

## **GUIDELINES FOR ISSUANCE OF VOTER LOCATION SLIPS, GENERAL ELECTIONS 2016**

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Electoral Commission is established under Article 60 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995).

In accordance with Section 33 (1) and (2) of the Electoral Commission Act (**Cap 140**), the Commission shall, by notice in the Gazette, appoint a Returning Officer for each electoral district. The Returning Officer shall take steps to inform voters as early as possible of the particular polling stations at which they are required to vote and also that the circumstances should be such as to guarantee orderly voting without confusion.

In view of the above, the Commission has introduced a **Voter Location Slip** (**VLS**) to inform and guide voters to their respective Polling Stations. The Commission will, therefore, issue directly to each voter a **Voter Location Slip** (**VLS**).

The VLS will, among others, be used as a first step for identification of voters on Polling Day. It will be used at four rounds of elections during the General Elections (2016) namely; at the Presidential/Parliamentary, District Chairpersons', Sub-county Chairpersons' and Municipal Division Chairpersons' and Councillors elections.

### 2.0 WHO WILL BE ISSUED A VOTER LOCATION SLIP (VLS)?

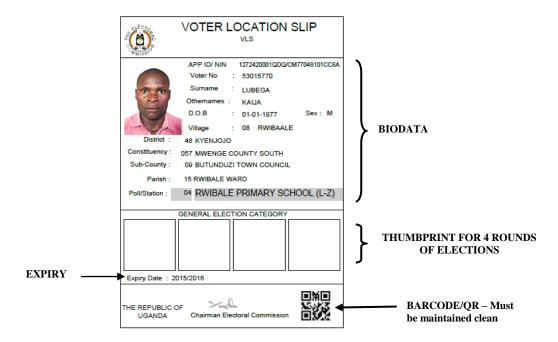
A person whose particulars appear on the Polling Day register will be issued a VLS.

NB: The voters' register is the primary document for the purpose of polling. A voter whose name is on the register but is unable to produce a VLS on Polling Day will be allowed to vote.

## 3.0 PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING VOTER LOCATION SLIPS (VLSS)

- 3.1 The **Parish Supervisors (also known as VLS Issuing Officers)** shall be briefed by, and receive instructions from, their respective **District Returning Officers** on the VLS issuance programme.
- 3.2 Issuance of VLSs shall be done at the Parish level for a period of fourteen [14] days; commencing **Monday 1st February 2016** and ending **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016**.
- NB: Issuance of the VLS shall not be carried out within 24 hours to the Polling Day.
- 3.3 A voter shall receive his or her VLS from the VLS Issuing Officer and acknowledge receipt.
- 3.4 The VLS shall be issued **FREE of CHARGE**.
- N.B No person shall be allowed to collect or receive a VLS on behalf of another voter.
- 3.5 At the end of each day, all unissued VLSs shall be properly secured in their packs for the next day's issuance or retrieval.
- 3.6 At the end of the entire exercise, all the VLSs which will not have been issued **MUST** be properly packed and delivered to the **Sub-County Supervisor** for onward transmission to the **Returning Officer**.

## 4.0 KEY FEATURES OF THE SAMPLE VOTER LOCATION SLIP, VLS



#### 5.0 THE ROLES OF THE SUPERVISORS

The Returning Officer/District Registrar and the Sub-County Supervisor shall supervise the issuance of the VLSs in the entire district and in the Sub-county respectively.

# 6.0 THE ROLES OF POLITICAL PARTY OR CANDIDATES' AGENTS AND ACCREDITED OBSERVERS

- a) A political party/candidate may appoint his/her agent(s) to observe the issuance of the VLSs in accordance with the law.
- b) Local, National and International observers that have been duly accredited by the Commission may observe the issuance of the VLSs exercise in accordance with the Observers Code of Conduct.

#### 7.0 ACTS AND OFFENSES COMMITTED DURING THE ISSUANCE OF THE VLSS

- a) Use of violence or threats against officials, supervisors or the electorate during issuance of the VLSs is an offence.
- b) Deliberate disruption or interference with the work of the issuance of the Voting Location Slips officials is an offence.
- c) Any person other than a designated official acting on behalf of the Returning Officer who directs or orders the VLS Issuing Officers in the execution of their duties commits an offense.
- d) Any VLS Issuance Officer who attempts to solicit money, gifts or favours from VLS recipients commits an offence.
- e) Any person who attempts to lure a VLS Issuance Officer with money or gifts in order to secure his/her or another person's VLS commits an offence.

Eng. Dr Badru M. Kiggundu Chairperson, Electoral Commission