UMOJA WA WAWEZESHAJI KIOO

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KIGOMA

BY ELECTION OBSERVATION REPORT

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CHAPTER ONE
KIOO'S ELECTION OBSERVATION ARCHITECTURE

1.1 Background and Context

Umoja wa wawezeshaji KIOO is a voluntary non-political, non-religious, and non-profit sharing organization that was founded in 2001 and officially registered in 2004 under NGO Act. KIOO's vision is a Tanzanian society where every individual is free from poverty, injustice and lives in dignity. KIOO's mission is to advocate for women rights to own land and other property including decision making, better education and vocational skills for children young people, people with disability and women, environmental, agriculture and food security, good governance and accountability, health system strengthening, child protection and taking action to water sanitation problems in the community.

KIOO believes that all people are equal, and the world is a good place where all people are cared for, where everyone's needs are met, respected and valued. Through our close work with communities, we see various needs and work with the communities to come up with a plan on how to make it happen. We believe and have seen that the sustainability of any project depends on the community ownership; therefore we believe that if election is inclusive the future development it is obvious and explicit. When the whole community is engaged, they contribute to the project, embrace and adapt it to their local situation which improves the results, and they protect the project making sure it continues. KIOO works with women, youth, people with disabilities and children's rights. The members of these teams are government officials, law enforcement, community leaders and others. This work includes training on PWD's right to all members, organizing meetings, reports and engaging in social taboos.

1.2 Mission and Objectives

On behalf of the citizens, KIOO objectively and impartially observes elections to determine the extent to which they are peaceful, credible, free and fair. KIOO uses conventional criteria to determine the degree to which the election results reflect the free expression of the will of the people. In any election observation KIOO has four specific objectives which are to:

a) Observe the whole electoral process, including constituency setting, voter registration, campaigning, voting, vote counting, declaration of results, and assessing the final election results;

b) Observe and assess the fairness of the administration of the elections in general, especially the impartiality of the legal infrastructure the electoral machinery (Electoral Management Bodies);

c) Assess the fairness in the allocation and use of relevant state resources by the contending political parties, especially incumbents and public media (government radio, television and newspapers);

d) Assess the extent to which the elections is inclusive and can be said to have been credible, free and fair

1.3 Scope of Observation

KIOO's methodology and scope of KIOO election observation includes a focus on the entire electoral cycle, consisting of:- (i) demarcation of electoral boundaries; (ii) intra-party nominations; (iii) nominations by the Election Management Bodies (EMBs); (iv) conduct of election campaigns; (v) Election Day activities; and (vi) post-election developments.

The observation lenses also focus on the participation of women, the youth and people with disability as well as the conduct of the print, electronic and social media platforms.

The major thrust of KIOO 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 behavior and conduct of KIOO's observers.

1.4 Benefits of Observation and Assessment Criteria

In observing 2021 by election in Buhigwe and Muhambwe constituencies, KIOO was motivated by the conviction that objective monitoring and observation of by election by impartial and autonomous in order to: (i) build and consolidate democracy and democratic governance; (ii) strengthen democratic institutions; (iii) promote trust in the democratic process; (iv) enhance the legitimacy of the government that emerges from elections; (v) promote and protect the civil and political rights of the electorate and the citizenry in general; (vi) detect and deter electoral manipulation, fraud, intimidation and violence; (vii) expose electoral irregularities and problems if they do occur; (viii) encourage citizens involvement in the electoral process; (ix) improve the quality of elections; and (x) recommend areas requiring reforms in the management of elections to relevant state and non-state institutions.

In determining the extent to 2021 by election in Buhigwe and Muhambwe constituencies was credible, free and fair, KIOO election observation mission devoted attention to a number of assessment criteria and indicators being:

a) the degree to which the legal framework, including the governing laws, rules and regulations either promoted or undermined the integrity of the electoral process and internationally recognized rights;

b) Transparency in the electoral system and citizenry participation in the boundary delimitation process;

c) Independence and impartiality of the EMBs, including recruitment and training of their staff as well as access to the bodies' information and documents;

d) The degree of effectiveness and efficacy of voter education by EMBs, CSOs and political parties;

e) The extent to which political parties and candidates conducted campaigns freely but within the ambit of the laws;

f) The degree to which electoral laws, rules and regulations, including the Election Expense Act, were enforced;

g) The extent to which the print, electronic and social media promoted access to information and was free to play an impartial and objective role in covering electoral issues; and

h) The extent to which electoral disputes resolution took place in accordance with the principles of the rule of law.

CHAPTER TWO
Introduction

This report documents events, and issues related to the 2021 by Election in Muhambwe and Buhigwe constituencies in Kigoma region following field observation of the electoral process in the said constituencies for 10 days. KIOO deployed 6 (six) Long Term Observers (LTOs) whose names were incorporated into the election observation system which is owned and operated by the National Electoral Commission. The purpose of incorporating these names into the electoral viewing system in the country is to obtain IDs that enable the audience to be recognized throughout the observation exercise. These LOTs later were transformed into Short Term Observers (STOs) during Election Day by covering 36 polling stations.

Throughout the period from the start of the permit application process to the inclusion of names of candidates in the national electoral commission system, commission officials at various times provided us with adequate co-operation, wherever we felt stuck they were pleased to assist in ensuring that planned activities. In addition, the Returning officers, Assistant Ward returning officers and presiding officers provided us with adequate cooperation in ensuring that our surveillance operations were carried out efficiently. Together we thank them for meaning without their help to us our observation work would not have been possible.

Long term observers who were hired by KIOO to watch the by-election process in Buhigwe and Muhambwe constituencies were competitive. Announcements on the availability of these vacancies were made to enable young people, women and people with disabilities to apply for the vacancies. It is interesting that about 56 people came forward to compete for the positions with the qualifications as outlined in the advertisement, this led us to interview to give a few out of the majority and so LTO 12 were found and trained on their roles and responsibilities. Congratulations to the National Democratic Institute (NDI) through its official Mary Njoroge for providing us with teaching tools and a checklist for long-term and short-term observers.

KIOO was responsible for training its LTOs to enable them to better understand their responsibilities during observation and how to abandon rules and regulations as signed. The training was conducted at Ndela kituo cha maendeleo ya vijana Kigoma hall where all participants participated fully as planned. We thank the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) for their financial support in facilitating some observation activities in the Kigoma region.

LTOs in training before they start observation

1.1.   The social-political profile of the two constituency

Kibondo District Council (KDC) lies between latitudes 30 and 50 South of Equator and longitude 30.20 and 31.50 East of GMT and was established with effect from the 31st December 1983

vide a certificate of establishment under the terms of the provisions of sections 7,9,10,11 and 12 of the Local Government (District Authorities) Act, 1982. KDC is located 246 Km away from Kigoma region Headquarters in the western plateau of Tanzania and in the Northern part of Kigoma region as one among eight councils in the region. It is a junction with linking roads to Kasulu district and Kigoma region in the Southern part and Northern part links the Kakonko District, Kagera as well as Buhigwe and Muhambwe. In the East it links with Kaliua district Tabora region and the Republic of Burundi on the West.

