



European Union  
Election Observation Mission to Malawi  
2014 Tripartite Elections

– PRESS RELEASE –

## THE EU EOM DEPLOYS 40 SHORT-TERM OBSERVERS TO REINFORCE CAPACITY ON ELECTION DAY

**Blantyre, 17 May 2014.** – A group of 40 European Union short-term observers (STOs), coming from EU Member States and Norway arrived to Malawi on 14 May to reinforce the EU observers' team that will observe the 20 May tripartite elections. They will support the 28 EU long-term observers who have been working across Malawi since 27 April. Locally recruited short-term observers from diplomatic representations of EU Member States in Malawi will also integrate the mission. In total, the EU Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) will deploy 85 observers for election day.

“With the deployment of our short-term observers, the EU Election Observation Mission will extend the scope of its observation coverage and will be closely following all activities during election day. The observation of opening, voting, closing, counting and the tabulation processes is a crucial part of the EU EOM's findings and the overall assessment of the electoral process”, said Véronique De Keyser, Chief Observer of the EU EOM.

Before their deployment, the group of 40 STOs attended a two-day comprehensive brief on electoral procedures, the legal framework of elections, the political environment and Malawi media landscape.

*The EU EOM will announce its preliminary findings at a press conference in Mount Soche Hotel in Blantyre, on Thursday the 22 of May at 10 am.*

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