

Press Release

EU EOM REINFORCES ITS PRESENCE IN NEPAL WITH 40 ADDITIONAL OBSERVERS

KATHMANDU, 13 November 2013 - A group of 40 European Union short term observers, coming from 26 EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland, is being deployed throughout the country today to observe the 19 November Constituent Assembly elections.

The observers arrived in Kathmandu on 11 November. After two days of comprehensive briefing they are today joining the 34 EU long term observers who have been deployed throughout the country since 17 October. In total, including the Core Team, the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) has now 83 observers working throughout Nepal.

On election day they will be reinforced by 20 locally-recruited short term observers from embassies of EU Member States and Switzerland who will also observe under the EU EOM umbrella. A delegation of Members of the European Parliament will also be joining the EU EOM for election day.

"All observers will be present for the voting and counting processes across the country in both urban and rural areas. We hope our presence will contribute to an environment conducive to a peaceful process", said Eva Joly, Chief Observer of the EU EOM. "I sincerely hope all political parties and their supporters refrain from any form of violence before, during and after the 19 November polls. It is crucial that all Nepalese demonstrate their commitment to peace and democracy in such an important moment for the country", the Chief Observer said.

The EU EOM will issue a statement of preliminary findings two days after the elections.

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