289	61,204	20,067	1,867
17	Ruvuma	607,920	103,120	30,761	2,775
18	Shinyanga	1,380,953	151,642	53,279	2,306
19	Singida	545,074	62,445	22,753	1,640
20	Tabora	840,014	116,510	39,828	2,262
21	Tanga	891,942	102,562	45,011	4,519
22	* Zanzibar	15,540	0	0	0
	Total	18,014,667	2,074,065	806,170	69,161

Source: NEC (2010), Updating of PNVR (2007-2008). Retrieved on December 7, 2010 at www.nec.go.tz

The reason provided by NEC for failing to update the register regularly as per legal requirement has been that the government has not been releasing funds for the activity. Against this background, as the 2015 constitutional referendum and general elections drew closer, it surprised many stakeholders when NEC announced the adoption of the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) technology to update the voters' register. This update would include registration of both formerly registered voters (who had been registered using the OMR technology) and new voters. NEC insisted that all previous voter IDs would thereafter be rendered invalid. Stakeholders had mixed feelings about such NEC's decision to update the voter register using the BVR technology. Nevertheless, many of the stakeholders were satisfied with NEC's explanation for introducing the BVR, including its added security features compared to the OMR technology, facilitation of voter identification and minimising the possibility of double registration. On the other hand, questions emerged over the ability of NEC to register over 20 million eligible Tanzanians in a very limited time and warned over rushed, last-minute activities. Political parties complained of inadequate consultations before embarking on the new technology (*ThisDay*, 23/9/2014). There were fears that this could derail some processes especially the conduct of the constitutional referendum, which was slated for 30th April, 2015. The public was concerned that the BVR might malfunction on the Election Day as it happened in Kenya's 2013 elections. NEC allayed these fears, affirming that the BVR technology would be used for voter registration only and not for voting.

Pilot-Testing of the BVR

On 16th December, 2014 NEC started the pilot voter registration exercise, using the BVR technology in three constituencies: Katavi, Kawe and Kilombero. This came after considerable procrastination, as NEC had failed to initiate this process in August, September and October, 2014 as it had announced earlier (*ThisDay*, 11/12/2015). Pilot testing is a critical phase in rolling out BVR technology as it provides an opportunity to assess the efficacy and limitations of the technology under various circumstances. It gives the supplier an opportunity to improve the observed weaknesses before rolling it out at a national-wide scale.



Pilot testing the BVR system at a registration station in Bunju- Kinondoni District

According to the assessment of the exercise by NEC, the pilot testing was generally a success, notwithstanding few observed hitches. NEC's media statement mentioned hardware malfunction, bad weather (for Morogoro and Dar es Salaam) and illiteracy as some of the hitches faced during the trial BVR process. The problem of hardware malfunction delayed the registration in many centres in Dar es Salaam, leading to a lot of complaints. NEC promised to address all shortcomings ahead of the country-wide registration exercise.

Table 2: Registration Figures (estimate and actual) in Pilot Tested Constituencies

S/N	Constituency	Estimated	Registered	Variance
1.	Katavi	11,394	11,210	-184
2.	Kawe	35,426	21,323	-14,103
3.	Kilombero	17,790	19,188	+1,398

Source: Computed from NEC statistics, 2015

As noticed from Table 2, NEC could not register 14,103 eligible voters in Kawe constituency, equivalent to 40% of the target. NEC did not provide reasons for this lower turn-out compared to other pilot-tested constituencies, but breakdown of BVR machines might have contributed a lot. Also the length of registration time (seven days per ward) might have contributed to the problem since many people in Dar es Salaam are employed either in the formal or informal sector meaning that they were available for registration only on Saturdays and Sundays. It is also possible that NEC's estimates on registration were not realistic. However, NEC changed its previous position and issued a statement that eligible voters who were not able to register the first time, would be registered during the country-wide registration exercise.

Procurement of BVR Kits

By the time the pilot registration exercise started, in December 2014, NEC had procured 250 kits. NEC stated that other 7,500 BVR kits would be procured which would enable a wider and speedier registration process. Only about 1,100 kits had already been procured by April 2014. The procurement of BVR kits was delayed significantly causing the registration exercise to be put on hold several times. NEC announced that the supplier of the BVR kits was Lithotech Exports of South Africa. The tendering process, however, was not very transparent to the public, and it was claimed that delayed disbursement of funds to NEC by the government was another reason which slowed down the registration.

