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INTRODUCTION

Professor Mahmood Yakubu B.A. (Hons) Sokoto; M.Phil (Cambridge); D.Phil (Oxford) assumed duty as the fifth Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) on Monday, 9th November 2015 for a five-year term of office. On the expiration of his tour of duty on Monday, 9th November 2020, he was reappointed on the same day by the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari. He assumed duty for a historic second term of five years on 9th December 2020, becoming the first Chairman of the National Election Management Body in Nigeria to serve for two consecutive terms.

This publication is to celebrate the achievements of Professor Mahmood Yakubu as Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission from November 2015 to December 2025.



Appointment and Inauguration 2015 - 2020

Professor Mahmood Yakubu was first appointed as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission on 9th November 2015



Professor Mahmood Yakubu being sworn-in as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) by President Muhammadu Buhari on 9th November 2015



Professor Mahmood Yakubu on his last day in office as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission INEC on conclusion of his first term in office on 9th November 2020

Appointment and Inauguration 2020 - 2025

Professor Mahmood Yakubu was appointed to a second term as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission on 9th December 2020, becoming the first person to be appointed and serve for two consecutive terms as Chairman of the National Election Management Body in Nigeria



Professor Mahmood Yakubu being sworn-in as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for a second term by President Muhammadu Buhari on 9th December 2020



Professor Mahmood Yakubu receiving a welcome card from Mrs. Zainab Ndako on behalf of INEC Staff on assuming duty as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for a second term on 10th December 2020

Members of the Commission 2015 - 2020

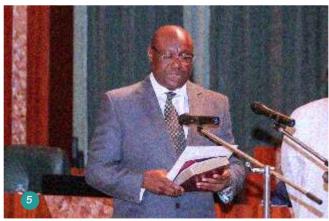
- 1. Prof. Antonia Taiye Okoosi-Simbine (left), Prince Solomon Adedeji Soyebi (middle) and Mrs. Amina B. Zakari at their swearing-in ceremony as National Commissioners on 9th November 2015
- 2. Alhaji Baba Shettima Arfo (left) and Dr. Muhammed Mustafa Lecky at their swearing-in ceremony as National Commissioners on 9th November 2015.
- 3. Prof. Okechukwu Ibeanu (left), Malam Mohammed Haruna (middle) and AVM Ahmad Mua'zu (rtd) at their swearing-in ceremony as National Commissioners on 7th December 2016
- 4. Dr Adekunle Ogunmola (left), Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu (middle) and Engr. Abubakar Nahuche at their swearing-in ceremony as National Commissioners on 7th December 2016.
- 5. Barr. Festus Okoye at his swearing-in ceremony as National Commissioner on 21st July 2018.
- 6. Mrs. Rose Oriaran-Anthony Secretary to the Commission



















Members of the Commission 2020 - 2025

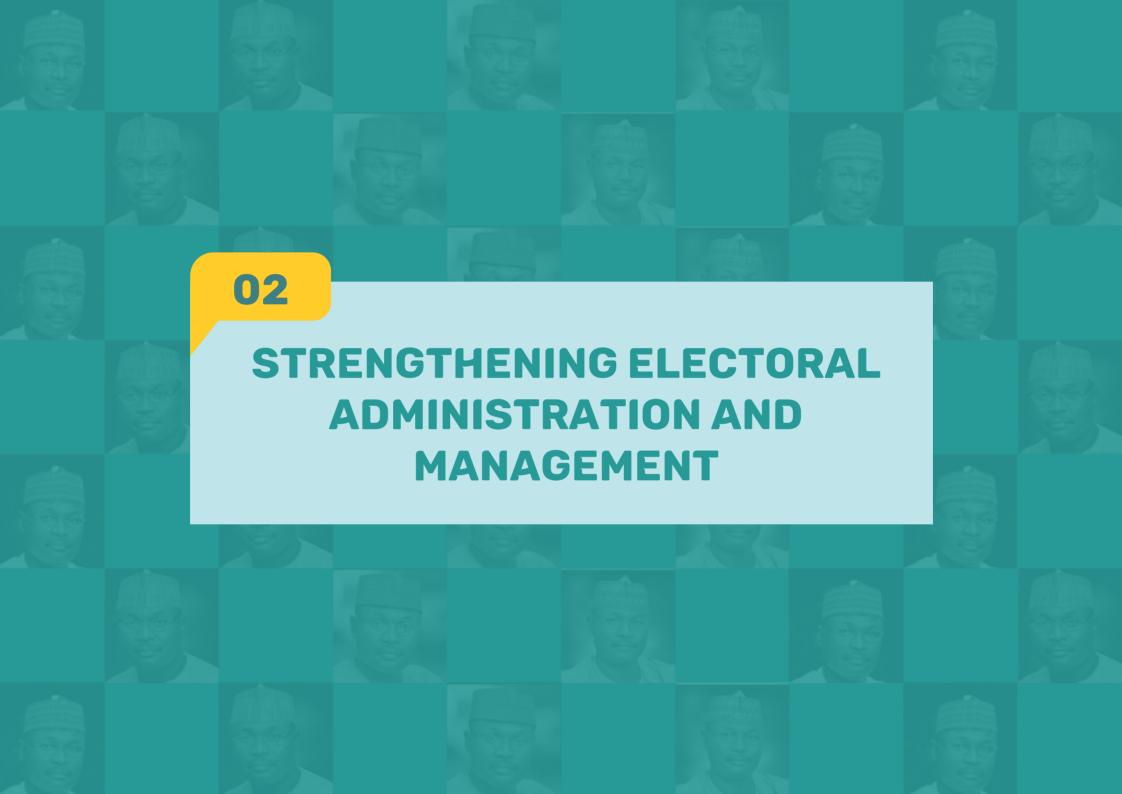
- 1. National Commissioners Prof. Sani Adam, Prof. Abdulahi Abdu Zuru and Dr. Baba Bila being sworn in on 15th September 2021
- 2. National Commissioners Prof. Kunle Ajayi (in suit) and Prof. Sani Kallah being sworn-in on 25th October 2021
- 3. National Commissioners Mallam Mohammed Haruna, Mr. Sam Olumekun mni, Prof. Rhoda Gumus, INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners, Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu, Mr. Kenneth Ukeagu and Major General Abubakar Alkali (rtd), after their swearing-in by President Muhammadu Buhari on 16th February 2022
- 4. Mrs. Rose Oriaran-Anthony Secretary to the Commission



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and Members of his Technical Team 2016 - 2025



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with members of his Technical Team, Professor Bolade Eyinla Chief Technical Adviser, Professor Mohammad Kuna, Special Adviser and Mr. Rotimi Oyekanmi, Chief Press Secretary



