

# TANZANIA ELECTION MONITORING COMMITTEE

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## VOTER REGISTRATION/VOTER REGISTER UPDATING WEEKLY BRIEF

### *PHASE TWO: WEEK TWO (7th March – 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2010)*

This is a brief report of the observation of updating PVR in Zanzibar for the second phase. TEMCO observed the exercise in all registration centres in both Unguja and Pemba. In Unguja updating of PVR exercise was carried out in Chaani, Matemwe, Kitope and Donge constituencies. In Pemba the registration and updating of voter registration exercise was carried out in Tumbe, Micheweni and Kojani constituencies.

In the week that ended up on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2010, TEMCO observations revealed that:

- i. ZAN IDs continued to be a controversial and contentious issue. There are still some voters who come at registration centres without ZAN IDs and as a rule they are denied registration. In Unguja this was observed in a Bandamaji, Kibuyuni A, Kijijini matemwe, Gamba A&B.
- ii. Although there are several people who complained about lack of ZAN IDs, TEMCO observed that there are many people who possess ZAN IDs but have not registered. For example, in Matemwe constituency the total number of registered voters for both phase one and two were 6,341 while the people who have ZAN ID in the constituency are 8,234, showing that 1,893 people qualifying for registration had not turned up for registration.

#### **TEMCO Management:**

Prof. R.S Mukandala- Chairman; Dr. Benson. A. Bana-Associate Chairman; Dr. Bernadeta Kiliani-Political Analyst; Mr. John Jingu-Administrator; Mr. Nassoro Dunia-Member

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- iii. TEMCO learnt from ZAN ID Director, Mr. Mohamed Juma Ame, that about 12,149 ZAN IDs for both Unguja and Pemba have not been collected by their “owners” since 2005.
- iv. TEMCO team observed several anomalies on updating PVR exercise including the following,
- In one occasion, the AROs signed on the cards on behalf of a voter who could not sign on their own contrary to the law which require the voter to place thumb print if s/he is unable to write a signature. TEMCO observer reports that one ARO, Mr Shaha R.M Makame, signed (by writing initials) for Ms. Mwajuma Mlekwa Mcha who was registered on 06/03/2010 at S/M Mkwajuni. This poses a legal and identification problem, given that a significant number of voters do not know how to read and write. However, a single case does not necessarily suggest a trend.
  - Some new voters with new ZAN ID could not be registered on time because of untimely updating of the ZAN ID data in ZEC computers in the registration centers. For example, Ms Nanchumu Yusuph Khamis (ZAN ID no 020240329) who came for registration at S/M Chaani A on 09/03/2010 around 12:00 could not be registered on time because her ZAN ID card could not be read on the ZEC computer. She was then registered at 1:10pm after an updated ZEC computer being brought from a neighboring reg. centre.
  - It was noted on 10/03/2010 the ZEC 2005 voters reference list was not brought to the registration centre for S/M Pwani Mchangani leading to unprecedented delay in registering voters who lost the 2005 voters. However, voters who presented old voters ID and ZAN ID were automatically registered.

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- On 13/03/2010, a voter at Kwa Baruani registration centre, Shehia of Mkadini, forced to be registered with only a ZAN-ID receipt instead of the ZAN –ID. He was rejected by the AROs resulting into a chaotic situation at the centre between him and his mother, the ARO and the CUF agent. The ARO asked the police officers to escort them out of the centre. During fracas, a CUF agent was found with a Panga (big knife) and was taken to Mahonda Police Station.

In Pemba TEMCO observers reports point to the following.

- A high voter registration turnout and response with very long queues .High voter turnout was due to the fact that many voters had not registered in the first phase because of what is referred by many as “registration boycott” in Wete District.
- There are several complaints from CUF members that persons who have just attained 18 years and above have not been given ZAN IDs and thus are not eligible for registration.
- Rigorous “hands on and eyes on” monitoring approach by CUF officials in Wete District. CUF District Registration Officer, CUF representative in the House of Representative, CUF Political Party Agents were vigilant to ensure that all qualified potential voters are registered.
- On the contrary CCM leaders at the District level kept themselves in a group watching at the registration centre, they remained silent and inactive at all resorting to the “*eyes on Hands off*” mechanism.

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- There were CUF and CCM officials at every centre with the task of identifying political affiliation of each person who came for registration.
  - Government functionaries also paid a close attention to the registration centre. The District Commissioner for Wete was the noticeable figure-he paid regular visits to registration centres on daily basis and so did the Police Officer Commanding District (OCD) for Wete. There were also two state intelligence personnel who visited the Centres daily.

## CONCLUSION

Despite isolated cases of irregularities, the registration and updating of PVR in the second Week of Phase II was largely carried out smoothly. The major controversies are still revolving around the ZAN IDs. Still, there is a significant number of people who registered for Zan ID's but they are yet to collect them from the District Zan ID's offices, adds the controversy which TEMCO continues to follow-up the ZAN-ID issue with keen interest.

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