



Brussels, 22 September 2014
140922/01

P R E S S R E L E A S E

EU to observe elections in Mozambique

Following an invitation from the Mozambican authorities, the European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to Mozambique to observe the Presidential, Legislative and Provincial Elections scheduled for 15 October 2014.

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, appointed Judith Sargentini, Member of the European Parliament, to lead the EOM as Chief Observer. She will travel to Maputo on 22 September.

The deployment of a European Observation Mission confirms the European Union's commitment to the strengthening of an open political system in Mozambique and the consolidation of an inclusive democracy.

"The EU deployed Election Observation Missions to Mozambique in the past and has again answered positively to the invitation by the Mozambique authorities", said Chief Observer Judith Sargentini. "Our mandate is to observe the elections without interfering with the electoral process and respecting local laws and regulations. I am confident that this EU EOM will provide an important contribution to enhancing the inclusiveness and transparency of the election process in Mozambique".

The EU Election Observation Mission will consist of a Core Team of six election analysts, 20 long-term observers who will be deployed to all Mozambican Provinces, as well as additional short-term observers who will arrive shortly before election day.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780- Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu @EUHighRepSpox
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu @AshtonSpox Maja

Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu

Iulia Costea +32 460 75 07 17 - Iulia.Costea@ec.europa.eu

Follow us on Twitter @eu_eeas

www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService

www.eeas.europa.eu

The EOM will closely follow the electoral process and make its assessment with reference to Mozambique internal law as well as regional and international commitments.

This analysis will take into account aspects such as the legal framework, the election administration performance, the political campaign activities, the respect for fundamental freedoms, the conduct of the media, the voting process and counting. Attention will also be dedicated to the complaints and appeals phase, and to the process of announcement of the results. The EU Election Observation Mission abides by a code of conduct which ensures the mission's independence and integrity.

Shortly after Election Day, the mission will issue a preliminary statement of its findings at a press conference in Maputo. A final report, including recommendations as contribution for future electoral processes, will be presented at a later stage.

For more information, see the EU EOM webpage:

<http://www.eueom.eu/mozambique2014>
