



JOINT STATEMENT BY THE SADC ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION (SEOM) AND THE ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS FORUM OF SADC COUNTRIES (ECF-SADC) ON THE HOLDING OF THE FORTHCOMING 2018 PRESIDENTIAL, LEGISLATIVE AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

14 DECEMBER 2018

1. We have deployed our respective observers countrywide for the observation of the forthcoming 2018 Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to be held on 23rd December 2018.
2. We have noted that the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) of DRC has confirmed that the necessary logistical preparations are in place across all Provinces of the country to deliver successful elections. Similarly, we also take note of the security measures taken by the Congolese National Police in their efforts to help with the delivery of peaceful elections.
3. We wish to express our concern about the destruction by fire of electoral materials on 13 December 2018, at one of the central warehouses of CENI, in Kinshasa.
4. We express our concern about the outbreaks of the recent isolated incidents of violence in Kalemie, Lubumbashi and Mbuji-Mayi and the fatalities that ensued during this period.
5. We call upon all stakeholders to refrain from any form of violence.
6. We further call upon all candidates, the leadership of political parties, their supporters, civil society, the media and all other stakeholders to continue to

promote national unity, and a climate of tolerance throughout the electoral process.

Head of Mission, SADC Electoral Observation Mission

His Lordship, Honourable Justice (Rtd.) Ernest Linesi Sakala,
Former Chief Justice of the Republic of Zambia

Head of Mission, Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries

Chief Justice (Rtd.) Hamid Mahamoud Hamid
Chairperson, Zanzibar Electoral Commission