

**THE STATEMENT BY THE TWO COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ZANZIBAR ELECTORAL COMMISSION (ZEC)
ON THE OCTOBER 30, 2005 ELECTION RESULTS**

November 11, 2005

We, the two Commissioners of the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC), would like to inform the people of Tanzania and the people of the world in general, that we cannot proclaim that the results announced for the 2005 Zanzibar elections held on October 30, 2005 for the Unguja Island, are factual and accurate due to a number of reasons, including:

1. Several articles and provisions of the Zanzibar Constitution of 1984, the Zanzibar Election Act of 1984, and the election procedures, were violated – before, during and after the polling day. The following are clear examples of such violations of the Constitution, the Act, and the procedures:
 - (i) Failure to post the voter's lists at the polling stations for a sufficient number of days, before the polling day, so that voters could verify their names and their designated polling stations. Instead, the voter's lists were posted only a few hours before the opening of the polling stations.
 - (ii) Failure to provide copies of the permanent voter's register to all the political parties before the polling day, so as to help those parties prepare well to participate in a free and fair election.
 - (iii) ZEC's failure to act when bogus voters were openly transported from one polling center to the others, leading to multiple voting by those voters while they were guided and protected by the armed forces of the state. While that was happening, legitimate voters were denied their rights to vote.
 - (iv) Reluctance by presiding officers of various polling centers to issue copies of vote result sheets to election agents of various parties. In some centers, vote result sheets were not issued at all to party agents.
 - (v) ZEC's act of denying us the opportunity to witness the vote collation exercise at various collation centers carried out by district returning officers. Such an opportunity would have allowed us a chance see the original vote result sheets from various polling stations, the original signatures of presiding officers of various polling centers, and also the original signatures of various election party agents.
 - (vi) ZEC's act of denying the presidential candidates the opportunity to witness the reception of the vote results at the ZEC headquarters even after some of those candidates had requested to be accorded such a right.
 - (vii) ZEC Chairman's act of setting up the time for the announcement of the vote results without involving us, the two commissioners, at the time when the results were not even completely in the hands of ZEC.

- (viii) ZEC 's refusal to provide us, the two commissioners, the original vote result sheets duly signed by both the polling station presiding officers and election party agents, in order to verify the accuracy of the vote result tables submitted to the ZEC meeting, claimed to be the correct and legitimate results of the October 2005 Zanzibar Elections. ZEC Chairman refused to provide us with the vote result sheets even after we continuously requested for the same for two days, from October 31, 2005 to November 1, 2005.

We told the Chairman that we needed the vote result sheets to be able to verify the total number of votes of every candidate of every party that participated in the elections so that we would be in a better position, as ZEC commissioners, to defend the results in case some people questioned us on those results. We also challenged him as to how would we be expected to defend the results announced by ZEC, while even ourselves were suspicious of such results, since we had not seen the original vote result sheets duly signed by the presiding officers and the election party agents from various polling stations? Even with such reasoning, our request was refused by the ZEC Chairman.

On the ZEC meeting of October 31, 2005, we agreed that all the original vote result sheets should be collected and brought to the meeting to be able to verify the vote results recorded in the result sheets against those recorded in the collation result tables, and after that process, with ZEC satisfied with the accuracy of the results, then the results would be announced on Wednesday, November 2, 2005. We were surprised to see a hastened construction of a platform for the announcement of the election results, one full day before November 2, 2005 which we agreed upon before. When we asked the ZEC Chairman, to tell us in which ZEC meeting the decision was made to build the platform and announce the election results on November 1, 2005 instead of November 2, 2005 as agreed upon previously, he never responded.

2. Due to several reasons we've provided above, and the fact that even as we issue this statement, we, the two ZEC Commissioners, have not seen and verified a single vote result sheet from the Unguja Island duly signed by the polling station presiding officers and election agents of all the parties that participated in the October 30, 2005 elections, **we formally declare that we do not approve the election results for the Unguja Island and we should not be held responsible for them in any way, as we sincerely believe that those results were cooked.**

Signed
Ussi Kh. Haji
ZEC Commissioner

Signed
Nassor S. Amour
ZEC Commissioner