



Republic of Liberia
National Elections Commission (NEC)



STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEC

10 November 2005

11:00 am

□ PROGRESSIVE RESULTS FROM TALLYING

2,442, or 79.5% of the 3,070 polling places have reported. Note that the portion of polling places reported varies across the counties.

COUNTY	TOTAL POLLING PLACES REPORTED
Bomi	All 98
Bong	309 out of 343
Gbarpolu	8 out of 61
Grand Bassa	141 out of 252
Grand Cape Mount	78 out of 82
Grand Gedeh	71 out of 73
Grand Kru	28 out of 47
Lofa	68 out of 215
Margibi	177 out of 237
Maryland	87 out of 106
Montserrado	986 out of 989
Nimba	269 out of 411
River Cess	34 out of 42
River Gee	All 47
Sinoe	41 out of 67

Based on these partial reports, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has received 393,805 votes corresponding to 57.9% and George Weah has received 285,984 votes corresponding to 42.1%.

The recorded turn out for the polling places which have reported amounts to 696,043 voters or 60.9%.

Be reminded that these are partial figures. The NEC is reporting results through the press conferences as they arrive at the National Tally Centre from the County Tally Centres.

Please be advised that detailed reports will be distributed at the end of the press conference and will also be posted on the NEC's official website, www.necliberia.org



☐ RETRIEVAL OF MATERIALS

The 7 flights that left for 19 landing sites to retrieve materials from inaccessible sites in Grand Kru, Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount and River Gee Counties yesterday have successfully done so with the exception of Nomadatundu in Gbarpolu County due to problems in landing. This flight has been rescheduled for today.

In addition to this, we are today flying 3 flights: all of them to Gbarpolu County in order to recover materials in 21 Voting Precincts.

☐ COMPLAINTS RELATING TO THE RESULTS

The NEC has received a formal complaint from the Congress for Democratic Change, CDC. The NEC will initiate investigations into all of the allegations outlined in the notification.

☐ TRANSPARENCY

In addition to the Observer reports released by IRI yesterday, the NEC is today expecting reports from the African Union, European Union and NDI/Carter Center delegations.

Due to an oversight, we did not announce the presence of observer delegations Visions in Action, World Council of Churches and European Federation of Liberian Association yesterday. We apologize for this omission.

We wish to once again thank domestic and international observers for the commitment they have shown in making these elections transparent. The recommendations they forwarded us for the October 11 election were very beneficial, and we hope to receive the same quality of feedback on the November 8 election so that future elections in Liberia can be even better.

☐ SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Asked what the NEC will do about the complaint filed by CDC, the Chair said the Commission attaches seriousness to the complaint and will do everything possible to expedite investigation into the claims. She said a Committee responsible for looking into election complaints will immediately begin investigation.

Asked to provide details about the content of the CDC letter of complaint, the Chair said she has only just been notified by the NEC legal team that CDC had filed a complaint, but she had not read the text as yet.



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Concerning whether CDC had presented to NEC the ballots which they displayed during their press conference yesterday as evidence of the alleged election irregularities, the Chair said the CDC had not provided those ballots to the Commission. She said they probably might present the ballots as evidence during the hearing into their complaint.

On whether the CDC complaint, if substantiated in the investigation, could affect the results of the election, even though international and domestic observer have rated the election as free and fair, the Chair said we must wait and see the magnitude of the complaint before saying what impact it might have on the election.

On whether hearings into the CDC complaint may affect the timetable for announcement of results, the Chair reiterated that NEC will make every effort to expedite the investigation.

Responding to a question about whether the NEC will use forensic evidence in the investigation of the CDC complaint, the Chair said the Committee investigating the complaint will use every available means in the investigation process.

Concerning whether NEC will abide by a Supreme Court ruling into a complaint by the CDC, if the party chooses to bypass the NEC and forward its case to the court, the Chair said she has always been a law-abiding person, therefore she will do whatever the Supreme Court instructs her to do.