Strengthening Electoral Administration and Management

Regularisation of Election Dates

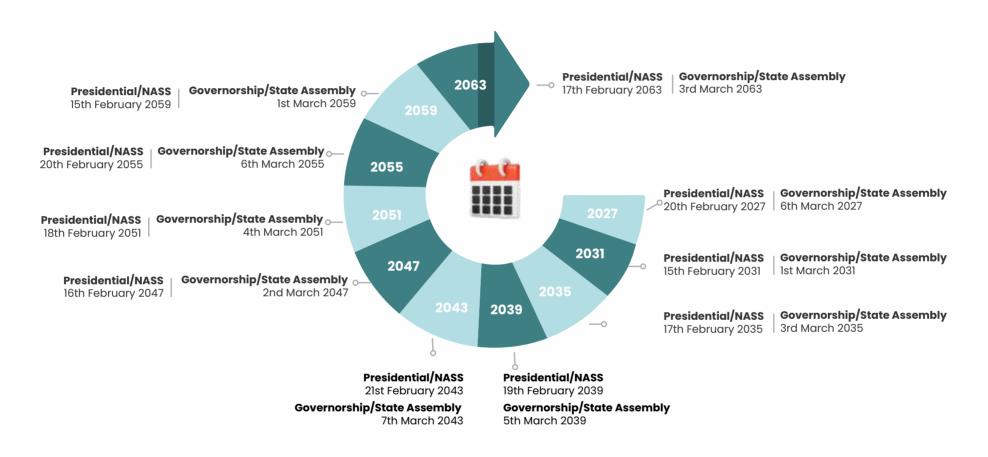
Prior to Professor Yakubu's tenure, General Election dates in Nigeria were not regular. He regularized the dates of General Elections and **FCT Area Council Elections.**

The General Election now holds on the third Saturday in February of the election year for the Presidential and National Assembly Elections, and two weeks later for the Governorship and State Assembly Elections. This has made it possible for all stakeholders to plan well ahead of time and ensure better coordination and readiness by the Commission.



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners, Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu and Professor Antonia Simbine at the Commission's press briefing to release the Timetable and Schedule of Activities for the 2019 General Election at the Commission's headquarters on 9th January 2018

Dates for the Next 10 General Elections in Nigeria (2027 - 2063)



Improved Voting Procedure and Expansion of Voter Access to Polling Units

The Commission under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu introduced the Continuous Accreditation and Voting System (CAVS) to replace the cumbersome process of first completing accreditation before voting. CAVS simplified the voting procedure and addressed the potential disenfranchisement of voters.

For the first time since 1996, the Commission successfully expanded voter access to polling units by creating an additional 56,872 new polling units in June 2021.



A congested Polling Unit in Mararaba Garage II in Karu Local Government Area of Nasarawa State with 15,061 registered voters during the 2019 General Election



A voter being accredited during the Continuous Accreditation and Voting process with the Smart Card Reader during the 2019 General Election

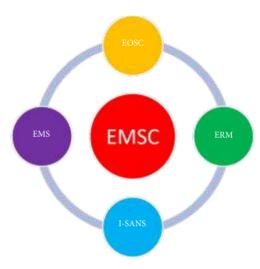
Improved Monitoring and Support for Elections Using the Electoral Monitoring and Support

Centre (EMSC)

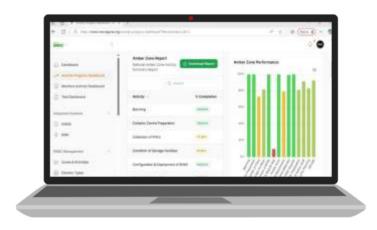
The Yakubu Commission built a more efficient, comprehensive and predictive EMSC dashboard that reports over 1,000 election monitoring indicators and integrates all the Commission's election monitoring tools comprising the Election Management System (EMS), the Electoral Operations Support Centre (EOSC), the Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERM) and the INEC Security Alert and Notification System



Professor Mahmood Yakubu (2nd right), European Union Ambassador to Nigeria and West Africa, Mr. Ketil Karlsen (3rd right), British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mrs. Catriona Laing (4th left), Executive Director, European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES), Mr. Fabio Bargiacchi and other diplomats at the commissioning of the Election Monitoring and Support Centre (EMSC) complex at the Commission's headquarters on 16th January 2019



Integrated Planning Tools of the Commission



Screenshot of the EMSC Dashboard

Building Institutional Memory

Professor Mahmood Yakubu will be leaving behind a large stock of institutional memory for future Commissions. These include several reports, position and policy papers. Most importantly, he will establish the first Election Museum in the country to preserve the rich, but checkered history of electoral management in Nigeria



New Headquarters Building

After many years of challenges of office accommodation, the Commission headquarters will soon have a new 7-storey building opposite the present location on Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja. This is a major milestone for Professor Mahmood Yakubu and the Commission





3D Drawing of the new INEC Headquarters building on Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja

Building of State Collation Centres

In 2015, only a few INEC State Offices had large halls for collation of election results. Collation was done in hotels or event centres. Today, all INEC State and FCT Offices have large halls within their premises for collation and declaration of election results, presentation of Certificates of Return and meetings





Result Collation and Declaration Centre in INEC State Office, Lokoja, Kogi State

Result Collation and Declaration Centre in INEC State Office, Akure, Ondo State

Collaboration with the Forum of State Independent Electoral Commissions of Nigeria FOSIECON

Professor Mahmood Yakubu maintained and expanded the long standing collaboration between **INEC** and the Forum of State Independent Electoral Commission (FOSIECON)

The Commission held several meetings with FOSIECON and provided support to individual State Independent Commission Electoral (SIEC) in the conduct of Local Government **Elections**



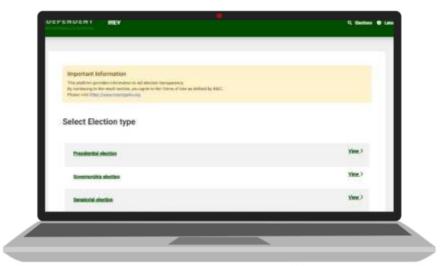
Professor Mahmood Yakubu (3rd right) presents the Chairman of FOSIECON, Barrister Jossy Chibundu Eze (3rd left), with a plague during a courtesy visit to INEC Headquarters Abuja by Executive members of the Forum of State Independent Electoral Commission ON 22nd May 2024

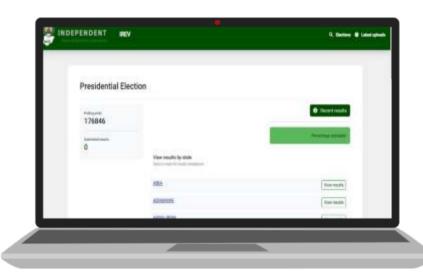
Technological Advancements

Yakubu Commission introduced The several technological tools that transformed election administration in Nigeria. Among them are a new generation INEC Voter Enrollment Device (IVED), a new Biometric Voter Accreditation Device (BVAS), online portals for managing candidate nomination, as well as for accreditation of party agents, election observers and the media and the INEC Result Viewing Portal (IReV)



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, flanked by National Commissioners, Mrs. May Agbamuche-Mbu, and Mr. Festus Okoye unveiling the INEC Voter Enrolment Device and Bimodal Voter Accreditation System at the INEC headquarters, Abuja on 24th June 2021

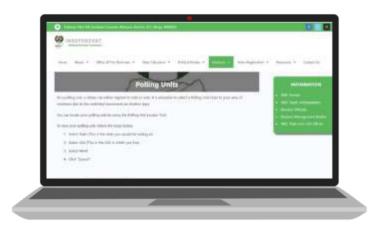




Screenshot of the INEC Result Viewing Portal (IReV) for the 2023 Presidential Election