KDC as per 2012 national population and housing census has an estimated population of 261,331 of which 125,284 were males and 136,047 were females. The average population growth rate per annum is 2.7% with 37.3% of total populations being a working group. KDC has 53,333 households with the average family size is 5 persons and the life expectancy is set at an average of 52 years. KDC falls under the jurisdiction of one administrative body but is divided into three divisions namely; Kibondo, Mabamba and Kifura with nineteen (19) wards, fifty (50) villages and four hundred and twenty (420) hamlets.

Kibondo map

Buhigwe District Council was established in March 2012 under the Local Government Act, of 1982.Based on the 2012 National Population and Housing Census, the District has the total population of 254,342 out of which 120,690 are males, and 133,652 are females. The average annual growth rate is 2.4 percent and the average household size is five. The dominant ethnic group in the district is Ha accounting for more than 98% of the total population. The district is located between latitudes 30 045' and 30 055' east of the Equator and 29 045' and 30 045 longitudes East of Prime meridian. It shares the borders with Kigoma District in the south, Democratic Republic of Burundi. Administratively, the district has two divisions namely Munanila and Muyama with 20 ward and 44 villages
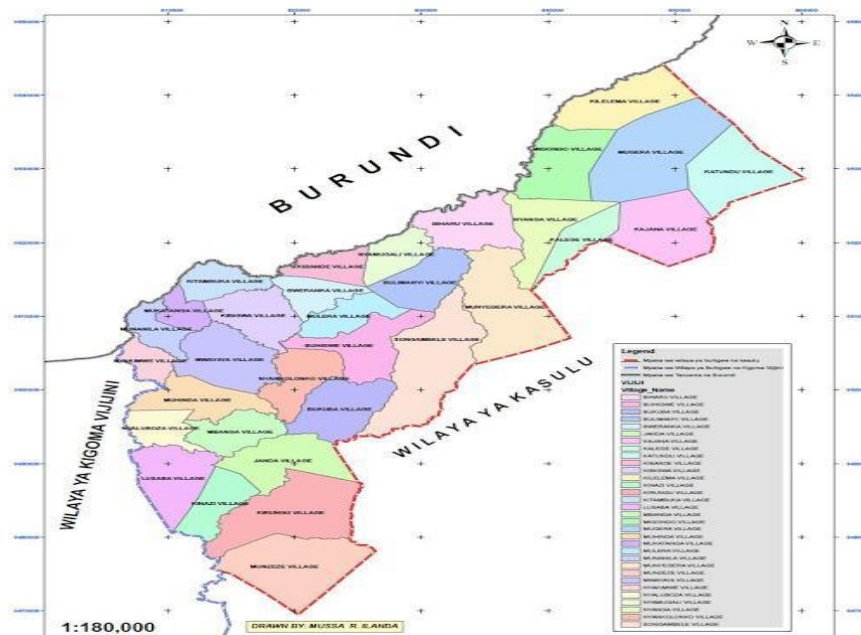
Figure 2: Buhigwe constituency map

1.2 Contesting political parties and candidates

The response of people to contest for parliamentary seats in these two constituencies varied. Buhigwe had 13 contesting political parties while Muhambwe had 3. It is also important to remember that Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA) announced not to participate in any election that will be run by the current Electoral Commission for what they called the commission not being independent. So in both states this party had no candidates. The tables below show the names of parties that had candidates with their genders.

Name of political party	Candidate by Gender			Youth category		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT-WAZALENDO	1		1	1		1
CCM		1	1			
DP	1		1			

Figure 1: A table describing genders and ages of candidates in Muhambwe

Name of political party	Candidate by Gender			Youth category		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT-WAZALENDO	1		1	1		1
AAFP		1				
ADC		1				
ADA-TADEA	1					
CCK		1				
CCM	1		1			
CHAUMA	1					
DEMOKRASIA MAKINI	1					
NLD		1				
UPD		1				
UMD		1				
UPDP	1					
SAU		1				

Figure 3: A table describing genders and ages of candidates in Buhigwe

From the above tables it shows that over 50% of the candidates were youth with an increased number of women, even if it shows that women have shown up still we are recommending more awareness and encouragement for them to contest for positions aiming at winning and not just participating. Apart from that there was no person with disability that was given an opportunity from whatever party. It is likely that women are used in fulfilling requirements but they are not given full support from their political party; therefore is it recommended that good governance stakeholders and women rights activists should work with political parties to make sure that they see a need of empowering women shown interest in contesting as it is done by CCM.

As shown above there was no person with disability that has been given a chance to contest for the position. Observers from KIOO during their interviews with party leaders about participation of people with disabilities; they were having no more information on why there is poor participation of people with disability. Talking to people with disabilities from different wards in both constituencies it was discovered that traditions and customs built in the community are the ones that put them aside. In conclusion one can say that perhaps lack of awareness among people with disability had contributed to their poor political participation. Therefore it is a good time for the human rights activists to see how this group can participate as other groups within the community.

1.2.   **Structure of the report**

This report is an observation of the process of by-elections in Muhambwe and Buhigwe constituencies comprising campaign rallies, voting processes, vote counting and tallying. The report is based on personal observation and not hear-saying however, in some cases a secondary source of information with statistical evidence has been used and whenever secondary data is used its source has been mentioned and it has been taken from a reliable source.

The report is organized in eight chapters; chapter one introduces the report and outlines the brief social political profile of the constituencies, chapter two is about voter education with findings on voter education related to election, providers, relevance and methods used in provision of voter education related to the general election. The chapter is also devoted to explore adequacy and effectiveness of voter education, target groups etc and chapter three talks about recruitment and training of election management personnel, required qualifications, number of deployed personnel and inclusion of women youths and PWDs.

Chapter four of the report talks about nomination by NEC, rejection if any and reason for rejections and chapter five talks about campaign strategies, modalities and styles, Party Candidate Slogans, Adherence to the Code of Conduct, Regulations, Campaign timetable, campaign issues cum Promises, Security Arrangements during Campaign Meeting and use of incumbency advantages. Furthermore chapter six talks about the overall election process, it highlights an environment and setup of polling stations, availability of political agents within polling stations, opening and closing of polling stations, vote counting, tallying, announcement of winners, problems and how they were solved. Generally the chapter highlights all activities done on Election Day.

And lastly chapter seven contains a summary of the issues that were observed by the KIOO observer with some suggestions on what should be done for improvement. In this area an observer from KIOO highlighted various challenges that were identified and made suggestions on how those challenges can be addressed by NEC in collaboration with other stakeholders. Among the challenges that was observed by KIOO is poor participation of people with disability and lack of voter education providers to the community.

Campaign meeting done by vice president at Muyama village with full security

Election observation evaluation group discussion

CHAPTER THREE

Voter education

2.1 Specific information on voter education

The National Law on Election Article 334 section 4C mandates the power to the National Election Commission to provide voter education in the country, and coordinate and supervise institutions, organizations and people interested in providing voter education. In lieu of demands of the above law, their responsibility is by giving such education themselves through different ways or by granting accreditation and guidelines on how to conduct it to institutions and organizations that wish to do so. Voter education is provided to enable citizens to know what to do during election processes, not only to enable but also to know what kind of suitable candidate for leadership. So voter education is considered as the heart of the whole process and paves the way for the process. It was observed that there was insufficient voter education for the public. It was further learned from Returning Officers (RO) that there was no need for much voter education as it has been done in 2020 during general election and during updating of the permanent voter registration book.

