SWAZILAND ELECTIONS DIARY

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Members of the SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM) to the Kingdom of Swaziland underwent an intense training in electoral observation in fulfilment of the mandate enshrined in the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

The majority of the more than eighty (80) SADC observers underwent the training. The training was also attended by the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) of the Kingdom of Swaziland and other stakeholders.

Thursday, September 12, 2013

SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM) received their accreditation at the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) of the Kingdom of Swaziland. Accreditation went smoothly and expeditiously.

On the same day, a meeting of SEOM Heads of Country Delegations on the deployment plan of SEOM in the Kingdom of Swaziland was held at the SEOM office located at Lugogo Sun Hotel.

Friday, September 13, 2013

The SEOM deployment plan was finalised and consolidated by the Heads of Country Delegations.

The Head of the SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM) to the Kingdom of Swaziland, who is also the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the republic of
Namibia and Chairperson of the SADC Council of Ministers, Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwa arrived at the Matshapa international airport.

Soon after her arrival, she held a meeting with the Heads of Country Delegations at the SEOM offices at Lugogo Sun Hotel.

Later in the afternoon, a meeting with the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) of the Kingdom of Swaziland was held to ascertain the preparedness of the EBC to deliver a successful election.

 Honourable Nandi-Ndaitwa was accredited soon after the meeting.

**Saturday, September 14, 2013**

The Head of the SEOM, Honourable Nandi-Ndaitwa paid a courtesy call on the King of the kingdom of Swaziland. The courtesy call was to appreciate the invitation by the Kingdom of Swaziland extended to the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation to deploy SADC Electoral Observer Mission to the Kingdom of Swaziland.

**Sunday, September 15, 2013**

The SADC Electoral Observer Mission (SEOM) to the Kingdom of Swaziland was officially launched by the Head of Mission, Honourable Nandi-Ndaitwa at the Royal Swazi Spa Hotel convention center.

Later, SADC observers were briefed on their mandate and deployment plan, including the allocation of resources. Teams were deployed to all the electoral constituencies in all the districts of the Kingdom of Swaziland namely; Lubombo district, Manzini district, Shiselweni district and Hhohho district.

**Tuesday, September 17, 2013**
The office of the Head of SEOM took part in a Channel Africa discussion programme on the elections in the kingdom of Swaziland. The discussion featured, among other things, the mandate of SEOM in fulfilment of the SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections and the preparedness of the country to hold elections.

SEOM also met with the Swaziland Youth Council and the Commonwealth Electoral Observer Mission.

**Wednesday, September 18, 2013**

SEOM held meetings with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, European Union Elections Experts Mission and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Thursday, September 19, 2013**

SEOM held meetings with the SADC Parliamentary Forum, COMESA Electoral Observer Mission, the Police Commissioner, media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), People’s Democratic Movement and the African Union Observer Mission. The Mission also participated in an interview with the Swaziland Broadcasting Services.

**Friday, September 20, 2013**

Election polling stations opened at about 7am throughout the constituencies and districts of the Kingdom of Swaziland. Large numbers of the electorates turned up this morning. Long queues have been witnessed at almost all polling stations.