



Commonwealth Observer Group Zambia General Elections 2011

26 September 2011

Dear Secretary-General,

The Commonwealth Observer Group has completed its Final Report of the observation of the Zambian Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government elections and is pleased to submit it to you.

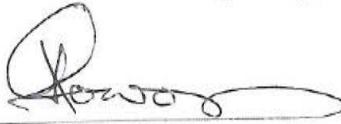
The elections were the country's fifth multi-party elections and were highly competitive. The democratic principles of participation and representation as well as the basic freedoms of association, assembly and movement were upheld. The campaign was generally peaceful, Election Day was largely calm, and voters were able to express their will freely.

We believe that the elections gave clear evidence of further progress in deepening democratic processes in Zambia but note that there are shortcomings which need to be addressed for the future. We have, in this regard, made a number of recommendations which, we believe, could further improve the electoral process in Zambia.

We recognise the centrality of election management bodies to the democratic process as a whole and wish to commend the Electoral Commission of Zambia for its role in managing a credible and transparent process. We also note, with delight, that the hand-over of power has been smooth and dignified.

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the support provided to us by the Commonwealth Secretariat staff team.

We thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important mission and hope that our report can contribute to the further strengthening of democratic processes in Zambia.



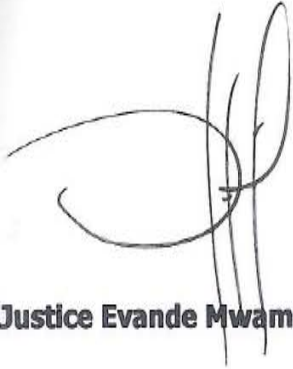
General Yakubu Gowon, GCFR
Chairperson

NA Kalimullah

Prof Dr Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah



Mr Alberto August



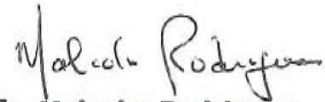
Justice Evande Mwambo Paul



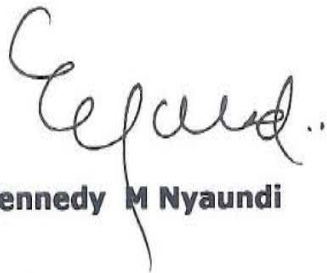
Ms Alexandra Devon

Liesl Harewood

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Fr. Malcolm Rodrigues



Mr Kennedy M Nyaundi



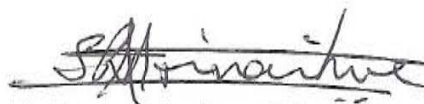
Ms Sarah Fradgley



Hon John J Mnyika



Mr Tony Colman



Dr Rwomukubwe Silvester