Specific education provided included the following:-when, where and how to vote; abiding to NEC regulations that require voters after voting voters to go back to their home places; not wearing any clothes depicting the colors of their party affiliation and restraining from conducting campaigns. The education targeted all groups' women, youth and everyone who could hear the announcements. Through using mobile vans various groups such as women and youth were reached. The mobile van rounded all urban suburbs and stopped in places where there were groups of people such as marketplaces, residential areas and places of worship. Furthermore two main political parties CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO involved in educating their followers; however it was noted that while CCM insisted their followers to vote and go back home, their rival ACT-WAZALENDO told their followers that after casting their votes they should remain to guard the votes. Looking at the two kinds of mobilization one can recommend that political parties NEC should be guided on what they do in terms of voter education as does CSOs. Unfortunately, there was no voter education for people with disabilities**.**

2.2 Providers (numbers and category)

According to the law, the responsible authority for provision of voter education is the National Electoral Commission (NEC) who does so directly or by accreditation CSOs and other stakeholders. But within both constituencies our observers didn't witness any CSO that was providing voter education. In a few areas NEC officials were seen providing voter education through community meetings. In view of the situation we have seen in these constituencies, we recommend the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to put in place a mechanism to announce accreditation to provide voter education during by-elections as it is in general election. We think they can do so when they are announcing availability of a by-election; then the willing and able stakeholders they can apply for instead of the current situation where applying for accreditation is open.

2.3 **Methods (strategies/techniques)**

According to law you cannot provide voter education without accreditation and you cannot ask for accreditation while there is no call from NEC. Both conventional and non-conventional methods were used to provide voter education in the constituency. The conventional methods included print media newspapers, magazines and leaflets. The conventional methods were mainly provided by NEC at national level. However, NEC at the constituency level used leaflets.

Non-conventional methods used were face-to-face interactions which included briefings and discussions with different groups of potential voters including petty businessmen, groups of youth and women especially those found at market places and bust stands. Street announcements mainly used by NEC at constituency level, in which mobile vans (vehicles) rounded in the streets announcing to voters on the date for election and issues to keep in mind such as not wearing clothes of any political party, the time for voting and what they should do after voting. This method targeted all people; those found in homes, public places such as bus stands, churches, masques, bars and restaurants, as well as passerby. Despite the good work that has been done by NEC; but there is a challenge that needs a quick solution for free and fair elections without distractions and insults. In our observation we found that some candidates do not understand their party manifesto as a result they spend a lot of their time insulting and making their own promises that are not in their manifesto. This needs to be worked on by providing voter education to candidates and not leaving this responsibility to the parties concerned.

2.4 Adequacy and effectiveness

The adequacy and effectiveness of voter education programmes can be measured primarily by the level of participation. In other words, voter education is measured by certain benchmarks which help to identify strengths and weaknesses in the system and so help to build upon these strengths while it remedies the deficiencies in the system. According to Ibeanu & Orji (2014), these benchmarks include:- higher levels of participation in electoral events, particularly in registration and elections; Reduction in the number of invalid/rejected ballots over time; Reduction/elimination of instances of cheating; absence of election-related acts of intimidation and violence and general disposition among parties/candidates/electorates to accept fair and impartial electoral outcomes.

As aforementioned, only NEC and contesting political parties were involved in providing voter education. Other stakeholders such as Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and Civil Society Organization (CSOs) were not involved in the provision of voter education. It was also observed that voters in rural areas did not get this education as mobile vehicles (mobile vans) could not reach there. It was further observed that participation of people with disability was very low. This was observed from people attending campaigning rallies, most of them were seen to be following music as after music people were departing without listening to the candidate. The above observation was revealed on Election Day, where the voters' turnout was less than 30% of the registered voters. Moreover, in some voting stations some political parties had no agents.

2.5 Target groups (special needs of women, youth and people with disability)

The low turnout rate could be a clear indicator of what scholars of democracy and elections emphasize on intertwining of electoral components, where the breakdown of one attribute can have serious negative effects in the entire election process. As such, the weakness in voter education seems to have largely affected akey group of voters. It is important for everyone to know that it is very dangerous to go to the polls without having accurate information on what you are supposed to do and young people do not know the importance of elections.

CHAPTER FOUR
Recruitment and training of voter election personnel

3.1 Recruitment and selection methods, openness and inclusive of the process

Election personnel were recruited and the recruitment process began with advertisement of various positions including presiding officers, assistant presiding officers, direction clerks and security guards. In total the two constituencies had 626 polling stations where each polling station deployed five election personnel as a result a total of 3,130 election personnel were deployed in both constituencies being 626 Presiding Officers, 1,252 Assistant Presiding Officers, 626 Direction Clerks, and 626 security guards.

Furthermore, it was not easy to get the number of women, youth and people with disability from recruitment process perspective because during their process they didn't consider inclusiveness even if the process was open to everyone. It was generally observed that election personnel were selected by the virtue of their position in local government. For instance the Assistant Returning officers (AROs) seem to be Ward Executive Officers (WEO) or Ward Education Coordinator (WEC) of the respective ward meaning that there was no possibility for a person out of those with position would have qualified for. As such, district election officers' nomination seems to hinge on the jurisdiction and discretion of the Returning Officer (RO).

3.2 Participation of women, youth and people with disability

Most of the election personnel were government employees and few others from out of the government employees who qualified for the post. The recruitment exercise and process was very openly transparent and it included both men and women of different ages. In all recruited personnel women and youth were there in big numbers however people with disability were not considered for the posts. Responding to our questions, ARO from Kibwigwa ward said *"the exercise was mainly for public servants however we took other qualified people from the community, people with disability didn't apply for the position".* What do we learn from this; means that the employment and labor relation Act which insists on every employment to be allocated at least 3% for people with disabilities is not followed, if it might be followed why do we miss people with disability into public service?

3.3 Training of electoral staff (AROs, Presiding Officers, Polling station Assistants and Direction Clerks)

The training of electoral staff was done at district level divided into centers. In every district there was an identified center for the training. Topics covered during the AROs and election officers training were roles and responsibilities of RO and AROs, NEC nomination process, election laws and campaigns, roles and responsibilities of presiding officer, party agents, arranging a polling station and ballot paper, voting and counting, forms used in election, election systems, election equipment and their roles, use of election monies, party laws and ethics and election expenses act. The training of people involved swearing in of Party agents and due to the training offered to them on Election Day AROs, PO, PAs, and direction clerks performed their responsibility professionally.

