

European Union Election Observation Mission Islamic Republic of Pakistan General Elections 2013



Immediate Release

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EU Short-Term Observers Deployment

A group of 46 European Union short-term observers (STOs), coming from EU Member States, Canada, Norway and Switzerland, is being deployed to Islamabad, Khyber Pakthunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh today to observe the 11 May general elections. They reinforce the 52 EU long-term observers who have been working in teams of two across Pakistan since 16 April. The mission now has 110 observers deployed to see pre-poll activities, voting, counting and the compilation of results.

"With the deployment of our short-term observers the EU election observation mission is ready to be closely looking at the upcoming critical stages of this election process. We want our observers to be seeing as much as possible of the ground realities of this election, to be meeting stakeholders, hearing concerns, seeing things with their own eyes, understanding this election", said Michael Gahler, Chief Observer of the EU Election Observation Mission (EU EOM).

A delegation of three Members of the European Parliament will be joining the EU EOM as well as observers from the Embassies of EU Member States, Canada, Norway and Switzerland. After election day the EU EOM will issue a statement of its preliminary findings at a press conference on 13 May.

Note to Editors:

The EU EOM will announce its preliminary findings at a press conference in Serena Hotel in Islamabad, on Monday the 13 of May at 1400 hours.

The EU EOM is independent of the EU institutions and EU Member States. The EU EOM operates in accordance with the "Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation" endorsed under the auspices of the United Nations in 2005.

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