Technological Advancements

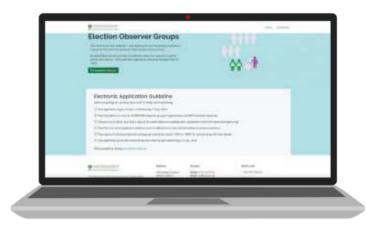
The Yakubu Commission developed and deployed several online portals to automate aspects of electoral processes and procedures



Screenshot of Polling Unit live locator



Screenshot of media accreditation portal



Screenshot of Observer Management System



Screenshot of INEC Candidate Nomination Portal

Technological Advancements

The Yakubu Commission with support from the European Union Support for Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) Project, managed by Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) developed eight technology-based tools to improve electoral administration

	Electoral Administration Tools						
	Tool	Acronym	Summary Description				
1.	Collation and Returning Officers Management System	CROMS	A mobile and web-based system for recruiting, posting and evaluating Returning and Collation Officers				
2.	Parties Financial Reporting and Auditing System	PFRAS	A tool for the automation of the reporting and auditing of the finances of political parties which enables political parties to track, compile and report their finances to INEC virtually				
3.	Election Results Management System	ERMS	A framework for creating the National Electronic Register of Election Results (NERER), as provided in Section 62 (2) of the Electoral Act 2022				
4.	Media Monitoring System	MMS	An automated media monitoring system using specific keywords to pull up and track all records of media reports related to INEC				
5.	Virtual Election Training System	VETS	An e-learning platform designed to serve diverse INEC training needs with both online real-time training facility and virtual training capabilities				
6.	New Election Monitoring & Support Centre Dashboard	EMSC	A new, comprehensive and interactive EMSC dashboard incorporating required checklists on electoral activities for easy monitoring, tracking and reporting				
7.	INECPRES and OMIS Linkage Tool	IOMIS	A system linking the INEC ad-hoc staff recruitment system (INECPRES) and the Electoral Operation's Management Information System (OMIS) for improved recordkeeping on recruitment, posting and evaluation of the performance of ad hoc staff.				
8.	Election Facility Locator	EFLoc	An interactive application for geo-referencing and easy location of all INEC facilities on a map by election officials and the public				

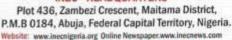
Creation of a Division on Artificial Intelligence

For the first time in Africa, INEC took the lead in adopting AI in Election Management by creating a Division on AI and Election in the ICT Department

> Picture of press release informing the public of the creation of the division on Artificial Intelligence by the Commission



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION **INEC - HEADQUARTERS**





PRESS RELEASE

CREATION OF A DIVISION ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BY THE COMMISSION

The Commission held its regular weekly meeting today, Thursday 22nd May 2025. Among other issues, the meeting considered the increasing relevance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to elections and electoral activities in Nigeria and across the world.

Recently, the Commission attended several conferences with colleagues around the continent on the impact of AI on elections. These interactions were not only motivated by the concern over the use of AI to spread fake news or manipulate content online but also to utilise its benefits for data-driven decision-making, risk detection and mitigation, deepening voter services automation and geo-spatial intelligence in support of logistic optimisation for better material distribution and polling unit allocation.

Consequently, the Commission approved the creation of an Artificial Intelligence Division under the ICT Department to continue to harness the positive aspects of Al and mitigate its negative impact on elections.

The Division will enable the Commission to better coordinate and maximise existing technology investments through centralised Al governance. It will also enhance decisionmaking through data-driven insights, risk management and voter engagement. Furthermore, it will strengthen electoral credibility through predictive analytics, automation and intelligent safeguards.

This initiative puts the Commission in the forefront of institutionalising Al capabilities within our ICT infrastructure. It is also an important step in our ongoing reform of the electoral process in areas that only require administrative action by the Commission.

Sam Olumekun mni National Commissioner and Chairman Information and Voter Education Committee Thursday 22nd May 2025

Post Election Reviews Meetings

Professor Mahmood Yakubu continued and expanded the practice of conducting a comprehensive review after each General Election to learn lessons for future improvements of the electoral process



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with members of the Commission during the Review of the 2019 General Election Meeting in Lagos on 9th July 2019



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners with members of the 2023 Election Review Committee after inauguration on 17th May 2023



Continuous Voters Registration (CVR)

The Yakubu Commission inaugurated and institutionalised the Continuous Voters Registration (CVR) at LGA and other designated centres in April 2017, resulting in the registration of 14,283,734 and 9,518,188 new voters for the 2019 and 2023 General Elections, respectively.



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with Secondary School Students at the flag-off of the Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) held in INEC Area Council Office, Karu-Abuja on 27th April 2017.

S/N		LGAs (774)		RAs (8,809)	PUs (119,9	73)
		No Required	Indicative Cost	No Required	Indicative Cost	No Required	Indicative Cost
1	Honoraria (Registration Officials) @ 5 per Registration Centre + 5% redundancy	4,064	0	46,247	92,494,500	629,858	1,259,716,500
2	Personnel (Supervision & Monitoring) @ 1 per State for CVR @ LGA, 3 per State at CVR @ RA and 1 per LGA at CVR @ PU	49	467,496,000	123	74,292,000	786	474,744,000
3	Personnel (Security) @ 2 per Registration Centre	1,548	0	17,618	8,809,000	239,946	119,973,000
4	Logistics Support to State @ N200, 000 per State per Quarter	37	7,400,000	37	7,400,000	37	7,400,000
5	Training for four (4) days	4,064	20,317,500	46,247	231,236,250	629,858	3,149,291,250
6	DDCM @ 3 per LGA, 2 per RA, 1 per PU)	2,322	2,322,000,000	17,618	17,618,000,000	119,973	119,973,000,000
7	Consumables @ 4,800 per Registration Centre (Ink cartridges, papers, fuel)	774	27,059,040	8,809	307,962,640	119,973	4,194,256,080
8	Power Generators	774	232,200,000	8809	2,642,700,000	8,809	2,642,700,000
9	Transportation Allowance @ 2,000 per Registration centre	0	0	8,809	17,618,000	119,973	239,946,000
10	Publicity at constant cost		85,118,000		85,118,000		85,118,000
11	Data Processing		44,035,000		44,035,000		44,035,000
12	Supporting Infrastructure @ 2500 per Registration Centre (Canopy, Tables, Chairs)	0	0	8,809	22,022,500	2,500	299,932,500
	TOTAL		3,205,625,540		21,151,687,890		132,490,112,330

Financial Implications of CVR at the PU, RA, and LGA Levels for the 2019 General Election

Upgrading of the Direct Data Capture Machines (DDCMs) to a more Efficient and Portable INEC Voter Enrollment Device (IVED)

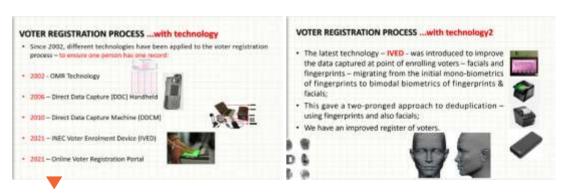
The Yakubu Commission introduced vastly improved DDCMs with more efficient data capturing capabilities, especially for fingerprint capture, which was a major challenge to the previous DDCM. Later, the bulky DDCM was replaced by more portable and efficient IVED, which improved voter verification through fingerprint and facial recognition