There have been several twists and turns that have caused confusion. For example, on 23rd September 2014, NEC Chairperson Justice Damian Lubuva was quoted by *ThisDay* confirming that the government had paid TShs. 290 billion (out of TShs. 298 billion) as advance payment to procure BVR kits. By March BVR the anticipated additional BVR kits had not arrived. By then, pressure and anxiety was building up among members of the general public. On 25th March, 2015, the Prime Minister Hon. Mizengo Pinda said the government had disbursed as much as 70% of the funds needed for the purchase of BVR kits (*Daily News*, 25/03/2015).



Tanzania Parliament in session

This confusion forced some MPs, during the 18th session of the national assembly meeting in April, 2015, to demand explanation from the government on the situation. When adjourning the parliamentary session, the Prime Minister announced that the government had paid 100% of the funds needed to purchase the BVR machines. He also hinted that the government had admitted that the scheduled 30th April 2015 date for conducting the constitutional referendum would not be realistic and that NEC would announce a new date (*The Citizen*, 10/04/2015).

The next day, NEC Chairperson confirmed postponement of the constitutional referendum until further notice. He also confirmed that the government had paid the full amount for the purchase of BVR kits. He further noted that NEC had received additional 248 BVR kits and that another 1,600 kits would arrive anytime. With the 500 BVR kits NEC promised to embark on voter registration in four regions: Iringa, Ruvuma, Mtwara and Lindi after completion of registration in Njombe on 18th April, 2015. NEC is now indicating that registration could proceed up to July 2015, although the registration schedule has not been released.

Success and Sad Stories of the BVR in Njombe Region



NEC Chairman addressing a Press Conference

The process of updating the National Permanent Voter Register (NPVR) using the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) technology started on 23rd February, 2015. It was officially launched at Makambako Town Council in Njombe Region on 24th February 2015 by the Prime Minister, Hon. Peter Kayanza Pinda. The event was also attended by high-level dignitaries, notably the host Regional Commissioner of Njombe, Dr. Rehema Nchimbi, some ministers and deputy ministers, Chair of NEC, Commissioners of NEC, some Regional and District Commissioners, MPs, religious leaders and representatives of three political parties namely CCM, CHADEMA and CUF.

The Prime Minister and the Chair of NEC appealed for a big turnout of eligible voters to enable the process meet set targets, saying it was advanced technology which was superior to the previous PVR in terms of voters' data security and addressing problems such as double registration. They both emphasised that registration in the BVR was a precondition if voters were to participate in both the constitutional referendum and the October 2015 general elections. The NEC Chair reported that on the first day of the trial, registration was clouded with some challenges especially technical ones, e.g. how to operate the BRV kit, failure of some kits to recognise some fingerprints, and promised that the NEC IT team would seek solutions to such hitches. He also echoed a concern that some people (including some media houses) were belittling the efforts invested by NEC and government in ensuring that the exercise was completed successfully. He thus urged politicians and other stakeholders to refrain from discouraging Tanzanians from turning out in big numbers to register.



TEMCO election observer on duty in Wanging'ombe district, Njombe region

TEMCO deployed an observer of the voter registration process in February 23rd, 2015, covering eight administrative wards, including 64 voter registration centres/stations. Our observer's initial findings reveal fourteen specific facts:

- One** The voter registration exercise started in nine wards (54 registration stations) out of Makambako Town's 12 wards (87 registration stations) as planned by the National Electoral Commission.
- Two** The beginning of the registration process was not as smooth, as the first day was generally chaotic due to a number of operational and organisational problems, including the following:
- Slow pace in registering eligible voters due to inadequate competency and inexperience of the BVR kits operators, resulting into unnecessarily long queues.
 - On Day One, on average, it took 7-10 minutes to complete the registration of one voter.
 - Some eligible voters could not be registered because the BVR kits/technology failed to detect their finger prints due to damaged 'finger contours'.
 - There were few incidents where the BVR kits either stopped working or had an 'on-and-off' behaviour. Some of the reasons mentioned by the operators included 'faint printing ink', 'overheating'; and 'weak e-connectivity'.
 - There were two incidents in one registration station where the dates of birth for two registered people had been wrongly recorded on their Voter IDs.
- Three** Only two political parties, CCM and CHADEMA, had agents in many voter registration stations.
- Four** Early indicators show that NEC does not have accurate estimates of eligible voters for each registration station. Anecdotal evidence shows that the number of eligible voters is greater than the estimates.
- Five** So far there is no organised voter education providers (civil society organisations, political parties, etc.) educating people on voter registration in Makambako Town Council apart from NEC's public advertisement in public places and places of worship.