CHAPTER FIVE
Nominations by Election Management bodies

4.1 Cases of nominated and rejected candidates

NEC nominated 16 candidate where 13 were from Buhigwe while the rest 3 were from Muhambwe as shown in the table below

S/N	Contestant	Constituency	Gender	Party
1	MASABO JULIUS	MUHAMBWE	MALE	ACT-WAZALENDO
2	FLORANCE SAMIMIZI	MUHAMBWE	FEMALE	CCM
3	PHILIPO J FUMBO	MUHAMBWE	MALE	DP
4	BIBIANA NGEZE	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	AAFP
5	GARURA KUDRA	BUHIGWE	MALE	ACT-WAZALENDO
6	AMEN ISANGI	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	ADA-TADEA
7	MARIAM KUNAMBI	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	ADC
8	REHEMA SOA	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	CCK
9	KAVEJURU FELIX	BUHIGWE	MALE	CCM
10	ABDALLAH BUKUKU	BUHIGWE	MALE	CHAUMA
11	MOHAMEDI MSANYA	BUHIGWE	MALE	DEMOKRASIA MAKINI
12	REBEKA MWITA	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	NLD
13	YUNIS MASENGA	BUHIGWE	MALE	SAU
14	ANNA PETER	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	UDP
15	SAFIA HUSSEIN	BUHIGWE	FEMALE	UMD
16	LWITAKUBI FELIX	BUHIGWE	MALE	UPDP

According to information from Returning officers; nomination of candidates by NEC was generally inclusive and transparent. Explaining the nomination process, one of the Returning officers said, *"We were very close to political parties and took time to advise and cross-checking candidates' forms before submission. I think this was how we succeeded in having very few cases of rejection in our constituency"*. The statement was supported by contesting party leaders who said the process was fair and inclusive. It was learned that the political parties were constantly reminded of the NEC timetable.
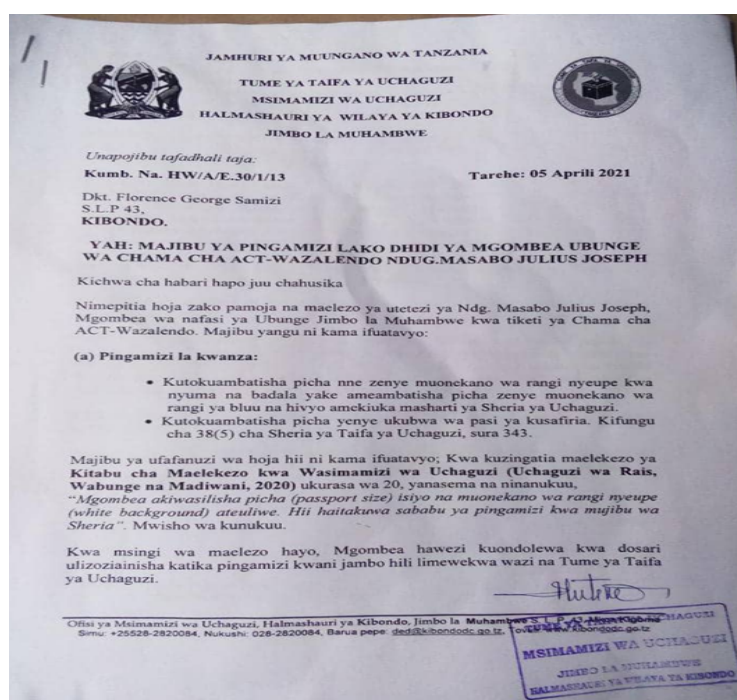
4.2 The handling of objections and Appeals process

In Muhambwe there was an Appeal from CCM against ACT-Wazalendo.NEC accepted the objection and the candidate was not satisfied with the decision and thus appealed to the NEC after submission of the claims to dismissed it and established the statement that the candidate had complied with all the requirements and he qualifies to contest. There were no complaints on how the situation was handled; each party was satisfied with the final decision from NEC.

4.3 Reactions from supporters/party followers

Both parties seemed to have understanding of the election rules and regulations, since the claimers had legal right to file the objections and thereafter the situation was handled according to the rules and regulations, the supporters were patiently waiting for NEC decision, one might say, the NEC decision was also good to them as their candidate was allowed to carry on with campaign, thus no violence or any kind of panic situation occurred so far.

4.4   Elaboration of defections of candidates

From the experience we gained during the observation it is clear that a lot of work needs to be done starting from the meat when it comes to finding candidates as well as instructing them on what they are supposed to do during the campaign. KIOO observer witnessed the candidates failing to conduct open campaigns on the pretext that they are conducting house-to-house campaigns, even if you follow up with the public wanting to know if the candidates are actually going from house to house as they say the answers are still proving that they are not. This is a very serious shortcoming that a candidate has no idea what he is going to do and even the party that gave him the consent to represent it is not at the forefront of ensuring that his candidate campaigns as scheduled.

Another thing witnessed by observers from our organization that we see as the weakness of the candidates is the failure to bid for the policies of the party he represents and to pursue the candidate of another party. This was done by all parties, even the ones we thought and believed were the oldest in the political arena. This should not be tolerated at all, deliberate efforts must be made to save the nation from the situation and that is probably why some people are unable to attend campaign rallies because they do not expect to find new things beyond the streams. For example, people were heard saying, "We are not sending a vampire to Parliament, it is just a mother's journey. We cannot choose a homeless person who eats wherever he finds it". Words like these are hurtful and can divide society

CHAPTER SIX
Election Campaign

5.1 Campaign strategies, modalities and style

Different campaign rallies of all participating political parties were attended during observation missions in Buhigwe and Muhambwe. The campaign modalities used by all political parties were Public Addressing system (PA). Open-air was a campaign strategy widely used to inform citizens on the forthcoming campaign. Parties to some good extent campaigned in rallies abiding to the agreed election timetable at the constituency. Despite the availability of other campaigns through open air, other methods such as door-to-door and man to man were used even if they were not clearly observed. Although such campaign strategies were not witnessed, it seems to be done strategically in areas and time which was not convenient to the KIOO observer.

During the Campaign only two (2) Parties were holding Campaign Meetings which are CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO, some candidates of parties that did not hold Campaign rallies as the Schedule shows, said they were conducting House-to-House Campaigns. During the Campaign, I witnessed the TOT Motivation Vehicle adorned with flags and pictures of the CCM Parliamentary candidate standing near the area where the ACT party was conducting the Campaign rally, prompting ACT leaders to make statements aimed at mobilizing their supporters. Let them go and make a fuss, after rumors that the TOT vehicle left while continuing to play CCM enthusiastic music in Buhigwe constituency. Also in the Buhigwe constituency, the ACT party witnessed the closing of its Campaign Meeting on 15/05/2021 at Buhigwe Primary School Stadium at 12:14 pm instead of 12:00 in accordance with the Electoral Law.

Another campaign strategy observed was inviting leaders from other constituencies to gain acceptance through campaigns. Furthermore, only two parties CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO were observed to use music and cultural dance to attract supporters. It was interestingly observed that CCM used more traditional songs and dance to attract the crowd and campaign compared to ACT-WAZALENDO; ACT-WAZALENDO preferred hard core music and bongo flavor to campaign in rallies. Composition in the meetings attended varied. Despite the trend, there were more youth, women and elderly in CCM meetings. Contrary, there were more youth and children below the age of 18 in ACT-WAZALENDO meetings as observed. In some cases school children were used in campaigning mostly for CCM. In the campaign rallies attended, there was little evidence of ferrying people. *The use of influential or prominent persons;* This was used mainly by CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO where CCM used the Prime Minister and Vice president in all two constituencies. Moreover, CCM used retired prominent leaders, who had occupied high positions in the government and traditional leaders who were accorded high respect in the community.