The IVED deployed for Voter Registration towards the 2023 General Election



Pictures of the DDCMs used for Voter Registration for the 2019 General Election



Evolution of the Continuous Voter Registration Process from 2002 to 2021

Introduction of INEC Online Pre-registration Portal

For the first time in the CVR Exercise, the Yakubu Commission introduced an Online Portal that allows for pre-registration, transfer, updates on details, and requests for replacement of a damaged, defaced, or faded PVC by citizens

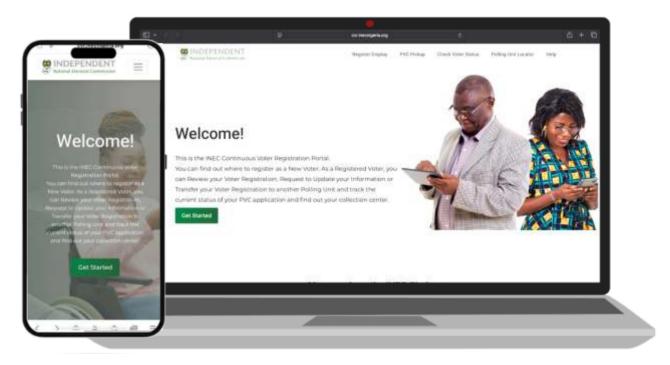


Image of the front page of the **INEC Online Voter Registration** Portal

Screenshot of the INEC Online **Registration Portal**



Valid & Invalid Registration 28th June 2021 to 31st July 2022

Deployment of Two-Way Advanced Biometric Identification System (ABIS)

The Yakubu Commission deployed the two-way ABIS, resulting in the confirmation of a total of 2,780,756 (22.6%) voters as double or multiple registrants and were invalidated, reducing the number of registered voters to 9,518,188 from the 12,298,944 completed registration at the end of the CVR exercise on 31st July 2022

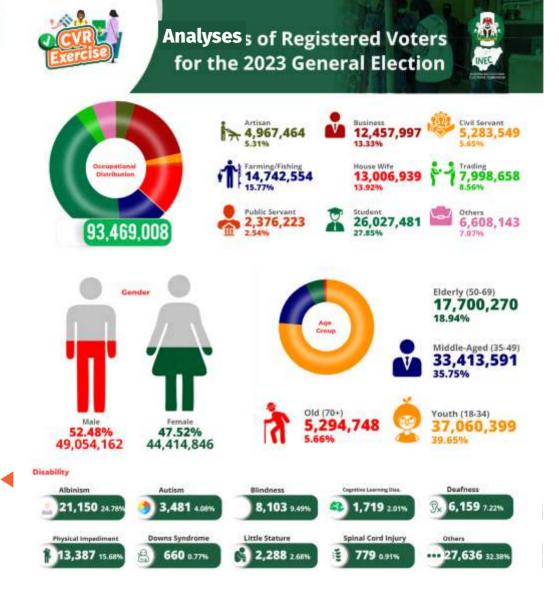
> Completed Valid and Invalid Voter Registration figures after the after the application of the ABIS audit to the total number of Nigerians that registered as voters between 28th June 2021 and 31st July 2022



Analyses of Registered Voters

The Commission under the leadership Professor Mahmood Yakubu published the number of Registered Voters by Occupation, Gender, Age and Disability for the 2019 and 2023 **General Elections**

Breakdown of Registered Voters by occupation, gender, age and disability for the 2023 General Election



PVC Collection Campaign and Publication of Data for Registered Voters and Collected PVCs at all levels

The Yakubu Commission improved efforts to increase PVC collection and published the data of Registered Voters and PVC Collection for all elections at the State, Local Government, Registration Area and Polling Unit level



Published Data for Registered Voters and Collected PVCs for the 2023 General Election



Screenshot of Online **Publication of Registered Voters and Collected PVCs** for Off-Cycle Governorship Election



Professor Mahmood Yakubu during the Campus Outreach Programme on voter sensitisation in the run-up to the 2023 General Election



Number of Elections Conducted

Professor Mahmood Yakubu as Chairman, INEC conducted the highest number of elections in the history of Election Management Bodies in Nigeria







Distribution of Election materials for the 2023 General Elections from the Nnamdi Azikwe International Airport, Abuja to the States of the Federation on 13th February 2019



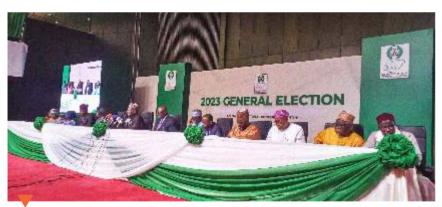
Professor Mahmood Yakubu receiving the last batch of BVAS for the 2023 General Election at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport on 3rd January 2023

Conduct of 2019 and 2023 General Elections

Professor Mahmood Yakubu conducted both the 2019 and 2023 General Elections



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and National Commissioners at the National Collation Centre for the 2019 General Election



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and National Commissioners at the National Collation Centre for the 2023 General Election

Electoral & Delimitation Data for the 2019 General Election

Delimitation Data						
Item	Number					
Registered Voters	84.004,084					
Electoral Constituencies	1,558					
LGAs	774					
Registration Areas	8,809					
Polling Units	119,973					
Voting Points	57,023					
Electo	Electoral Data					
Election Type	Vacancy	Contestants				
President	1	73				
Governor	29	1,066				
Senate	109	1,904				
House of Representatives	360	4,681				
State House of Assembly	991	14,581				
FCT (Chairmanship and Councillorship)	68	806				
Political Party	93					

Electoral & Delimitation Data for the 2023 General Election

Delimitation Data						
Item	Number					
Registered Voters	93,468,008					
Electoral Constituencies	1,491					
LGAs	774					
Registration Areas	8,809					
Polling Units	176,846					
Electoral Data						
Election Type	Vacancy	Contestants				
President	1	73				
Governor	28	1,066				
Senate	109	1,904				
House of Representatives	360	4,681				
State House of Assembly	991	14,581				
Political Party	18					

Conduct of Off-Cycle Governorship Elections

Professor Mahmood Yakubu conducted 19 Off-Cycle Governorship Elections



Professor Mahmood Yakubu watches on as a registered voter undergoes facial authentication during the Mock Accreditation exercise in Akure, Ondo State on 6th November 2024.



Professor Mahmood Yakubu addressing Stakeholders in the run-up to the Osun State Governorship Election in Osogbo on 12th July 2022



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with National Commissioners in a meeting with Traditional Rulers in the run-up to the Bayelsa State Governorship Election in Yenagoa on 6th November 2019

Conduct of Bye-Elections

Professor Mahmood Yakubu conducted over 300 Supplementary and Bye-Elections



Voter accreditation during a Bye-election in Taraba State

TIMETABLE AND SCHEDULE OF **ACTIVITIES FOR BYE-ELECTIONS**



Following the death or resignation of members of the National and State Assemblies, the Presiding Officers of the various legislative houses (i.e. the Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Speakers of State Houses of Assembly) declared vacancies in nine (9) constituencies across the country.

