

INEC/UNDP TRAIN STATE TRAINERS ON BVAS AHEAD OF ANAMBRA POLL



■ Participants at the workshop on training of State Trainers on BVAS

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organised a 4-day training of State Training Officers (STOs), The Electoral Institute (TEI) and selected Staff of the ICT on the use of Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) for Voter Accreditation ahead of the November 6, Governorship election in Anambra State.

Declaring the training open, the Resident Electoral Commissioner INEC Kwara State, Dr. Attahiru Garba admonished participants to

have confidence in the process, as the Commission is determined to conduct free, fair, credible and all-inclusive election in Anambra and beyond.

In his welcome address, representative of the Country Director UNDP, Mr. Segun Olushola, commended the Commission for introducing technology driven-innovations aimed at improving the Electoral Process.

The Director- General of TEI Dr. Sa'ad Umar Idris, represented by the Director, Training Dr. Binta Mohammed Kasim in his good will

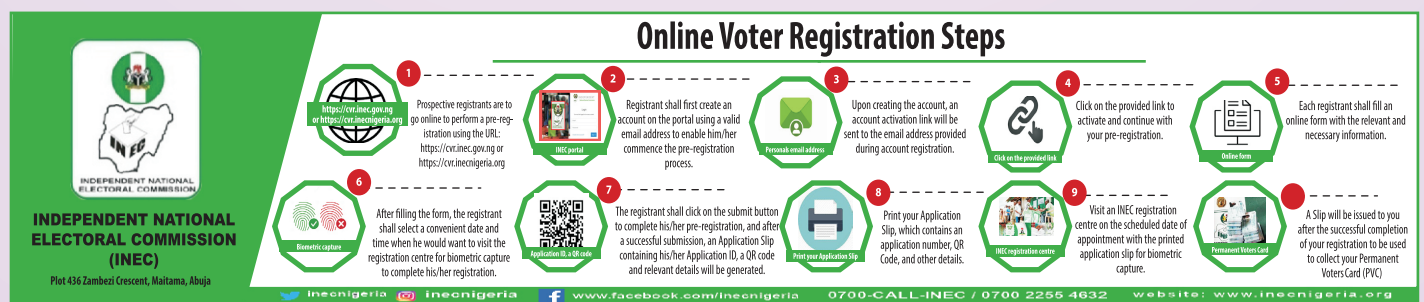
message, stated that the innovations in the electoral process guarantee the credibility and transparency of elections.

He further noted that the training came at an auspicious time when the Commission approved the deployment of BVAS for the Anambra State Governorship election after a successful pilot of the system in the last Isoko South State Constituency election held on 11th September, 2021.

The Director General encouraged the participants to make best use of the training and admonished them to keep abreast with what the Commission is doing in particular and the Technological world at large.

The Director, ICT Department, Engineer Chidi Nwafor represented by Deputy Director ICT, Rasak Agboola advised all participants to pay attention to the training in order to become experts on the use of the system. He emphasized the need for synergy between the ICT department and The Electoral Institute so as to work towards ensuring successful outcome of the forthcoming election in Anambra State.

Online Voter Registration Steps



TEI TRAINS STAFF ON ELECTORAL SECURITY FOR ANAMBRA GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has expressed the need for continuous engagement with stakeholders particularly security agencies in electoral security training to ensure successful conduct of elections in the country.

The Chairman of the Board of Electoral Institute (BEI) National Commissioner, Mallam Muhammad Kudu. Haruna made this known at the Electoral Security Training for staff held at Cihcotel Hotel, Awka Anambra State for the State's Governorship election scheduled for November, 6 2024.

The Commissioner noted that all previous elections conducted by the Commission were adjudged to be relatively peaceful principally arising from the use of cascaded security personnel training employed at those elections in terms of the professional conduct of security personnel on Election duty which is largely attributed to the institutionalization of electoral security training by the Commission.

He said that the strategy to continuously engage with stakeholders such as security agencies is geared towards ensuring a safe electoral environment for citizens to participate in governance without any form of hindrance thereby deepening the democratic process and achieving the mandate of delivering free, fair and credible elections.