- Six** According to the NEC Chair, on Day One, NEC estimated to register 1,850 voters in Makambako but surpassed their target by registering 3,014.
- Seven** So far there are no reported cases of irregularities in the voter registration process (i.e. double registration, under-age or non-citizen, unsound mind etc.).
- Eight** The pace of voter registration per day has significantly increased from about 30 voters in Day One (23/2/2015) to about 80-100 voters on Day Five (27/2/2015) in one registration centre. On average, the voter registration pace has increased from 7-10 minutes per voter, to 3-4 minutes.
- Nine** The major political parties, particularly CCM and CHADEMA, were generally mobilising people to turn out in big numbers to register. We do not have reports, so far, of political actors who are mobilising people to boycott the voter registration exercise.
- Ten** The Election Management Body, NEC, has been able to register 300,080 eligible voters out of estimated 392,634 in Njombe region.
- Eleven** Some of the BVR operators claimed before our observer that they had been expected to register 50-70 eligible voters per day but they were registering more than the required number, and some of them had started claiming for increase in the daily remuneration.
- Twelve** According to the turn-out trend of eligible voters at many registration stations, it seems the registration period will need to be extended.
- Thirteen** The registration stations are opened at 8:00 am and closed at 6:00 pm.
- Fourteen** The government has increased the number of registration centres from 24,919 to 40,015 nation wide to facilitate easy access by eligible voters.

BVR kits factory in China





The President of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete and the President of Zanzibar, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, unveils the proposed constitution in Dodoma

Political Dynamics of Electoral Processes

Voter Registration

A general consensus seems to emerge among the various stakeholders that voter registration is critical and should precede the constitutional referendum and the general elections. Such consensus seems to be backed by a few factors.

- There is convergence of views among political parties, faith-based organisations, government, and civil society organisations. None of these actors is opposing the voter registration process.
- Efficacy of the BVR technology has been questioned by both the ruling party, CCM and the opposition political parties. CHADEMA Chairperson Hon. Freeman Mbowe was quoted in *Nipashe* 22/02/2015 saying that NEC had been advised by an American consultant, Darell Geusz that Tanzania was not ready for adopting the BVR technology. The cited reasons were lack of equipment, experts and expertise.
- There were views that citizen registration by the National Identification Authority (NIDA) and voter registration through the BVR technology could simultaneously be conducted for cost effectiveness.

Constitutional Referendum

The country is divided on the feasibility and desirability of a Constitutional Referendum before the 2015 general elections

- Two camps are clearly emerging, one for and the other against the conduct of the constitutional referendum.
- Although UKAWA has instructed its followers to boycott the constitutional referendum, it has mobilised members and followers to register as voters.
- A faction of the Constitutional Review Commission under Justice Joseph Warioba, has been moving around the country organising events to defend their draft constitution, arguing that the Constituent Assembly “killed the heart” of the constitution by removing key sections.
- The Tanzania Christian Forum (TSF) has instructed followers to turn-out in big numbers to register, but specifically



Tanzania Christian Forum in a meeting that issued a statement which has generated more heat than light

to give a “No” vote to the proposed constitution. Messages of the pastoral letter polluted the political atmosphere dividing people into oppositional stances.

However, some Christian church leaders, including the Roman Catholic Church Archbishop of Dar es Salaam, His Eminency, Polycarp Cardinal Pengo, have publicly expressed their disagreement with this position. Cardinal Pengo insisted that followers should be left free to choose what they wanted, emphasising that they should vote without any undue external influence or pressure. This statement irked a fellow Bishop of another sect, Glory of Christ Church, Josephat Gwajima. A few days later a video clip of Bishop Gwajima trenchantly criticizing Cardinal Archbishop Pengo started to circulate in the social media. Gwajima was thereafter summoned by the Dar es Salaam Special Zone Police for questioning, alleged of using offensive language towards Pengo. It was reported that Bishop Gwajima fell ill in the midst of the police interrogation and was rushed to hospital for treatment. He was required to report to the police to continue with interrogation after his health condition improved (*The Guardian*, 30/03/2015).