As regard to styles used, the most used style was that of kneeling down in request for votes. This was mostly used by CCM female contestants. On some occasions, the majority of contestants resorted to using their vernaculars to ask for votes. Moreover, during campaigns some whistleblowers used jokes against their opponents to attract the attention of voters. Generally, during campaigns many people attended the campaign rallies although some political parties had no supporters.

5.2 Party/Candidates slogans

The CCM candidate had his slogan called *Tunasema na Kutenda,* which literally means 'We say and Act'. This slogan was elucidated by the parliamentary contestant that the promises made by himself and his party in the past five years were fulfilled and therefore, argued that in the

coming five years he will continue to implement what he has promised. On the other hand, ACT-WAZALENDO contestants were guided by their party motto 'Uhuru, Haki na Maendeleo ya Watu', which means 'Freedom, Rights and People's Development'.They insisted that they preserve people's freedom, rights and development. Party candidates used different slogans during their public campaign rallies. CCM used slogans such as CCM Oyee, CCM safiii, Kidumu chama cha Mapinduzi. On the other hand ACT-WAZALENDO slogan used Taifa Kwanza Leo na Kesho, Mabadiliko na Uwazi, Chukua Hatua. Generally from the campaigns attended they were conducted in a peaceful manner. As such there were no reported incidences of destruction of symbols or pictures of opponents or violence.

5.3 Adherence to the code of conduct, regulations, campaign timetable

In terms of schedule each party adhered to its schedule of holding campaign rallies from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. However there were other areas that were challenging for all parties; one area was to use indigenous languages to campaign. For the most part, all parties used Kisukuma in bidding, which is prohibited by the regulations. Another area that was found to be infringing was the use of children in campaigning, in particular CCM meetings children were used to campaigning as seen in the picture below. Another area where the slightest defect was the campaign and this came to the fore when a CCM party candidate ran his campaign in the middle of Mbagala market. This candidate and his team set up a platform in the middle of the market which caused some activities to stop. On the outskirts of the area there was an ongoing evangelistic meeting and they were forced to suspend their activities as there was no way they could listen to each other.

During the Campaign only CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO hold Campaign Meetings as per their schedules. Some candidates from other parties who were not holding campaign rallies as the schedule shows when asked said they were conducting house-to-house campaigns. If you get the message that the campaign is going from house to house it is very difficult to know whether they are doing it or not and it is not easy to understand whether the rules and regulations are being followed.

During the campaign in Buhigwe constituency, the enthusiastic spirit of the TOT Group adorned with flags and photographs of a CCM parliamentary candidate standing near the area where the ACT party was conducting the Campaign rally, prompting ACT leaders to make statements aimed at mobilizing Their supporters should go on a rampage, after rumors spread that the TOT vehicle left while continuing to play CCM's enthusiastic music in Buhigwe constituency. Also in the Buhigwe constituency, the ACT party witnessed the closing of its Campaign Meeting on 15/05/2021 at Buhigwe Primary School Stadium at 12:14 pm instead of 12:00 in accordance with the Electoral Law.

CCM as the ruling party generally enjoyed more advantages than other political parties. Its candidates enjoyed enough resources it had accumulated for years. There were some traces of the ruling party CCM to be favored a little bit; there was a use of government office car in one of the campaign meeting that was done at Ikunguigazi where primary pupils were asked to attend the campaign meeting at Bukandwe while they were supposed to be in class.

Students attended Bukandwe campaign rally during school hours

Throughout the campaign all political parties observed the time table for campaigns, however, there was no strict adherence to the starting time. Majority of the campaigners started at late hours and therefore forced themselves to rush in their campaigns so as to finish on time. During presidential meetings, particularly for ACT-WAZALENDO, the contender did not observe time for starting, the meeting was scheduled to begin at 10:00AMs but people had to wait for six hours.

In all the campaign rallies, which the observer managed to attend, there were no cases where contestants used defamatory or negative campaigning. Generally, campaigns were conducted well without using bad language. There were no critical incidence cases that attracted the attention of the observer. In the majority of campaigns attended, it was noted there were no uniformed police officers. KIOO observed that some of the meetings were having uniformed police unlike. One attributing factor could be insufficient manpower of the police or negligence. The other issue affecting uniformed attendance in campaign rallies could be lack of financial resources such as fuel. It was obvious; proximity to a campaign rally venue influenced the presence of uniformed police. For instance, in most close rallies, uniformed police were seen. Moreover, a critical analysis shows more CCM campaign meetings were attended by uniformed police compared to other parties.

5.4 Any incidences of negative campaigning such as disinformation, destruction of opponents symbols, pictures, posters etc

The entire observer in both constituencies could not reach or see a negative campaign from candidates. The use of language Kisukuma was used by almost all candidates. For destruction of property and posters of candidates, in Kasamwa ward, the candidate for ACT-WAZALENDO was

attacked by people who believed to be supporters of CCM who basically had no meeting in the area and had no schedule that showed that they had meeting in the area.


CCM in man to man and village to village campaign

The so-called door-to-door or person-to-person campaigns are very difficult to prove whether they follow the rules or not. As shown in the picture above, a uniformed leader of a political party distributes coffee to the people even though he is not a seller; an incident like this can be considered as a bribe to voters as the person who paid for the coffee is unknown although the people enjoy drinking and even the motives for paying for the coffee are also unknown. It is very important for NEC and other stakeholders to look at the best way to deal with such incidents. It is well known that some members of the community, especially those who have been drinking the coffee, believe that giving the coffee is a charitable act that deserves to be paid to a charity which, since time and time is a vote, and then they should vote for the coffee donor or party as part of their gratitude.