The Chairman said that the conduct of Anambra Governorship election is quite significant to the Commission as it will provide INEC the opportunity to consolidate the gains achieved in the 2019 General Elections and stand-alone Edo and Ondo Governorship elections vis-a-vis securing the electoral environment.

According to him, the training provides the Commission the ample opportunity to re-orientate security personnel deployed for elections, adding that, "The importance of the core role of security agencies at elections in line with their Standard Operational Guidelines will be critically examined."

In his welcome remark, the Director-General of TEI, Dr. Sa'ad Umar Idris noted that the conduct of elections in a country like Nigeria is invariably a collective venture that involves not just the Election Management Body (INEC), but also a diverse range of stakeholders notably the Security

Agencies.

Dr. Idris said that security is indispensable to the conduct of free, fair and credible elections, from the provision of basic security to voters at political party rallies and campaigns to ensuring that result forms are protected, the whole electoral process is circumscribed by security considerations especially in view of the number of Election personnel involved, election materials that need to be moved, as well as polling locations to be protected.

The D-G said that security is critical in the protection of electoral personnel, location and processes; in ensuring that voters exercise their civic duties without fear or hindrance, in creating a level playing field for all political parties and candidates to canvass for support, in protecting domestic and foreign observers while

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INEC SENSITISES PWDs ON CVR

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has called on Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) who registered years ago when they had no form of disability to update their status to enable the Commission plan adequately for them and also provide accurate data for deployment of assistive materials for election.

National Commissioner and Chairman, Outreach and Partnership Committee of INEC, Dr. Adekunle Ogunmola made the call at a recent virtual sensitization Forum for increased participation of PWDs in the ongoing Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) exercise in the country.

Dr. Ogunmola who was represented by the Director, Gender and Inclusivity (G&I) Department, Mrs. Blessing Obidegwu also implored the PWDs whose Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs) are damaged, defaced or lost and those who wish to transfer or change their voting location from the present one to seize the opportunity and do so.

The Commissioner reminded them that having PVCs is a Civic responsibility necessary for democratic process, adding that the CVR exercise will allow PWDs participate in elections positively. "It is however important for the PWDs to show commitment to this course as it is their civic right and responsibly as citizens.

In her welcome remarks, the Director G &I, Mrs. Obidegwu said that the Forum on sensitisation of PWDs on increased participation in CVR exercise would not have come at a better time than now, considering the importance of CVR in the electoral process.

She noted that the Commission was passionate about inclusive election and efforts were being made to ensure high turnout of PWDs in the electoral process and this can be seen in the way the Commission strives to improve upon every election.

The Director explained that the Commission recently introduced a

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discharging their duties and obligations and in maintaining the overall integrity of the democratic and electoral processes.

He said that the training was intended to diversify the knowledge and capacity as well as equip the staff to deliver electoral security services as professionals highlighting the nexus between security and human rights issues as it relates to elections.

Dr. Idris also said that the training will provide participants with an understanding of key security procedures required to ensure safety of election officials on election duties and equip them with skills that would enable them balance the imperative of securing the electoral process.

Cont. from Page 2: INEC SENSITIZES PWDs ON CVR

registration device called INEC Voter Enrolment Device (IVED) which makes the registration process seamless and said that the sensitization forum is to enhance the knowledge of the PWDs, increase their participation and invariably strengthen the quality of democratic process.

She disclosed that the conduct of free, fair, credible and inclusive elections depends to a large extent on voters' confidence in the process and the desire to exercise their franchise, but this could only be achieved if the targeted persons are registered as voters, to enable them exercise their franchise.

Mrs. Obidegwu urged all PWDs to continue to spread the message of the ongoing CVR for effective participation of

PWDs in the electoral process to practically win over the statement that says: 'Nothing about us without us.'

Deputy Director, Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Mrs. Dorothy Bello said the Forum seeks to provide PWDs with current information on the CVR as well as steps or strategies to bring about an increased participation of PWDs in the CVR.

Speaking on challenges and way forward on the proposed second phase of CVR, the Director, Information Communication Technology, ICT Engr. Chidi Nwafor represented by Deputy Director ICT, Mrs. Bimbo Olagunjoye urged PWDs to take advantage of the second phase of the CVR which will take place at the Registration Area levels to get registered.