The faction against the proposed constitution is also calling for postponement of the constitutional referendum until after general elections.

Another proposal that has been advanced by some civil society organisations and other stakeholders is combining the Constitutional Referendum with the general elections to save money.

General Elections

There is a general consensus that the 2015 Tanzania general elections must be conducted consonant with the constitution

A Political agreement, bringing together President Jakaya Kikwete, on the one hand, and the opposition alliance -UKAWA, on the other, was signed on 8th September, 2014 under the auspices of the Tanzania Centre for Democracy (TCD) which consist of all political parties with representation in the parliament. It called for the slowdown of the processes of the Constituent Assembly and the Constitutional Referendum. It also recommended urgent amendments in the current constitution necessary to create a conducive environment for the 2015 general elections to take place. It was claimed that the on going process to adopt the new constitution will not be completed their members and supporters to boycott the Constitutional Referendum



▲ Leaders of UKAWA coalition signing a cooperation agreement

▼ Leaders of CCM, CHADEMA and NCCR-Mageuzi on a light moment



Potential CCM 2015 Presidential Aspirants



The proposed amendments included: the establishment of an independent electoral commission, allowing independent candidacy, provision for enabling legal contestation of the presidential electoral results, and absolute majority victory for the presidential candidate.

There has been considerable tussling over who will succeed President Kikwete after the 2015 general elections, especially within the ruling party -CCM. Over a dozen members of the party have publicly expressed their interest for nomination as presidential candidates. In 2014, CCM placed a 12-month ban on six of its prominent party cadres for running campaigns for nomination before the party's official time.

Potential UKAWA 2015 Presidential Aspirants



However, the presidential hopefuls embarked on sophisticated strategies for campaigning including publishing books and organising supporters to try and influence popular support, with others reportedly contributing funds so that their preferred candidates would pay for nominations forms. UKAWA on the other hand had no yet picked its presidential candidate. However, some parties -NCCR-Mageuzi within UKAWA - have named their preferred presidential candidates already.

Pressure is also mounting in different constituencies on parliamentary elections. A number of people have indicated their desire to run as candidates for parliamentary elections in some constituencies currently under prominent MPs. There are also complaints of foul play in some constituencies especially against some District Commissioners who are allegedly misusing their offices to make random visits in a bid to unseat incumbent MPs.



A new political party known as Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) was officially launched on 29th March, 2015 in a high key event. Many of the key personalities in the party are those who were expelled from CHADEMA a short while ago, including Zitto Kabwe.

During the party's election after the launch, Mr. Zitto Kabwe was elected its supreme leader. The ACT's coming into the scene may have implications in the 2015 general elections.

'Money and politics' have been a subject of considerable discussions in Tanzania since the first multiparty elections in 1995. In a bid to curb the use of money in elections, the government passed the Election Expenses Act in 2010. This does not seem to have curbed the situation. Recently, there has been a flurry of activities by incumbent MPs issuing loans, contributions, ambulances and other kinds of donations sometimes in the name of fulfilling the promises they made earlier. It is very difficult in some cases to draw a fine line between corrupting voters and fulfilling election manifestos. The PCCB has already warned against corrupting tendencies during elections.



Registration of voters underway in one of the registration centres in Wang'ing'ombe, March, 2015

Although NEC has accredited election observer missions, it has not been able to issue observers with the necessary facilitating tools as it used to do in previous electoral processes. NEC has neither issued IDs nor guidelines for domestic and international observers. Its website, thought to have been a reliable source of information and election observers' quick informer of the public, contains outdated information. The NEC website, for instance, has no entry on the BVR exercise.

Networking

REDET-TEMCO signs a MoU with LHRC-TACCEO

On 3rd March, 2015 the Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania (REDET) and the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), respectively lead agencies for the Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO) and Tanzania Civil Society Consortium for Election Observation (TACCEO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish the Coalition on Election Monitoring and Observation-Tanzania (CEMOT).