In the exercise of the powers conferred on the Independent National Electoral Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and the Electoral Act, 2022 and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Commission hereby issues this Timetable and Schedule of Activities for bye-elections as follows:

Senatorial Districts

- . Ebonyi South, Ebonyi State
- · Yobe East, Yobe State

State Constituencies

- . Chlbok State Constituency, Borno
- Chikun State Constituency, Kaduna State
- Guma State Constituency, Benue State

Federal Constituencies

- Akoko North East/Akoko North West Federal Constituency, Ondo State
- Jalingo/Yorro/Zing Federal Constituency. Taraba State
- Surulere 1 Federal Constituency, Lagos
- Yauri/Shanga/Ngaski Federal Constituency, Kebbi State



Timetable and Schedule of Activities for Bye-elections conducted on 3rd February 2024

Conduct of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Area Council Elections

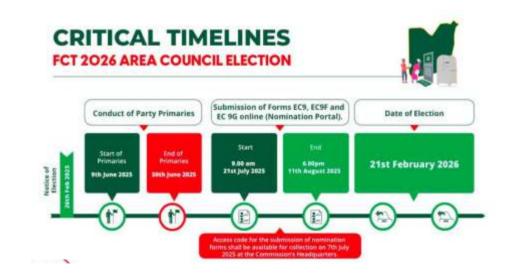
Professor Mahmood Yakubu conducted three FCT Area Council Elections in April 2016, February 2019, and February 2022



INEC Training Workshop for EOs and AEOs in the runup to the FCT Area Council Election in February 2022



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the FCT Minister Mallam Muhammed Musa Bello, National Commissioner Festus Okoye and FCT REC Yahaya Bello addressing the press in the run-up to the FCT Area Council Election in February 2022



Inauguration of a Code of Conduct and Rules of Engagement for Security **Personnel on Electoral Duty**

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, INEC developed and disseminated the Code of Conduct and Rules of Engagement for Security Personnel on Electoral Duty to deepen the professionalism of security personnel on election duty





Professor Mahmood Yakubu with representatives of the National Security Adviser and the Inspector General of Police unveiling the Code of Conduct and Rules of Engagement for Security Personnel on Election Duty at the INEC Headquarters on 23rd February 2023



Tracking and Monitoring Tools for Political Parties

Under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, INEC updated the Regulations and Guidelines for Political Parties and developed Enhanced tools for Tracking and Monitoring of Political Parties



Covers of INEC Regulations and Guidelines and Monitoring and Tracking Instruments for Political Parties

Training and Capacity **Building for Key Officials of Political Parties**

Under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, INEC provided training and capacity building to political party officials including developing their capacity to use the on-line portals to submit the names of candidates and party agents.



Group Photograph during the INEC sensitisation workshop for Political Party Leaders on the Electoral Legal Framework in Uyo AKwa Ibom State on 17th November 2022



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with senior officials of the Commission at the training of Party Officials on the use of Candidate Nomination Portal



Participants at a Workshop on Political Party Management and Administration in Enugu in April 2021

INEC Collaboration with Inter-Party Advisory Council (IPAC)

The Professor Mahmood Yakubu Commission enhanced the transparency, accountability and confidence in the electoral process through collaboration with IPAC and provided ADR mechanisms that enable mediation and resolution of Inter-Party and Intra-Party disputes



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, alongside Commission members and political party leaders after a consultative meeting in Abuja on 16th November 2024 ahead of the Ondo Governorship Election

The Professor Mahmood Yakubu Commission enforced the Constitutional Requirements for Registration and De-registration of Political Parties based on their **Compliance with Extant Rules and Regulations**



There were 92 political parties in Nigeria in 2019. February One political party, **Boot** Party was registered by Court order prior to the election, but did not participate in the 2019 **General Election**







The Professor Mahmood Yakubu Commission enforced the Constitutional Requirements for Registration and De-registration of Political Parties based on their **Compliance with Extant Rules and Regulations**

On 6th February 2021, INEC in exercise of it's powers under Section 225A of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) deregistered 74 political parties, reducing the number of political parties in Nigeria to 18. Later in July 2019, the Youth Party was restored by Court Order bringing the number of political parties in Nigeria to 19

































Logos of Political Parties in Alphabetical order











Strengthening the Electoral Legal Framework

The Yakubu Commission engaged and collaborated with the National Assembly and other Stakeholders to improve the Electoral Legal Framework

Section 3 Section 28 Early release of notice of election - INEC is now required to issue the Notice of Polls 380 days to the general Early appropriation and release of funds. election. This also entails an early release of the Timetable and Schedule of Activities for general elections by the Commission. When these are added to the fixed dates for general elections established by INEC, which is the 3rd INEC to get its funds at least Saturday of February of the election year for the national election and state elections coming two weeks later. one year to the general stakeholders now have ample time for forward planning, which will greatly benefit the quality of general elections election. in Nigeria. Section 29 Section 47 Section 50 Early primaries by political parties - They must now Use of electronic device for accreditation of voters. Electronic transmission of complete their primaries and submit the names of The debates over the legality or otherwise of the results. candidates 180 days to the general election. This Smart Card Readers appears to be now settled by The Act now empowers INEC gives the Commission enough plan time to produce Section 47 of the Act which empowers INEC to use to determine the form of the materials for the elections, particularly the the Smart Card Reader or any other device for transmission or transfer of sensitive materials. election results. accreditation

Key Provisions in the new Electoral Act, 2022

Strengthening the Electoral Legal Framework

Section 51

Redefinition of overvoting - Unlike the 2010 Electoral Act which defined overvoting in terms of registered voters, the new Act defines it in terms of accredited voters. This will greatly reduce the challenge encountered by the Commission whereby elections are easily declared inconclusive because of tying it to registered voters, even where turnout is low.

Section 54

Ensuring inclusive elections.

INEC is now mandated to ensure that persons with disabilities and other vulnerabilities are properly assisted to participate in the process.

Section 65

Power of the Commission to review results. The low now empowers the Commission to review the result of elections to ensure that declarations are made voluntarily and that results emerge in accordance with the law, regulations, guidelines and manuals for elections.

Section 84

Type of Primaries

there are now three types of primaries in the law namely, Direct Indirect and Consensus, giving political parties a wider range of options for selecting their candidates.

Section 88

Election finance - various new limits have been set for amounts of money that political parties and candidates can spend in elections, as well as the amounts that can be donated to them.

Key Provisions in the new Electoral Act, 2022



Information Dissemination

The Commission, under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, regularly disseminates information through press briefing, conferences and releases as well as by posting on social media handles to promote transparency and accountability on the electoral process



Professor Mahmood Yakubu during a daily media briefing in the run-up to the 2019 General Election at the International Conference Centre on 18th February 2019



MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED DELINEATION OF WARDS IN THE WARRI FEDERAL CONSITUENCY BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT

Our attention has been drawn to the misleading narratives about the proposed delineation of Wards in Warri North, Warri South and Warri South West Federal Constituency as ordered by the Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on 2nd

Following the Supreme Court judgement, the Commission embarked on extensive consultations from February 2023 to July 2024 involving all the critical stakeholders, followed by fieldwork in all the communities in the three Local Government Areas culminating in the production of a draft report.

The Commission held further consultation with stakeholders in Warri last week on Friday 4th April 2025, where copies of the draft report were presented to the representatives of each of the parties connected with the issue. The purpose was to give them the opportunity to raise any concerns they might have. The overall objective was to arrive at an amicable agreement endorsed by all the parties involved.

Therefore, contrary to the speculations making the rounds, the Commission is yet to take a final decision on the delineation of Wards in the Warri Federal Constituency.

We urge representatives of the various stakeholders to submit their obesevations on the draft report which will serve as the basis for further engagement on the matter.