5.5 Campaign issues-cum-promises

There were a number of promises given; some of the promises made by CCM included to continue improving the physical and social infrastructures such as roads, schools, electricity and health services and implement what is indicated in the CCM election manifesto. With this regard, the CCM parliamentary aspirant, his motto (Kauli Mbiu) has been 'Tunasema na Kutenda', which literally means, We Say and Act. On the other hand, ACT-WAZALENDO were guided by their motto 'Uhuru, Haki na Maendeleo ya Watu', which means 'Freedom, Rights and People's Development'. Also, the ACT-WAZALENDO contestants at various levels (Councilor, Parliamentary, and Presidential seats) criticized the CCM government for inhumane treatment of people. ACT-WAZALENDO aspirants also criticized the Machinga 20,000/= contributions (that the Identity given had no photo and place of the bearer and no receipt was given to those who paid). ACT-WAZALENDO were also critical of the way the current government had restricted people's democracy. Therefore they had the following promises to restore democracy and people's freedom of speech and remove the barriers of doing business for small entrepreneurs.
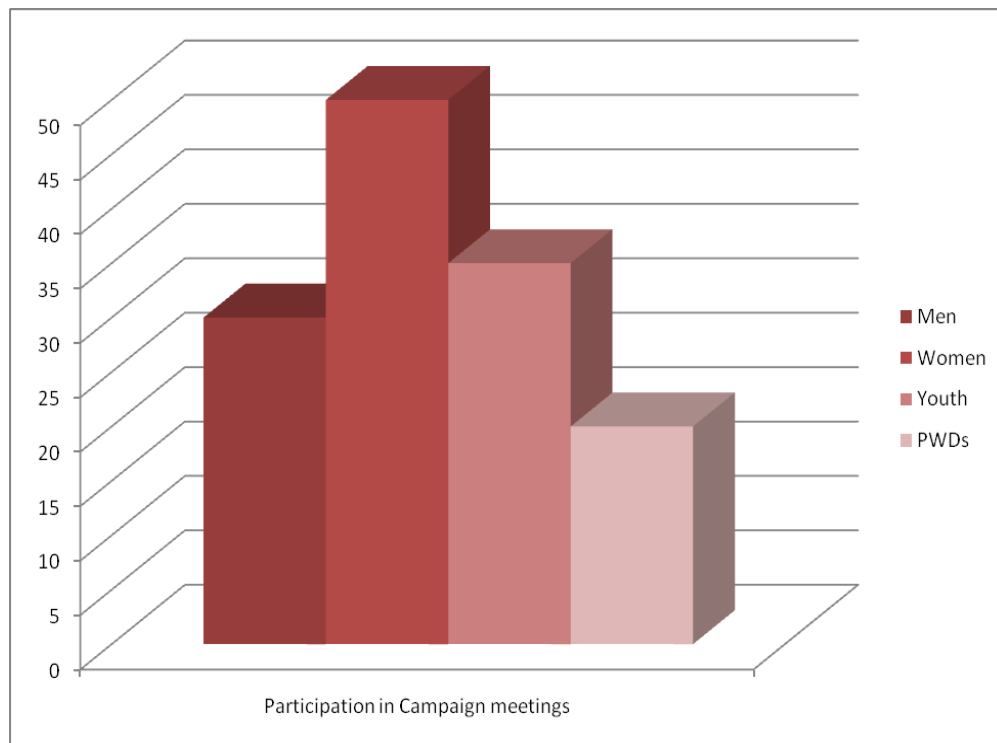
Participation of community in campaign meetings

5.6 Security arrangements during campaign meetings

Security is important in ensuring that peace and harmony prevail before, during and after campaigns. It also ensures that people attend and listen to different contenders with freedom. As regards security, there were no reported cases of violence or infringement of the election campaign regulations. In both parliamentary and councilor seats, security officers (the police) were not attending. However, there were party security guards, green and red guards for CCM and ACT-WAZALENDO respectively. As for presidential campaigns, the police officers were there to maintain security.

5.7 Use of incumbency advantages

In all constituencies in both constituencies where KIOO had long observers noted that candidates from the ruling party generally enjoyed more advantages than other political parties. Its candidates enjoyed enough resources it had accumulated for years. In three constituencies CCM candidates were minister positions that for them served as a way to increase popularity and relief. Their positions were used to convince voters that they were part

of the decision-making process and that electing others who did not know where to start is just a waste of time and lagging behind in development. This made them attract more supporters than his opponents.

Furthermore, resource capability has remained one of the greatest bottlenecks in campaigning compared to other candidates. For instance he owned reliable cars with PA systems to advertise and campaign at any point and time. In addition, the CCM parliamentary aspirant also owned buses which facilitate transport to and from close wards. Such services may have an influence in campaigning and gaining acceptance of a candidate during campaigning. Financial challenges were observed to affect campaigning of almost all contestants in attended campaigns. One of the ACT-WAZALENDO rallies nearly collapsed as a result of the ineffectiveness of the generator used in the PA system. In such a case it is recommended that there be equality during the contest then there should be an amendment to the law so that when the parliament is dissolved then the ministry and deputy may cease and the activities carried out by the relevant minister remain executed by the secretary general or deputy. But if the situation continues as it is now, there is no way that the person who is the minister or deputy minister will stop using the opportunity to get relief.
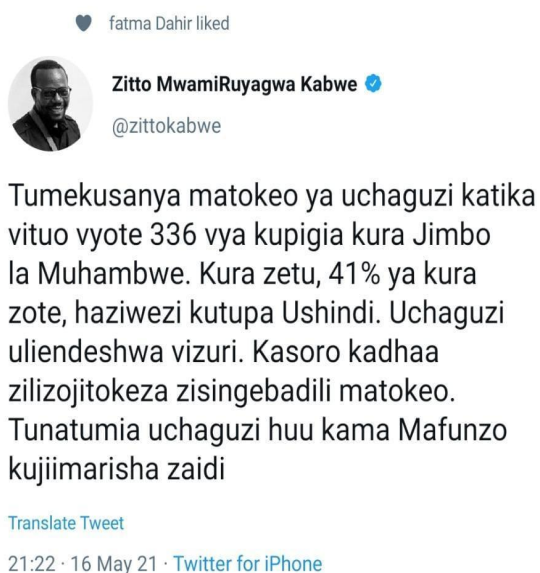
Testimony from the ACT-WAZALENDO leader

Candidates agreeing to results in Buhigwe

CHAPTER SEVEN
Polling/Election day activities

6.1 Polling station set-up

Before voting started the Presiding Officers and the polling Assistants set up the polling station. Polling Station posters were placed inside and outside the polling stations to enable voters to read. There were also instructions and precautions posted inside and outside the polling stations. Moreover, each polling station had a list of voters posted outside and inside the polling station there was a voter registration book. In each polling station, voters' names were listed alphabetically to identify the voters. Moreover, the Presiding Officers ensured that there were no posters, advertisements, marks, and photos or any other materials of political parties and candidates within 200 meters from the Polling Stations.

All polling stations were opened as per the instructions of the National Electoral Commission i.e. between 1:00 and 1:30 am, but it also became clear that the first person started voting between 1:00 and 1:30. Similarly the installation of voting was as stated by the Commission i.e. at 10:00 pm. It should be noted here that it means the last person to be allowed to enter the line, so it was the responsibility of the soldiers who were at the station to stand behind the voters who were lined up at the time. Despite this all the people in the queue were allowed to vote until the end, this voting continued until 10:00 pm. In addition, the counting exercise started between 10:09 pm to 11:00 pm after the stations.

The polling stations were opened at 7.00 hours. Before voting commenced the Presiding officers verified agents from the political parties, this process went smoothly. There were few cases where the agents from ACT-WAZALENDO were denied access to the polling station because their introduction letter had not reached the Presiding Officer. This happened at Ilemela Primary school polling station in Uyovu Ward. Those agents were taken outside the polling station until their letters were brought. As they waited outside, the voting process continued. However, arrangements were immediately done and the introduction letter was brought.


