

Consultation Meeting with the Independent Electoral Commission

Date: 27 July 2022

Virtual

1. INTRODUCTION

The Disability task team of the EQL workstream led by Commissioner Mollo met with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) on 11 March 2024. The objective of the meeting was to discuss voter education and the IEC's state of readiness and to understand how it will accommodate persons with disabilities in the upcoming national elections on 29 May 2024.

2. OVERVIEW

The IEC informed the NPC about the progress it made through its collaboration with the South African National Council for the Blind to develop the Universal Ballot Template. This is a voting aid that assists persons with visual disabilities and special needs to have an independent and secret vote during elections. Based on the meeting, the NPC released a media statement on this engagement on 18 March 2024, which commended the IEC on its community outreach programmes, and recognised that there are areas that require improvement such as the programmes and access to information available for persons with disabilities.

3. CONCLUSION

The NPC committed to follow up with the IEC after the national elections, as a form of monitoring and evaluation regarding issues of interest for the NPC.