REVIEW OF FIRST PHASE OF CVR

The first phase of the Nationwide Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) exercise has been successfully concluded along with by Claims and Objections. The success recorded in the first quarter of the exercise with over 4 million applications received in 3 months can majorly be attributed to the increasing deployment of technology in the processes of INEC.

Indeed, technology has taken over the World, and the ease of doing things efficiently has been aided with technology. The

recently introduced Online CVR portal, the first of its kind in the whole of Africa, evidently reduced to the barest minimum the attendant outcries from citizens over challenges such as long wait time on queues experienced in the past.

The feat achieved so far in the CVR exercise was as a result of painstaking efforts at ensuring that the system was built from scratch, going through the usual software development lifecycle process – not an ad-hoc style and this laid a solid foundation for the portal.

Although in the cause of the first quarter of the CVR, a fake portal masquerading as INEC registration portal was promptly identified by the Commission, causing it to raise a red flag. This necessitated the Chairman of Information and Voter Education Committee (IVEC), Festus Okoye Esq., to issue a statement on the 13th of August 2021 dissociating INEC from the fake website and any activity carried out on it.

The Commission swiftly that reaffirmed that the correct Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the INEC Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) portal remains <http://cvr.inecnigeria.org>.

Similarly, the in-person registration in the first quarter witnessed an impressive turnout with over a million completed registrations in 9 weeks, though there is room for improvement in the second quarter. A few of the citizens who interacted with INEC Weekly, expressed satisfaction with the orderly

nature of the in-person exercise, especially with the fact that they could book appointments online and simply walking at the appointed date and time without having to join long queues to conclude their registration process, as was in the case with past exercises.

Another noteworthy development the Commission worked towards in the first phase of the CVR was the reduction in the time used in completing the in-person registration. This was made possible with the introduction of the INEC Voter Enrolment Device (IVED).

With the IVED, the capturing of the voters' details and biometrics took an average of 3 minutes to conclude. The speed with which the IVED captures details of voters led to increased number of registrants in Anambra State when the CVR was devolved to ward level bringing the of registered voters in the state to 124,458, the highest in the South East.

PHOTO NEWS



■ Participants at the Review meeting of the implementation of the MoU between INEC/NURTW/NARTO during 2019 General Election held on September 28, 2021 at Barcelona Hotel, Abuja.

LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES CONTESTING THE NOVEMBER 6, 2021 ANAMBRA GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

LOGO	PARTY NAME	PARTY ACRONYM
	Accord	A
	Action Alliance	AA
	Action Democratic Party	ADP
	Action Peoples Party	APP
	African Action Congress	AAC
	African Democratic Congress	ADC
	All Progressives Congress	APC
	All Progressives Grand Alliance	APGA
	Allied Peoples Movement	APM
	Boot Party	BP
	Labour Party	LP
	National Rescue Movement	NRM
	New Nigeria Peoples Party	NNPP
	Peoples Democratic Party	PDP
	Peoples Redemption Party	PRP
	Social Democratic Party	SDP
	Young Progressive Party	YPP
	Zenith Labour Party	ZLP



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR 2021 ANAMBRA GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION

THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC) HAS COMMENCED ONLINE ACCREDITATION FOR JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS WISHING TO COVER THE 2021 ANAMBRA'S GOVERNORSHIP ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

INTERESTED MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS WISHING TO DEPLOY JOURNALISTS TO COVER THE ELECTION ARE TO APPLY VIA <https://imap.inecnigeria.org>
THE PORTAL OPENED ON MONDAY, 4TH OCTOBER AND WILL CLOSE ON TUESDAY, 26TH OCTOBER, 2021.

LATE SUBMISSION SHALL NOT BE ENTERTAINED AS THE PORTAL WILL AUTOMATICALLY SHUT DOWN ON TUESDAY,
26TH OCTOBER, 2021 AT 5. 00 PM.

PLS NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO EXTENSION OF TIME.

MAKING YOUR VOTE COUNT ... CONSOLIDATING OUR DEMOCRACY

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief: Victor Aluko

Editors: Chukwuemeka Ugboaja, Chinwe Ogbuka

Reporters: Esther Chibuikem, Nathaniel Audu Gana, Bala Ato Agyo,

Online: Ayodele Abiodun, Taiwo Makanjuola