Earlier on, the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA) made efforts to bring together TACCEO and TEMCO, Tanzania Police Force and EMBs to discuss the possibility of mounting a joint platform to run an ICT-based election observation facility known as “Election Situation Room” or in the Tanzanian context, the Election Observation Centre (EOC). The envisaged EOC will serve as a hub for collection, collating, analysis and dissemination of election-related information to electoral stakeholders for various actions in an expeditious manner than the traditional paper-based data and information collection techniques.

There was a proposal to establish an Election Situation Room (ESR) like one which had been used by CSOs in Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria and Senegal. The ESR model aims to bring civil society groups together for the period of the election, sharing information and resources, anticipating problems, and responding rapidly when they occur. Moreover, it helps to achieve cost-effectiveness, rooting out duplication and creating synergy among diverse domestic election observation groups.

NDI-TEMCO ICT Strategy Consultations



The NDI-TEMCO ICT Strategy Session involving 10 participants was held for three days between 11th-

13th March, 2015, at the New Africa Hotel. The session deliberated, among other things, on the elections observation methodology TEMCO would adopt, and comparison of various data collection instruments, and regional and global best practices. A case study of the use of Parallel Vote Tabulation (PVT) from Zambia was presented and discussed. PVT is an ICT-based observation technique that facilitates collection, transmission and dissemination of information to target audiences. Data could be collected through sms-based or phone-based forms. They constitute, in most cases, closed ended questions that are user-friendly, easy to code and administer. Data analysis, data visualisation and communication strategy were also part of the discussion. The session proved to be valuable as it activated a desire for TEMCO to review its observation strategy and tools with a view to moving towards more simplified data collection forms and ICT-based data collection, analysis and dissemination. NDI agreed to support REDET, the lead agency of TEMCO, to deploy 177 Poll Watchers to observe the Constitutional Referendum.

TEMCO did also hold discussions with the Internal Republican Institute (IRI) focusing on Tanzania 2015 electoral processes.

Collaboration and Networking Frontiers

TEMCO has long realised the inevitability of extending its reach with the intention of collaborating with other regional and global election observation networks. On 30th October, 2013 TEMCO in conjunction with four other citizen election observer groups met in Machakos, Kenya, and concluded a three-day meeting by signing a “Declaration on the Establishment of the East and Horn of Africa Election Observers Network (E-Horn”. Member organisations which signed the declaration included Citizen’s Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda (CCEDU), Election Observation Group (ELOG) Kenya, South Sudanese Network for Democracy and Elections (SSuNDE), Sudanese Group for Democracy and Elections (SuGDE) and Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee.

E-Horn envisions genuine democratic and peaceful elections realised by promoting regular, free and credible elections through strengthening and supporting non-partisan citizen observation and monitoring groups in East and Horn of Africa. TEMCO also fully subscribes to the Declaration of Global Principles for Non-Partisan Election Observation and Monitoring by Citizen Organisations. TEMCO is a member of the Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors (GNDEM).

Media Monitoring at a Glance!



The
Guardian
DAILYNEWS
Tanzania Daima
THE CITIZEN
MWANANCHI
Jambo Leo
NIPASHE
MTANZANIA

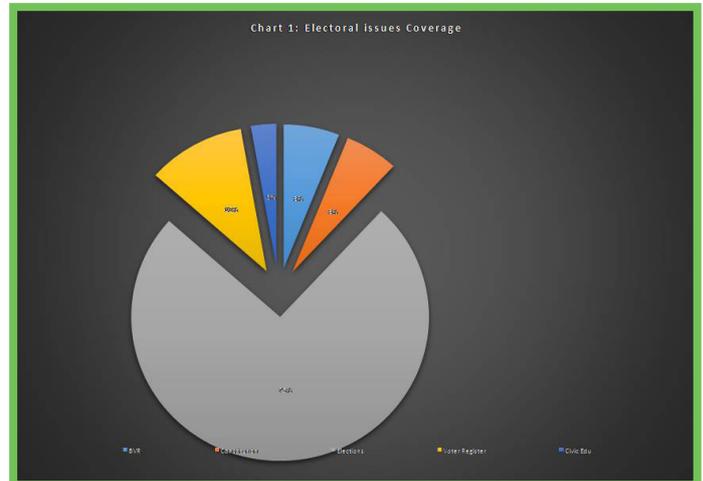
Media monitoring started off with archival study of a total of eight daily Kiswahili newspapers for the months of January and February. Monitoring of the print outlets started in its earnest in March involving all dailies and weeklies on a daily basis. The daily papers were *Mwananchi*, *Majira*, *Zanzibar Leo*, *Tanzania Daima*, *Uhuru*, *Habari Leo*, *Jambo Leo*, *Raia Tanzania*, and *Mtanzania*. The weeklies included *Raia Mwema*, *Rai*, *Mawio*, *Jamhuri*, *Tafakari*, *Mwanahabari*. Kiswahili being the lingua franca, the papers enjoy wider readership and thus higher circulation, compared to their English counterparts. This study is merely quantitative; qualitative reports will be coming in future editions when the study is also expected to include broadcast and social media.