Meanwhile, we appeal to all stakeholders in the constituency to refrain from engaging in any activity that could threaten the peace and security of the area. The Commission will continue to operate based on fairness, equity, the rule of law and in full consultation with all stakeholders.

National Commissioner and Chairman Information & Voter Education Committee

Thursday 10th April 2025

A Typical INEC Press Release

INEC Online Newspaper

Under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, INEC launched the publication of an Online Newspaper (inecnews.com) to disseminate information on the activities of the Commission



Screenshot of INEC News Website: www.inecnews.com

Production and Dissemination of Information, Communication and **Education (ICE) Materials**

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, INEC produced and disseminated several Information, Communication and Education (ICE) materials, including the comprehensive report and review report of the 2019 and 2023 General Elections as well as discussion and working papers stating the position of the Commission on some issues such as the State of Voter Access to Polling Units in Nigeria; Guidelines for Expanding Voter Access to Polling Units; Electoral Constituencies in Nigeria: Division, Revision and Alteration; **Flectronic Transmission of Flection Results** as well as policy papers on post-election audit and review and receiving support from development partners that resulted in better knowledge and understanding of the management of the electoral process and the conduct of elections.

> Information, Communication and Education materials published by INEC for voter sensitisation and enliahtenment







Professor Mahmood Yakubu briefing the International Community on preparation for the 2019 General Election



Professor Mahmood Yakubu briefing the Nigerian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom H.E. Sarafa Tunji Ishola and Officials of the High Commission on the preparation for the 2023 General Election in London on 16th January 2023



Professor Mahmood Yakubu addressing the audience at RIIA, Chatham House on preparations for the 2023 General Election in London on 17th January 2023



Training and Capacity Building

Commission The Yakubu supported several capacity-building workshops and the training and re-training of staff



Group photograph of INEC Officials during the training on Gender, Disability and Inclusive Elections in February 2024



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners and IFES Country Director Mr. Seray Jah in a group photograph with INEC staff during training on election technology in Abuja on 18th October 2022

Introduction of Merit and Quota Slots for Women in Promotion to Directorship Positions

The Commission under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu reserved a quota for the best female candidates in promotion exercises to be appointed into Directorship positions



Female Administrative Secretaries and Directors in INEC

Staff Opportunities

Under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, eight serving and retired officials of the Commission were appointed as National Commissioners (2) and Resident Electoral Commissioners (6)



Professor Mahmood Yakubu swearing in former INEC Directors, Shehu Wahab, Aminu Idris and Oluwatoyin Babalola as Resident Electoral Commissioners at the Commission Headquarters on 12th December 2023.



Professor Mahmood Yakubu presenting Letter of Appointment to Dr. Sa'ad Idris, former D.G. of the Electoral Institute as Resident Electoral Commissioner at the Commission Headquarters on 30th May 2025



Professor Mahmood Yakubu presenting Letter of Appointment to Feyijimi Ibiyemi Saseyi, former Administrative Secretary, Lagos State as Resident Electoral Commissioner at the Commission Headquarters on 30th May 2025

Staff Opportunities

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, five staff members from the Legal Department were conferred with the Rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN)



TANIMU MUHAMMAD INUWA, SAN



ALHASSAN AKEJE UMAR, SAN



ABDULAZIZ SANI, SAN



SULAYMAN OLAWALE IBRAHIM, SAN



WENDY NWENENDA KUKU, SAN

Staff Welfare

The Yakubu Commission improved staff conditions of service by providing welfare packages including hazard allowance and mid-year/end-of-year bonus, medical assistance, funeral grants to boost staff commitment and morale and published a Code of Conduct to guide staff conduct and behaviour







Staff Welfare Establishment of Creche in the Commission

The Commission under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu established a Creche at headquarters to serve the needs of nursing mothers, infants and toddlers



Banner of the Commissioning of the INEC Creche at the Commission's Headquarters on 8th March 2024



Professor Mahmood cutting the tape to unveil the INEC Creche at the Commission's Headquarters on 8th March 2024



Professor Mahmood holding a baby at the commissioning of the INEC Creche at the Commission's Headquarters on 8th March 2024

Staff Welfare

Long Service Award Ceremony and Regular Interaction with Staff

Professor Mahmood Yakubu inaugurated Long-Service Award Ceremony to honour deserving members of staff and met regularly with staff on welfare matters



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with Chairman, House of Representatives' Committee of Electoral Matters, Hon. Aisha Jibril Dukku in a group photograph with INEC Officials and Staff Members during the maiden INEC Award Night at NAF Centre on 6th September 2018



Professor Mahmood Yakubu addressing a Staff Meeting on welfare issues at the NUC Auditorium, Abuja on 9th November 2022



INEC Officials listening to Professor Mahmood Yakubu during a Staff Meeting at the NUC Auditorium, Abuja on 9th November 2022



Promoting Inclusivity

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, the Commission made conscious efforts to provide opportunities for women to attain leadership positions in INEC and offered employment to a visually challenged ex-NYSC member. Furthermore, the Gender and Inclusivity Department was established in 2021 to ensure that inclusion issues are addressed effectively



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and the DG NYSC Brigadier General Suleiman Zakari Kazaure on 10th June 2016, presented a letter of employment to Daniel Oluwatobi who lost his sight as a result of a road accident while on election duty



More women occupy leadership positions in INEC Under Professor Mahmood Yakubu.

The Role of Women in Election Management

Professor Mahmood Yakubu acknowledged, promoted and celebrated the role of women in Election Management

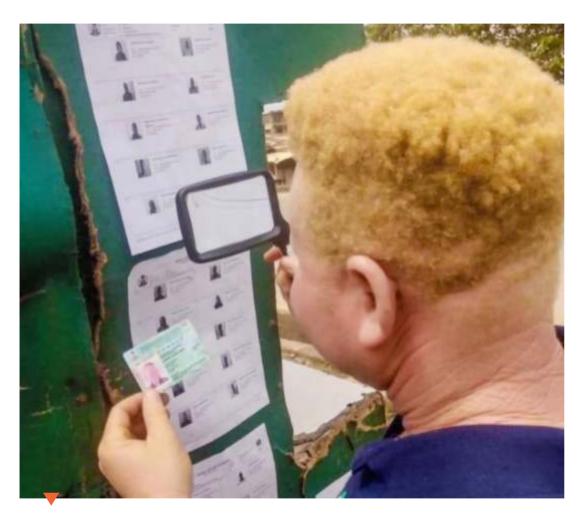


Professor Mahmood Yakubu with National Commissioners acknowledging the role of women during the 2024 International Women's Day



Illustration of the Role of Women in Election Management to celebrate the 2024 International Women's Day

Promoting Inclusivity in the Electoral Process



A person living with Albinism uses a magnifying glass to check the Register of Voters for his name at a polling unit during the Osun State Governorship election held on 16th July 2022

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, the Commission collaborated with CSOs to improve access and participation of PwDs in the electoral process through the deployment of Assistive Voter Devices



A visually impaired voter using the INEC braille balot jacket to vote

Promoting Inclusivity in the Electoral Process

The Yakubu Commission ensured the full participation of vulnerable citizens in the electoral process through priority voting



A pregnant woman casting her vote during the Presidential and National Assembly Election on 25th February 2023



A 93 year old woman casting her vote during the Presidential and National Assembly Election on 25th February 2023

