



## **EASF-EOM Arrival Statement**

**Issued on: 10th January 2025**

**The Retaj Hotel**

**Moroni, Comoros**

The Eastern Africa Standby Force Election Observation Mission (EASF-EOM) announces its official arrival in the Union of Comoros. The EASF-EOM has been deployed to observe the upcoming Parliamentary Elections scheduled for 12th January 2025, in line with the EASF Guidelines for Election Observation Missions, and at the invitation of the Government of Comoros through its independent National Electoral Commission.

The EASF-EOM is headed by H.E. Ambassador Vincent Prerrio Bamulmulangak from the Republic of Uganda, who serves as the Head of Mission. The team also includes Hon. Osman Soubagle, representative of the EASF Panel of Elders from the Republic of Djibouti, and Mr. Vincent Leo Didon from Seychelles, who serves as the Deputy Head of Mission. The mission comprises 24 short-term observers drawn from EASF member states, including Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda, as well as accompanying staff.

In its mandate, the EASF-EOM will deploy observers across all three islands of the Union of Comoros to assess the electoral process and report on the conduct of the election in accordance with the legal frameworks governing elections in the Union of Comoros. The mission is also guided by key normative frameworks, such as the OAU/AU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance, as well as the International Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, all of which are enshrined in EASF regulations.

Throughout the observation period, including before and during the voting process, the EASF-EOM will engage with the Government of the Union of Comoros, the National Electoral Commission, media, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders involved in the electoral process. These engagements are part of the broader objective of the EASF to support the democratic process across Africa.

In this context, the Eastern Africa Standby Force Election Observation Mission:

Calls on voters to exercise their civic and constitutional duties in a peaceful and law-abiding manner, with respect for the rule of law.

Acknowledges the critical role of law enforcement agencies in ensuring a peaceful and secure electoral process.

Affirms the fundamental value of civil liberties and the principles of free, fair, and transparent elections as the bedrock of democracy.

The EASF-EOM will issue a preliminary statement with initial findings and recommendations on the conduct of the elections on 14th January 2025, during a press conference in Moroni, Comoros.

**End of Statement.**

**Eastern Africa Standby Force**

**P.O. Box 1444-00502**

**Westwood Park Road, Karen**

**Nairobi, Kenya**

**+250 796 162248**