

INTERIM REPORT
THE CARTER CENTER INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION
Democratic Republic of the Congo
December 5, 2023

Introduction

The Carter Center has been active in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 2006, working to promote democratic elections, protect human rights and advance transparency and accountability in extractive industries. On June 24, 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) invited The Carter Center to observe the 2023 elections

In response to the invitation, The Carter Center deployed an international election observation mission (IEOM) in September 2023, led by mission director Nicolas Teindas. The IEOM officially started on Sept 25 with a core team of 16 (eamei)-6 (n<ev(T)67 TJ 0 Twl4 (f)-8sy)-10 tm0.001 1T

observation delegation. The limited number of short observers means that the IEOM will not have a sufficient nationwide presence to make comprehensive conclusions about the conduct of election day.

The Carter Center expresses gratitude to the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the invitation to observe the D20 elections. The Carter Center thanks the CENI for its prompt efforts to ensure timely accreditation of its observers and for its cooperation with IEOM observers and staff at the national, provincial and local levels.

Electoral Calendar

The CENI has prioritized the organization of the elections within the constitutional deadline including the registration of voters and candidates, ongoing cascade trainings of election officers and procurement and distribution of election materials.

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The Carter Center also encourages the CENI and civil society actors to increase voter education and voting information activities and continue organizing inclusive consultation frameworks in all provinces.

On election day, accredited citizen observers will play a crucial role providing transparency. The CENI and its provincial offices should make sure that all observer applications submitted within the legal deadline are duly processed at the same time. The Carter Center urges political parties, political groupings, and independent candidates to deploy trained party agents on election day to the extent possible.