Promoting Inclusivity in the Electoral Process

The Yakubu Commission reviewed the Framework and Regulation for voting by Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), strengthening the legal provision which enabled them to register and vote in the 2019 and 2023 General Elections as well as in off-cycle Governorship Elections



Professor Mahmood Yakubu presenting the Revised Framework and Regulations for IDP voting to stakeholders





Regular and Periodic Consultations and Engagements with **Electoral** Stakeholders

Professor Mahmood Yakubu held regular quarterly consultative meetings with stakeholders, including Political Parties, CSOs, Media and Security Agencies



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the Executive Director, Peering Advocacy and Advancement Centre in Africa (PAACA), Mr Ezenwa Nwagwu at the Commission's quarterly meeting with Civil Society Organisations, on 4th February 2025 in Abuja



Professor Mahmood Yakubu exchanges pleasantries with members of the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on **Election Security** (ICCES) at a meeting held at the Commission's Headquarters on 11th February 2025



Professor Mahmood Yakubu (left) confers with the former National Security Adviser Major General Babagana Monguno (rtd) and former Chief of Defense Staff Major General Lucky Irabor (rtd) during the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security Meeting, held at the National Security Adviser's Office on 8th February 2023

Collaboration with Relevant Stakeholders

During the tenure of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, the Commission engaged and collaborated with relevant stakeholders, including the National Assembly, the Judiciary as well as Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies to promote electoral integrity



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and National Commissioners during a public hearing at the National Assembly in July 2024



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners with former Chief Justice of the Federation, Mr Kayode Ariwoola and other Justices, the President of the Court of Appeal and the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court in Abuja on 1st February 2023

Regular and Periodic Consultations and Engagements with Stakeholders

Professor Mahmood Yakubu held regular meetings with stakeholders, including Traditional Rulers, Religious Leaders, the National Peace Committee and the Business Community



Professor Mahmood Yakubu during an engagement with the National Council of Traditional Rulers of Nigeria in Abuja in the run up to the 2019 General Election



Professor Mahmood Yakubu in a group photograph after briefing the Catholic Bishop's Conference of Nigeria on preparations for the 2019 General Election in Abuja in November 2018



Professor Mahmood Yakubu briefing mambers of the National Peace Committee on preparations for the 2019 General Election in Abuja in November 2018



Professor Mahmood Yakubu addressing members of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lagos on 26th June 2018



Revival of ECONEC

Professor Mahmood Yakubu played a major role in the revival of ECONEC. In March 2017, he was elected the President of ECONEC and established the first ECONEC Secretariat in Abuja on 6th July 2017

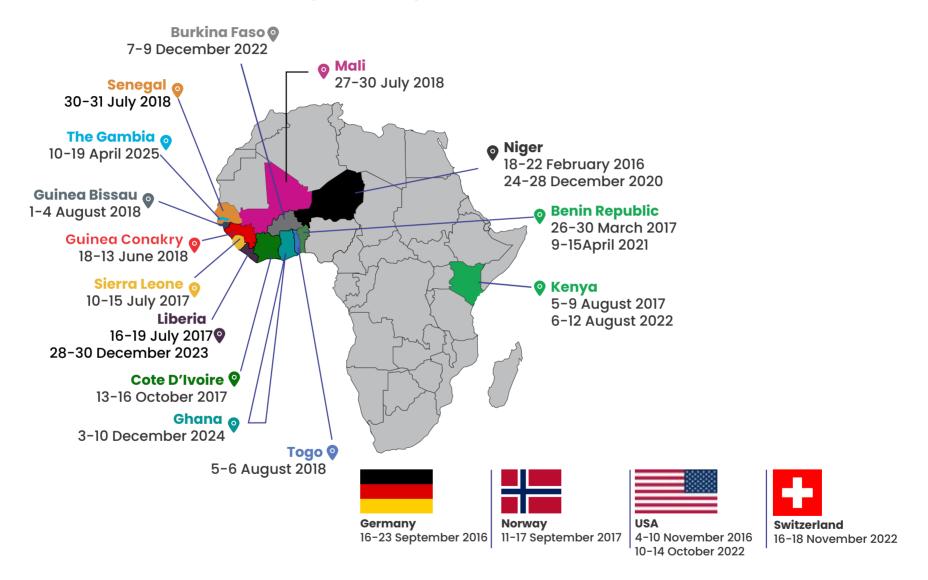


Professor Mahmood Yakubu supported by some members of the ECONEC Steering Committee, Dr. Maria do Rosario Goncalves, Président, CNE Cabo Verde and Mr Ahmed Barry Newton Président, CENI Burkina Faso at the commissioning of the ECONEC Secretariat at the Electoral Institute, Abuja on 6th July 2019



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and members of the ECONEC **Steering Committee** after his election as President in Cotonou. Benin Republic on 29th March 2017

Countries Visited by Professor Mahmood Yakubu for Needs Assessments, Follow-Up Missions, Solidarity and Study Visits and Election Observation



ECONEC Needs Assessment, Peer Support and Solidarity Missions

Professor Mahmood Yakubu led several Needs Assessment, Peer Support and Solidarity Missions as President of ECONEC between 2017 and 2019



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and Mr. Ahmed Barry Newton, former Président, CENI Burkina Faso and member of ECONEC Steering Committee on a Ferry ride from Lungi to Freetown during a Peer-Support Mission to Sierra Leone on 9th July 2017



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with H.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia and Dr. Kwadwo Afari Gyan, former Chairman of Electoral Commission of Ghana during a solidarity visit to Liberia ahead of the 2017 Presidential Election on 18th July 2017

ECONEC Needs Assessment, Peer Support and Solidarity Missions

Professor Mahmood Yakubu led several Needs Assessment, Peer Support and Solidarity Missions as President of ECONEC between 2017 and 2019



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, members of the ECONEC Steering Committee in a group photograph with the Chairman and Officials of the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone during the ECONEC Needs Assessment Mission on 10th July 2017



Professor Mahmood Yakubu in a group photograph with the Chief Justice of Sierra Leone, Abdulahi Hamid Charm and members of the ECONEC Steering Committee during the ECONEC Needs Assessment Mission to Sierra Leone on 10th July 2017

Technical and Material Support to other Election Management **Bodies in West Africa**

Professor Mahmood Yakubu facilitated Nigeria's technical and material support to other National Election Management Bodies in the ECOWAS Region (Benin, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea-Bissau)



Voter registration material provided by the Nigerian Government as electoral assistance to the Electoral Commission of Guinea Bissau.



