



## **Post-Election Day Statement**

**Kampala, 25 February 2016**

Reaffirming the principles of transparency and accountability, the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) encourages the Electoral Commission to publish without delay the detailed results from each polling station for the presidential and parliamentary elections online, including scanned copies of the Declaration of Results Forms. This would enable voters, as well as the candidates, to comprehensively evaluate the election results.

*“The Electoral Commission’s accountability is very important in the post-electoral environment,”* stressed the EU EOM Chief Observer, Mr Eduard Kukan. He added that such steps as the publication of inclusive information on election results constitute international best practice in the conduct of democratic elections. Pro-active publication of information of public interest is enshrined in international standards to which Uganda has committed itself with the aim of respecting citizens’ fundamental freedoms and rights.

*“The EU EOM will continue to observe the post-electoral environment. The electoral process is completed only when all candidates have rightfully exercised the relevant legal avenues without fear, intimidation or other undue restrictions,”* said Mr. Kukan. The law provides ten days to challenge the outcome of the presidential elections after the announcement of results. The restrictions on freedom of movement of the FDC leadership in Kampala, as well as the arrests of local candidates and party agents in Mbarara, occurred while the party is still collecting documents, including the declaration of result forms, from its agents in the field. The EU EOM encourages all stakeholders, including the police, to adhere to the rule of law and to show equal respect for each and every citizen’s fundamental freedoms.

In addition to the 10 core team election analysts, 30 long term observers remain deployed across the country and continue to observe electoral developments.