

Annex 1

Composition of the Commonwealth Observer Group

Hon Denis Marshall (New Zealand) – Chair

Mr Marshall is the former Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) from 2002-2006, and member of CPA Executive Committees 1997-1999. The mission of the Association is to promote the advancement of Parliamentary democracy by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance among its members. He was a member of the Commonwealth Observer Group to the 2nd democratic election in Mozambique in 1999. Since his retirement from CPA, Mr Marshall has, among other things, worked with UNDP in Vietnam and with the World Bank Institute and WTO in Laos. Mr Marshall was a Member of Parliament in New Zealand from 1984 to 1999. He was a Government Minister from 1990-1996 and at various times held portfolios including Conservation, Lands, Science and Forestry. He was also Associate Minister for Agriculture and Associate Minister for Employment. In 1983, he was a Nuffield Farming Scholar to the UK Europe. In 2000 in New Zealand he established the New Zealand National Parks and Conservation Foundation. He lives on his vineyard near Queenstown.

Hon Alan Ferguson (Australia)

Alan Ferguson was elected to the Australian Federal Parliament as a Senator for South Australia in May 1992. He served for 19 years until his retirement on June 30th 2011. During that time he served as Chairman of the Senate Economics Committee for 5 years before his appointment in July 1999 as Chairman of the prestigious Joint Secretary Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, a position he held for over 8 years. The culmination of his Parliamentary career saw him elected as President of the Senate in August 2007. Prior to his parliamentary career, Alan Ferguson worked as the joint owner and manager of a family farm for 25 years, before spending 8 years as a financial consultant. He is married with 3 adult children and 6 grandchildren. He has now been an election observer for both the Australian Government and the Commonwealth on 5 separate occasions.

Mrs Taleya Rehman (Bangladesh)

Taleya Rehman, a former broadcaster of BBC World Service is the Founder Executive Director of Democracywatch, a national NGO working for strengthening democracy in Bangladesh. Since 1996, it observed all national and local elections. She is also involved in training and deploying about 10 000 observers around the country. Taleya Rehman is the co-chair of Election Working Group (EWG), a coalition of 31 NGOs established in 2006. She has observed elections held in Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Denmark and Guyana.

Ms Wendy Sawatzky (Canada)

Wendy Sawatzky is a journalist and online technology expert. She currently manages content on the website of the Winnipeg Free Press, the largest independent newspaper in Canada. She has previously worked in radio, print and television at several media outlets, including the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and she has trained reporters and editors with Journalists for Human Rights in Ghana. She has degrees in psychology and journalism from the universities of Winnipeg and King's College

Mr Gerald Burton (Dominica)

Gerald D. Burton is an attorney-at-law in private practice in the Commonwealth of Dominica. He has been the Chairman of the Electoral Commission of Dominica from 2006 and under his leadership the Commission oversaw the December 2009 General Elections. He also chairs the Customs Appeal and the Planning Appeal boards of Dominica. Mr. Burton has previously been an executive member of the Dominica Bar Association, as well as two other organizations in Dominica engaged in the promotion of good governance.

Mrs Nana Oye Lithur (Ghana)

Nana Oye Lithur is a human rights lawyer. She is the Executive Director of the Human Rights Advocacy Centre and immediate past Regional Coordinator of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative Africa Office. She is the convenor of the Right to Information Coalition in Ghana. She has researched and campaigned extensively on police accountability, **access to justice, women's rights, HIV/AIDs, reproductive rights and health**. She is a weekly columnist for the Daily Graphic Newspaper and board member of the Ghana Law Reform Commission, Ghana Aids Commission and the Ghana National Media Commission. Nana is an advisory member of the Global Consortium on Strengthening Reproductive Rights and a member of the Human Rights/HIV Working Group for West Africa.

Ms Catherine Musuva (Kenya)

Catherine Musuva is a Programme Manager at the Electoral institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) based in South Africa. She specialises in elections and governance issues in Africa and has observed elections in Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Nepal and Zimbabwe.

Mr Dafe Akpedeye (Nigeria)

Dafe Akpedeye was called to the Nigeria Bar in March 1984 and elevated to the rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria in September, 2004. He was appointed Notary Public of Nigeria in 1999. He became a Chartered Mediator in 2009 and is a member of several professional bodies including the International Bar Association. Mr. Akpedeye served as the Honourable Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Delta State between August 2007 and August 2009. He is the Chair of the Electoral Working Group of The Nigerian Bar Association and serves as the Chairman of Project Swift Count, an amalgam of Civil Society Groups in Nigeria that recently conducted the largest Parallel Voters Tabulation (PVT) in the World with 9000 Observers for the Nigerian General Elections.

Justice (R) Fazal-ur-Rahman Bazai (Pakistan)

Justice (R) Fazal-ur-Rahman Bazai, is a member of the Election Commission of Pakistan. He remained as District and Sessions Judge. In that capacity he acted as District Returning Officer in three elections. He was appointed Judge of the High Court of Balochistan and after retirement served as Provincial Ombudsman. He also served as Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry of Enforced Disappearances. He attended national and international conferences, seminars and symposiums in various countries.

Mr Oliver Knight (St Kitts and Nevis)

Presently employed as Manager of the Electoral Office and was a member of the Boundaries Technical Committee during the Electoral Reform Process, 2008-2009. Previously worked as Director of Planning Unit/Permanent Secretary, Development and as a former Chief Statistician. Mr Knight was a member of the CARICOM Observer Team for the 2007 General Elections in Trinidad and Tobago.

Ms Adelle Zaira Roopchand (Trinidad and Tobago)

A media and communications consultant specialised in security and logistics, is a journalist by training. She is responsible for logistics, protocol and security at the regional Association of Caribbean Media Workers. Adelle was the facilitator at the international Media Centre for the Fifth Summit of the Americas (VSOA) and the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) 2009. She held the position of Communications Officer at the Caribbean Regional Security Agency IMPACS for the Cricket World Cup 2007 and has worked on crisis communication for all three international events in the Caribbean. Currently, Adelle works with the CTA-ACP-EU based in The Netherlands and CARDI on Caribbean outreach projects. She has served as a member of the Commonwealth Observer Group for elections in Rwanda (2010).

Mr Tim Neale (United Kingdom)

Tim Neale is a media consultant and trainer who has worked in a score of countries around the world with journalists and media managers to improve their contribution to democracy and in particular to the electoral process. In several countries this has also involved helping the election management body develop an important and positive link with public and private media houses with the aim of achieving a well informed electorate. Elements of this work have been the facilitation of self-regulatory media codes of conduct backed by professional, credible media monitoring units. **In Tim Neale's earlier career in the BBC he worked in radio production for the World Service with a two year secondment to assist the launch of the state radio of Malawi after that country's independence. In his later work for the BBC, he spent two decades in radio station management and a further 7 years as head of the BBC's radio training department.**

Mr Goodwell Lungu (Zambia)

Goodwell Lungu is a fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society. He holds two degrees the first from University of Zambia where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Development Studies. He further has a Master of Philosophy in Criminology from University of Cambridge in UK and specialised in public sector corruption prevention. He is the Executive Director for Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) and immediate past Board Chairperson for MS Zambia, the Danish Association for International Cooperation. He is also a Board Member for Action Aid Zambia and Member of the Zambia Civil Society Election Coalition 2011 that monitored the General Elections. He has 16 years experience working in the governance and anti-corruption field the first eight years being in the Anti-Corruption Commission in Zambia and last eight years at TIZ. He has done extensive governance and anti-corruption research and presented papers at local and international fora.