Mr. Paul Omokore, former Director ICT, INEC demonstrating the use of the Direct Data Capture Machine (DDCM) in voter registration to CSOs in Guinea Bissau



Vehicles provided by the Nigerian Government to the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone as Electoral Assistance

Training, Capacity Building, and Peer Learning Support

The Yakubu Commission provided Training, Capacity Building, and Peer Learning support to Chairmen, Officials and Staff of other Election Management Bodies in Africa



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, members of the Commission with Officials of the Autonomous Independent Electoral Commission (CENA) of Benin Republic during a peer-learning visit to INEC Nigeria from 16th to 19th December 2024



Professor Mahmood Yakubu listening to Dr Chifundo Kachale, Chairman, Malawi Electoral Commission during a study visit to **INEC Nigeria in July 2021**

The National Elections Commission, Liberia honours Professor Mahmood Yakubu

Professor Mahmood Yakubu was honoured by Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah, Chairperson, National Elections Commission, Liberia for his contribution and collaboration in improving Election Management in the Republic of Liberia



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah, Chairperson of the National Elections Commission of Liberia cutting the tape to unveil a dedicated Workspace in his honour in Monrovia, Liberia on 29th December 2023



Professor Mahmood Yakubu addressing the Chairperson and officials of the National Election Commission of Liberia at a ceremony to dedicate a workspace in his honour in Monrovia, Liberia on 29th December 2023

Foreign Election Observation Missions and Study Tours

Under the leadership of Professor Mahmood Yakubu, the Commission deployed several Election Observation Mission and Study Tours comprising of the Commission members, Resident Electoral Commissioners, Members of the Technical Team and Outstanding Staff Members



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and National Commissioner Adekunle Ogunmola with President John Mahama of Ghana during Election Observation Mission to Liberia on 6th October 2017



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioners Dr. Muhammed Mustafa Lecky and Baba Shetima Arfo with Norwegian Minister of Local Government and Administration, Mr. Jan Tore Sanner during an Election Observation Mission to Norway on the 8th of September 2017

Foreign Election Observation Missions and Study Tours



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with National Commissioner Ken Ukeagu and Dr. Uthman Ajidagba (REC Nasarawa) during Election Observation Mission to Kenya on 9th August 2022



Professor Mahmood Yakubu, National Commissioner, Festus Okoye, Mr Olusegun Agbaje (REC Lagos), Mr. Rotimi Oyekanmi (CPS), Mr. A.T. Yusuf (Director EOps) and Mrs. Binta Kasheem Mohammed (Director, Training TEI) with Janet Brown, Executive Director of the Commission on Presidential Debates, and Senior Officials of the National Democratic Institute in Washington D.C on 14th October 2022



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with Professor Attahiru Jega Former INEC Chairman and Issack Hassan, Former Chairman, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, Kenya at the Cambridge Conference on Electoral Democracy in the Commonwealth on 27th July 2017



Professor Mahmood Yakubu in a Group Photograph during the Cambridge Conference on Electoral Democracy in the Commonwealth on 28th July 2017



Professor Mahmood Yakubu making a point in Berlin during an Election Study Tour to Germany on 28th July 2016



Professor Mahmood Yakubu making a presentation in Oslo, Norway during an Election Observation Mission on 7th September 2017

Foreign Election Observation Missions and Study Tours







Professor Mahmood Yakubu with National Commissioner Lawrence Nwuruku and Professor Bolade Eyinla, Chief Technical Adviser to INEC Chairman after a visit to the German Parliament in Berlin on 29th July 2016

Courtesy Visits



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the former President of Kenya and Head of the African Union Election Observation Mission to the 2023 General Election, H.E. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta during the of the African Union Election Observers Mission to the Commission on 22nd February 2023



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat and his Delegation during the visit of the African Union Mission to the Commission on 26th October 2018



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the former President of South Africa and Head of the Commonwealth Election Observation Mission to the 2023 General Election, H.E. Thabo Mbeki during the visit of the Observer Mission to the Commission on 20th February 2023

Courtesy Visits



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the former Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), H.E. Mohamed Ibn Chambas during a visit to the Commission on 13th June 2019



Professor Mahmood Yakubu and members of the Commission with former European Union Ambassador to Nigeria and ECOWAS H.E. Samuela Isopi and Mr. Barry Andrews MEP, Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU-EOM) to the 2023 General Election during the visit of the Observer Mission to the Commission on 26th June 2023



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with the European Union Ambassador to Nigeria and ECOWAS, H.E. Gautier Mignot during a visit of the EU Mission to the Commission on 28th January 2025

International Conferences

Professor Mahmood Yakubu hosted two International Conferences on, Opportunities and Challenges in the Use of Technologies in Elections and on, Promoting Inclusivity in the Electoral Process



Professor Mahmood Yakubu with Ms. Frassoni, President ECES and Advocate Notemba Tjipueja, Chairperson Electoral Commissioner of Namibia and President Electoral Forum of SADC Countries at the Opening Ceremony of the International Conference on, "Opportunities and Challenges in the Use of Technology in Elections" in Abuja on 9th April 2018



Professor Yakubu and Members of ECONEC Steering Committee during the ECONEC Conference on, "Promoting Inclusiveness in the Electoral Process" in Abuja on 4th August 2019



Overview of Accomplishments 2015-2019 Electoral Cycle

The Commission commenced the pasting The Commission developed a mobile application. of Polling Unit Results at the Polling Units and The Commission conducted the the INEC i-Reporter, for use by citizens to make report, Collation Centre and the upload of Polling Unit 2019 General Election as well as nine 2 Result Form EC8A to the INEC Result Viewing share pictures, short videos and other information on Off-Cycle Governorship elections Portal (IReV) during the Nasarawa Central election-day in real-time to INEC State Constituency Election in August 2020 The Commission developed and implemented the 2017-The Commission revised the 2021 and the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan and a detailed The Commission adopted a Revised INEC Gender Policy, making the Strategic Plan Implementation Program as well as the Communication Policy designed 2019 and 2023 Election Project Plan. Furthermore, the Commission's work more gender-6 to improve internal and external Commission established the Election Management sensitive in line with global best communication Support Centre for planning, monitoring and tracking all practices electoral activities The Commission regularised the date of General Elections fixing it for the third Saturday in February of the election The Commission inaugurated the The Commission introduced the Continuous Voter Registration year for Presidential and National Assembly Elections and continuous accreditation and 9 providing more opportunities for two weeks later for Governorship and State Assembly voting system to address potential Elections to ensure better planning, Coordination citizens to register and vote disenfranchisement of voters and readiness by the Commission and all electoral stakeholders The Commission regularly engaged The Commission improved the with all electoral stakeholders The Commission recognised and rewarded conditions of service by undertaking outstanding staff members that performed to improve transparency and regular promotion exercises and exemplary in their duties and responsibilities accountability of elections improving welfare packages for staff

Overview of Accomplishments 2019 - 2023 Electoral Cycle



The Commission conducted the 2023 General Election as well as 10 offcycle governorship elections

The Commission deployed the IVED for a more efficient voter registration process and the ABIS for a more robust voter verification process

The Commission established the Gender and Inclusivity Department to more effectively address issues of inclusion in the electoral process



The Commission for the first time since 1996 expanded access of voters to polling units by creating additional 56,872 polling units

The Commission developed a policy framework and deployed assistive voting devices to expand access and increase the participation of PwDs in the electoral process



The Commission deployed the Biometric Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) for voter verification and accreditation using fingerprint and facial recognition thereby eliminating the use of incidence form for voting



The Commission improved and enhanced the use of the BVAS for uploading of PU results (EC8A) to the INEC Result Viewina Portal for all elections

The Commission activated the INEC Security Alert and SANS) for quick response to physical threats to INEC personnel and



The Commission established the Election Monitoring & Support Centre for a more efficient planning, implementation, monitoring and early warning system

10

The Commission solved the challenges of office accommodation with the commencement of the building of a new Commission Headquarters

The Commission approved the creation of an Artificial Intelligence Division in the ICT department to harness the positive aspect of Al and mitigate it's negative impact on elections

The Commission established a Creche at the headquarters to cater to the needs of nursing mothers and toddlers