The January-March media monitoring focused on the amount of coverage the newspapers accorded to four topics: voter education regarding the referendum for the proposed constitution, the trial Biometric Voter Registration in Njombe, Makambako and Wanging'ombe, the constitutional referendum itself, the permanent voters register, and the up-coming general elections in October. We present a brief report of the monitoring activity for the three months.

Voter education neglected

Of the five electoral issues that we monitored through newspapers between January and February, voter education received scant attention. Voter education is core for enabling informed decision and choice by the voter during elections; hence, it becomes one of the important duties of mass media. Only 3% of the coverage went to civic education for January and February reporting. The Proposed Union Constitution was out already then, published in the government gazette, which allowed players to start some voter education, but journalists and their media outlets abdicated this important responsibility. The chart also indicates that BVR and Voter Register have

not received adequate treatment either. It can be deduced that since media were dependent on events and official handouts for their reporting and coverage, issues which have not been part of the official handout system did not get attention.



It is the same story in March. In March coverage on the referendum for the proposed constitution got the highest media attention by 78%. Voter education still got a smaller space of 5%, an increase by two points. BVR was second as it had been the case in January-February coverage. General elections and the permanent voters register did also not get much attention.

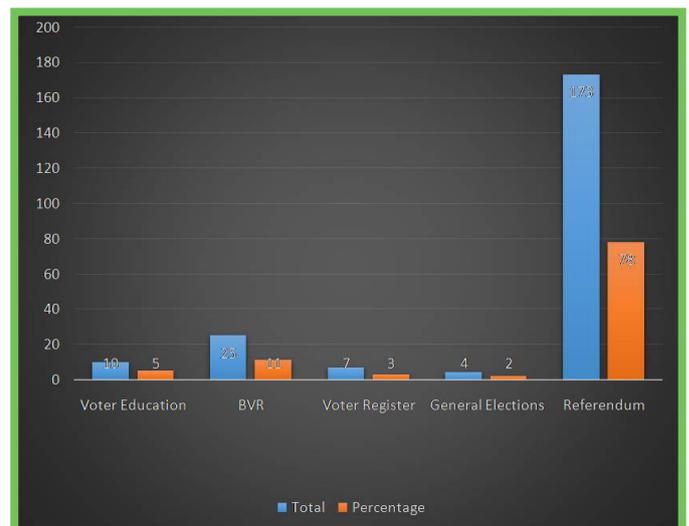
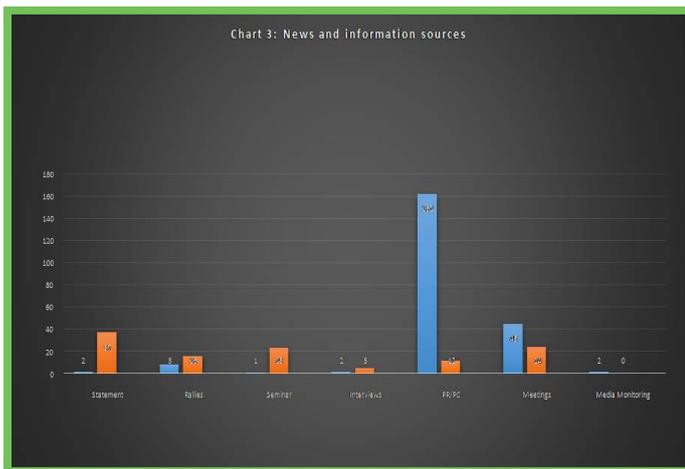


