



EASF-EOM Arrival Statement

Issued on: 13th January 2026

Venue: Protea Hotel Kampala Skyz, Kampala, Uganda

The Eastern Africa Standby Force Election Observation Mission (EASF-EOM) announces its official arrival in the Republic of Uganda. The EASF-EOM has been deployed to observe the upcoming General Elections scheduled for 15th January 2026, in accordance with EASF Guidelines on Election Observation, and at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Uganda through its Electoral Commission.

The EASF-EOM is headed by H.E. Ambassador. Ndabarushimana Dieudonné from the Republic of Burundi, serving as the Head of Mission. The team also includes the Chairperson of EASF Panel of Elders- H.E. Rt Hon Bernard Makuza from the Republic of Rwanda as the Special Adviser to the Head of Mission and Mr. Souef Kamalidini from Eastern Africa Standby Force, who serves as Deputy Head of Mission. The mission comprises 19 short-term observers drawn from EASF Member States, including Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Sudan, as well as accompanying EASF staff.

In line with its mandate, the EASF-EOM will deploy observers across Uganda to assess the electoral process and report on the conduct of the elections in accordance with Uganda's legal framework. The mission is guided by key normative frameworks, including the OAU/AU Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance, and the International Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, all of which are enshrined in EASF regulations.

Throughout the observation period, both before and during the voting process, the EASF-EOM will engage with the Government of Uganda, the 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 democratic processes across Africa.

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

Calls on voters to exercise their civic and constitutional duties peacefully and lawfully, 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 its initial findings and recommendations on the conduct of the elections on 16th January 2026 during a press conference in Kampala, Uganda.

End of Statement

Eastern Africa Standby Force

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