Voter lining at their polling station as it was set by NEC

Despite the presence of as many centers as planned by the national electoral commission in some areas within the Buhigwe and Muhambwe, differences have arisen. This diversity is not due to the increase in facilities but due to the reallocation of polling stations from the area where people registered. Worse enough those changes were not reported to the target audience (Public). At various times in the Kalangalala primary school Mwatulole, Nyankumbu and Nyantorotoro areas, for example, several people didn't see their names despite that their names were seen from the system that they are located in that center. Not only in those wards but also in other constituencies there were reports from KIOO observers that show that there was reallocation of polling centers reported. However, when asked about the matter, the AROs replied that there are circumstances that led to the reallocation of the polling centers including rain. Lack of information to voters seemed to be something that did not scare election

personnel at all. From a simple and quick perspective you can assume that this was done on purpose

6.2 **Facilities, materials and equipment**

Preparation for polling day was done well in advance. All the election materials, facilities and equipment needed were prepared in advance. All the required documents and materials were available including ballot papers, ballot boxes and the ballot booth. The ballot boxes were three and had different colors; Blue for presidential, Black for parliamentary and White for Councilor seat. All voters were informed of the appropriate box for each post. The polling booth was located in a secure place where the voters were ensured privacy when voting. Moreover, the voting booths were friendly to all people including those with disabilities.
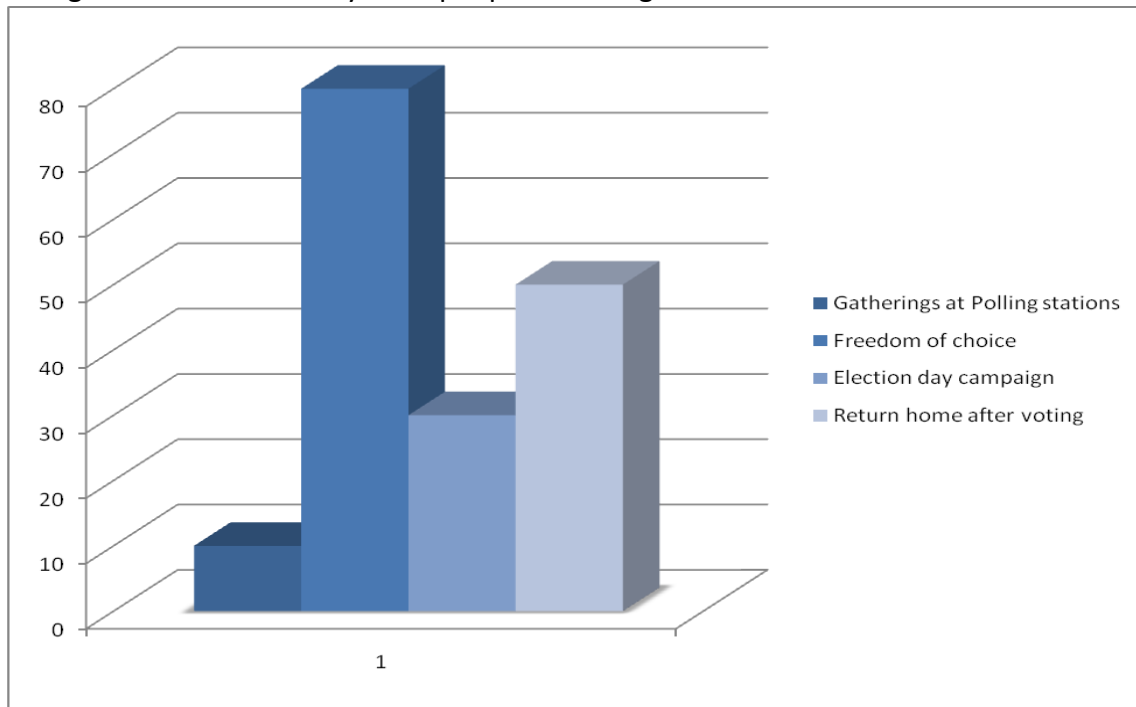

Trends on polling day

6.3 Accessibility of polling centers to people with disability

Most polling stations were accessible although some were not friendly to people with disabilities. Unlike in previous years this year the national commission was well organized because the dotted text for the blind was available. However there is still a major challenge that needs to be addressed, inside the polling station there was no friendly environment for people with disabilities who cannot stand for a long time when waiting for names to be sought and other electoral procedures to proceed.

Some people with disability shown up for election
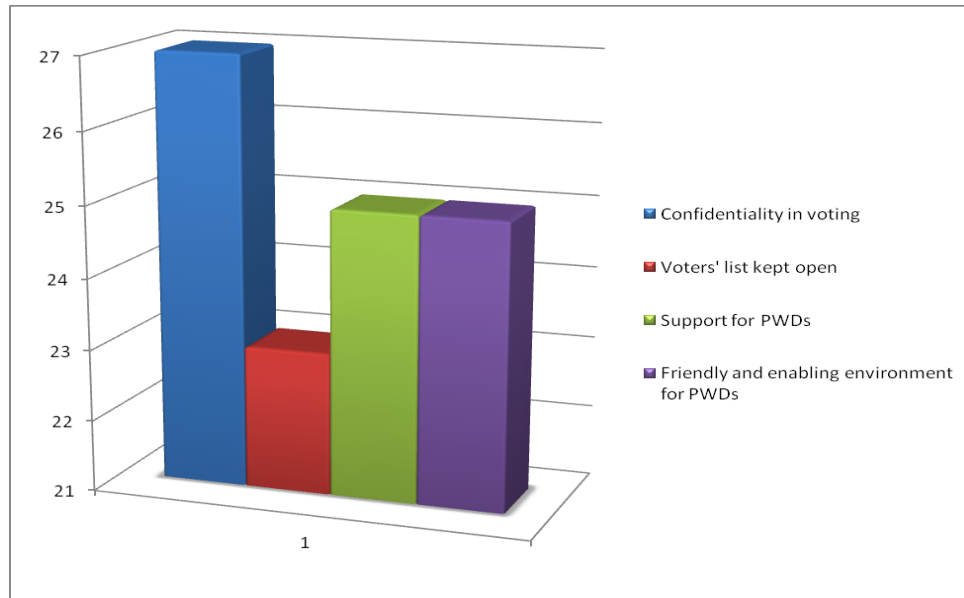
State and environment of polling stations

In the context of all polling stations there are a number of issues that need to be addressed by various stakeholders. In many places the buildings used as polling stations are public buildings as is the law and very few open spaces are used. In many villages public buildings such as schools, health centers and clinics are still accessible to people with disabilities. This is a challenge that needs to be addressed

The second thing is that the voter register is open, in some stations party agents had copies of the voter register with the intention of ascertaining whether the incumbent is the one or not, but it was very strange as some administrators confiscated the registers that they have no legal authority to have. Arguments arise and some require further reflection with prouder discussion. How did they get those copies of those registers if they really had the authority to have them? And if they are not allowed to have it, how do they know if the incoming voter is him or her? If not, why should they have it at other stations? Was the training on how to manage the facilities different between those who cheat and those who do not? Something like this is too small to look at but if not addressed properly it could put a flaw in the good work done by the commission.