Chart 2: Electoral issues coverage- March

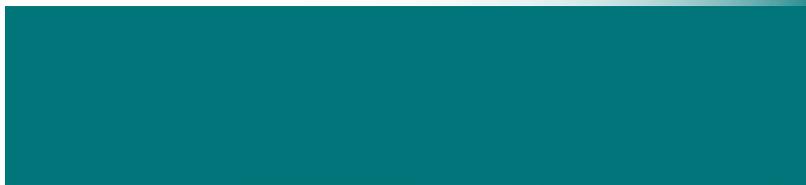
Reliance on handout journalism

The monitoring established lack of proactive news gathering strategies by the media involved. This chart



demonstrates the extent to which journalists rely on official handouts and event-related sources for their publications. For media to do their job well they must strengthen enterprising capabilities if they are to develop independent sources and become providers of topics for wider public discussion as the electoral processes are concerned. In March, for instance, the Christian Forum's Pastoral Letter which proposed to run a NO campaign against the proposed constitution, sparked off serious rhetorical exchanges between various players, and lead to arraignment of one of the Christian clerics. Yet the media coverage of the debate was limited to waiting for statements from the players. They failed to engage a debate based on the National Referendum at of 2013, the national electoral act and the Constitutional Reform Act, 2012 so as to engage a meaningful and guided discussion on the pastoral letter.

The media must indicate ability to establish salience of issues, engage public debates and hence maintain editorial independence if they investigate into stories and promote them as agenda for public debate. Voter education could then be promoted this way. This is not yet the case; the tallest bar on the chart above indicates media's heavy reliance mainly on press statements and press conferences, followed distantly by meetings and rallies, indicating that these are the major sources of information for the media. One can thus indicate that due to journalists' lack of enterprise, Tanzania's media have become unpaid for publicity facilities for political parties, other political actors and the government. Lack of investigative stories, news features and having a few interview articles demonstrate poor creativity and enterprise so much expected of journalists in order to establish inclusive debates from a wide range of sources.



TANZANIA ELECTION MONITORING COMMITTEE (TEMCO)

PRESS RELEASE

TEMCO TO OBSERVE 2015 TANZANIA ELECTORAL PROCESSES

The Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO) will, with effect from February 2015, deploy a team of 180 Long Term (election) Observers (LTOs) to observe the Voter Registration and Constitution Referendum Processes, including the post-referendum developments in all regions in the United Republic of Tanzania. TEMCO will also deploy 6,400 Short Term (election) Observers (STOs) in polling stations/at polling centres on the Referendum Day.

Moreover, TEMCO will observe the 2015 Tanzania general elections. The Tanzania election observation mission will deploy 118 LTOs and 7,000 STOs. In addition, TEMCO observers will observe the entire electoral cycle, including intra-political parties' nominations of candidates for presidential, parliamentary/House of Representatives and local councils' elections in sampled constituencies on Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. This is a component which is mostly overlooked by most election observers.

Credible, free and fair elections are a cornerstone of democracy. TEMCO election observation programme is intended to assess the degree of credibility, transparency, freeness and fairness as well as the quality and integrity of the 2015 Tanzania electoral processes. Specifically TEMCO observers will pay attention to the legal and institutional frameworks, intra-party nomination processes, efficacy of election management bodies, enforcement of the Election Expenses Act; nomination of candidates; campaigning; gender aspects; conduct of the media, referendum and Election Day activities (voting, vote counting, result aggregation), declaration of results and the ensuing post-election episodes as well as complaints and appeal handling mechanisms. TEMCO has already been accredited to the National Electoral Commission (NEC) for the observation of the voter registration process.

Both the LTOs and STOs will be objectively recruited, selected and appointed on merit based on their qualifications and previous experience in election observation. They will be equipped with the necessary election monitoring knowledge and skills. The observers will also be exposed to the code of ethics for election observers that will be issued by Tanzania's election management bodies, namely NEC and ZEC. As well, the observers will be required to understand the legal and institutional frameworks governing the conduct of the envisaged Referendum and general elections. The observers will use specific tools for collecting the desired information.

Election observation reports will be uploaded on the TEMCO website (<http://www.temco.udsm.ac.tz/>) and published in Newsletters to be distributed to Election Management Bodies (EMBs), political parties, Government institutions and other stakeholders. Interim assessment reports for the voter registration process, constitutional referendum and general elections will be made public. Dissemination workshops for the stakeholders will be held following the completion of comprehensive reports on the referendum and general elections which will be published in both Kiswahili and English languages.

Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO) has received support for observation of the constitution referendum and 2015 general elections from the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). REDET, lead agency of TEMCO is grateful to the American People through USAID for supporting the Observation of Tanzania Electoral Processes (OTEP) program.

Having started with 22 member organizations in 1994, overtime, TEMCO membership has been considerably growing. In 2010 TEMCO had 152 member organizations and at the moment it has 162 members, consisting of civil society organizations, including faith based organizations, namely the Tanzania National Muslim Council (BAKWATA); Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) and Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT). TEMCO has been monitoring general elections and by-elections in Tanzania since 1995 when Tanzania reverted to multi-party political elections. The lead agency of TEMCO is the Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania (REDET) which carries out its activities under the auspices of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Dar es Salaam. The Department has been monitoring and observing elections in Tanzania since 1965, the era of one-party.

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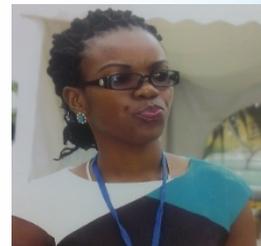
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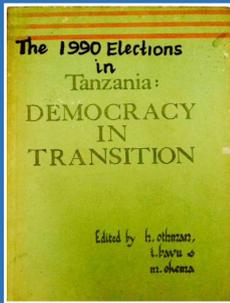


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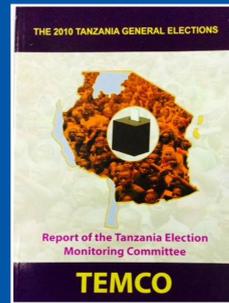


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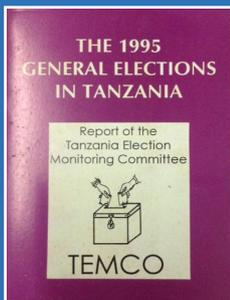
TEMCO's Reports 1990- 2010



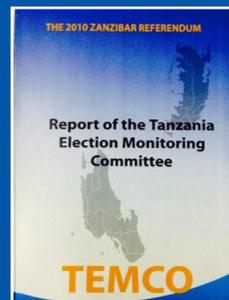
*The 1990 Elections in Tanzania:
Democracy in Transition*



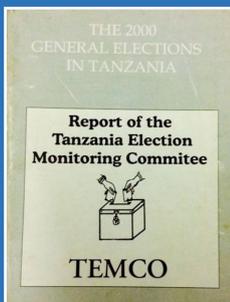
*The 2010 Tanzania General Elections,
Report of the Tanzania Election
Monitoring committee*



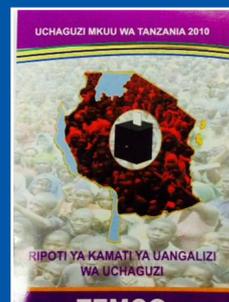
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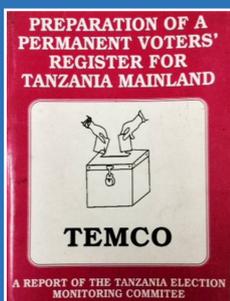
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Referendum
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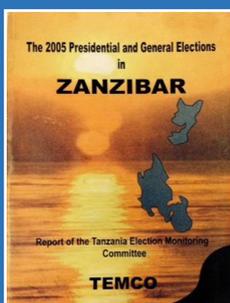
*The 2000 General
Elections in Tanzania*



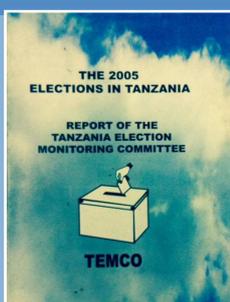
*Uchaguzi Mkuu wa
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Uchaguzi wa Uchaguzi*



*Preparation of a Permanent
Voters
Register for Tanzania
Mainland*



*The 2005 Presidential
and General Elections in
Zanzibar*



*The Elections in Tanzania
Report of the Tanzania
Election Monitoring
Committee*