Direction clerk looking for voters' card

6.1 **Voting procedures, vote counting and tallying**

Before voting commenced, all voters were required to identify their names on the list of registered voters that was posted outside the polling station. The persons who were allowed to vote were those whose names appeared on the Voters' Register for the polling station and who

had their voter card. For those who had lost their voter cards were allowed to use their National ID or Driving license.

All voters were required to queue in two lines outside the polling station; one for males and another for females. However, priority was given to the persons with disability, elderly, pregnant women, and breast feeding women. The Director Clerk provided the guidance and assistance to voters who were in the lines and to those who did not see their names in the posted list. The process of voting started at 7.00 O'clock and ended at 4.00pm. There were no voters who had not voted by 4pm. However, by 6am in the morning the voters in many polling stations had already queued in the polling stations.

6.2 **Vote counting at the polling stations**

Immediately after finishing the process of voting at 4.00 pm, the Presiding Officer changed the polling station into a Counting Station. The Presiding Officer asked the political agents whether they had any complaints. Of all the polling stations that both STOs observed, there were no complaints observed. Thereafter, the Presiding Officer sealed the aperture on the lid of each ballot box. The counting room was arranged in a way that allowed Counting Agents and Observers, who were seated on one side to observe the counting process clearly. The Presiding officer and the Polling Assistant were seated on the other side.

Counting started by opening all ballot papers; then, the ballot papers were counted and the number of the total votes casted in each ballot box was recorded. Then, the Presiding Officer and their Assistants started counting the votes by reading the names of the contestants and their party. The ballot papers, which were counted, were put in a separate place for each contestant. In the counting process, the contested votes were kept aside and then rechecked after finishing counting all the votes. This helped to solve the problems that arose in the process. After finishing counting, the ballot boxes and forms were packed in the appropriate envelopes.

After finishing counting at the polling station level, the ballot boxes and forms were packed in the appropriate envelopes and were handed to the Assistant Returning Officer at Ward level. The Ward ARO then compiled the results from all polling stations in Form 24A, 24B, and 24C. After filling those forms, the counting agents from political parties were requested to sign. All the counting agents signed the forms after confirming that there were no problems regarding vote counting. Then the results were displayed on the walls. When this exercise ended, the Ward ARO declared the results for councilors and the results for parliamentary and presidential seats were sent the constituency tallying center where the tallying exercise for parliamentary and presidential posts continued

6.4 **Declaration of results**

After the results were filled in Form 24A and 24B, the Returning Officer announced the results. The Returning Officer announced the CCM Candidate, Mr. Felex Kavejuru to be Member of Parliament for BUHIGWE Constituency. 12 parliamentary candidates accepted the results and signed the results form; except the ACT Parliamentary Candidate; Mr. Garula did not sign the result form.

The table below shows how results were announced

NAME OF THE PARTY	NUMBER OF VOTES
CCM	25,274
ACT-WAZALENDO	4,749
AAFP	33
ADA-TADEA	21
ADC	16
CCK	30
SAU	18
CHAUMA	125
NLD	2
UPD	7
UMD	6
UPDP	23
DEMOKRASIA MAKINI	16
VALID VOTES	**30,320**
INVALID	**593**
TOTAL VOTES	**30,913**

In Muhambwe Constituency, a total number of 127,776 were registered as voters however only 36,339 voters showed up during the election. The table below shows how votes were divided among candidates.

NAME OF THE PARTY	NUMBER OF VOTES
CCM	24,441
ACT-WAZALENDO	10,847
DP	368
VALID VOTES	35,656
INVALID	683
TOTAL VOTES	36,339

So from the table above CCM Candidate, Dr. Florence Samizi was announced as the winner.

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CHAPTER EIGHT
Conclusions and recommendation

The observation in both constituencies generally went well as planned. The campaigns were free and fair. Despite the fairness in campaigns, the incumbent parliamentary and council contestants appear to capitalize on their experience and awareness of the political environment unlike new candidates. The timetable misconduct in campaign rallies was indeed seriously observed and needed an immediate, inclusive and strategic means to address it. There was a very low rate of women who participated in council positions, hence a need to promote women participation in politics. Among all constituencies recorded the least voters' turnout rate. The low turnout rate is associated with insufficient voter education. The findings suggest a need for NEC and other stakeholders involved in the election to conduct serious and timely voter education across the country. Furthermore, there is a need to test the instrument before being used, as some responses were obsolete in the pre-election and election checklists.

Based on what people saw and reported at the polling stations, they have confirmed that the current peace will continue even after the elections as despite the fact that the people were in love with their parties they were still united and cooperating outside of politics. One example of how peace will prevail is when people arrive at the polling stations and follow the instructions of the station supervisors where they vote for a short time and return to their homes. Some voters commended the National Electoral Commission for improving the environment and polling stations where it has been different from the previous elections in 2015. At each polling station there were more than two small polling stations/rooms. This allowed voters to spend less time on voting exercise.

As for the election administrators, to a large extent they seemed to have enough understanding of what they were supposed to do, also on the part of the agents, most of them seemed to have confidence in the supervisors. They agreed and agreed on all that had been forgotten in order to fulfill the requirements of the election law. During the campaign the police force did everything possible to ensure protection and security of the people who attended the rallies for all parties. Turnout on election day was very low and those who turned out in large numbers to vote were the elderly and mothers. The youths did not show up on the grounds that they did not trust the candidates as they had been promised a lot and previous leaders had not been implemented at all. So there is no need to go to the polls as shown in the table.

Based on the aforementioned conclusions, the following recommendations are made in order to improve future General Elections.

1. Need to improve provision of voter education. It was noted that in all constituencies within both constituencies' voter education was provided in the last two weeks by NEC only. This could have implications with voter turnout as the education provided was minimal.

2. Although the polling stations were enough, there is a need to spread the polling stations in residential areas, supposedly in every street or village instead of concentrating them in one place. This will help many voters to come out and vote as the polling stations will be close to their homes.

3. The political leaders should be educated on electoral laws in order to help them understand the regulations and code of ethics to be adhered to during elections. This will help to avoid unnecessary confrontations with election authority personnel.

4. There was not much awareness to community members about voter Returning that might have been caused by a lack of voters' education that was not provided by the responsible people as it was expected to awaken people of what they are supposed to do including when the exercise will start and eligibility of people to be registered.

5. It was also observed that there were no accredited CSOs that would have helped in provision of voter education as it was expected, however it was not discovered in detail whether SCOs were not there to provide voter education because they were not accredited or they lacked financial and material support for the exercise? But according to answers provided by Returning Officers one can conclude that CSOs to provide voter education were not there.

6. Unfriendly Returning environment to people with disabilities and people which might be the reason for their non-showing up. Most of the centers that were located in government buildings were seen to have higher stapes to reach; for people with disabilities it is believed that seeing the environment only can demoralize you from making decisions. And for the non-disable people the shifting of centers from one place to the other might be a reason for people not showing up as they might not be sure whether they will find the center in a place it was yesterday.

7. There was poor organization of some Polling stations as a result of difficulties for persons with disability. This was due to the fact that some of the centers were located in bare areas without tents; while the person responsible in organizing doing so was aware that it was a rainy season.