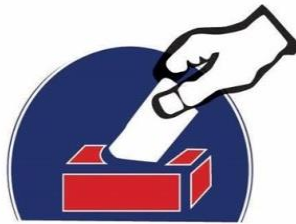


RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY IN TANZANIA

REDET



REDET - LEAD AGENCY OF TEMCO

INTERIM STATEMENT ON THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN TANZANIA

3RD NOVEMBER 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

This is an interim statement on the observation of the Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania (REDET) for the 2020 Tanzania General Elections undertaken by the National Electoral Commission (NEC). Article 74 (6) of the 1977 Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania has entrusted NEC with the responsibility of managing the electoral process in the country. In 2020 NEC implemented this task for the sixth time after Tanzania reverted to political pluralism which culminated into a multiparty political system. Within the constitutional and legal architecture of Tanzania, the entire electoral process included the delineation of electoral boundaries, updating of the Permanent National Voters' Register (PNVR), nomination of candidates, election campaigns, voting, vote counting and declaration of results and provision of voter education.

The report is divided into five main parts starting with this introduction. Approach and Methodology form the second part of the report. The third part sets the context by discussing the legal, political and regulatory electoral environments. The fourth part provides the assessment of the electoral processes and the last part is conclusion.

2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

In order to arrive at an objective analysis of the 2020 Tanzania General Elections, REDET employed a scientific approach. The approach combined the use of acceptable open and transparent strategies and methods of election observation and the deployment of competent, credible and efficient election observers who worked diligently and meticulously guided by detailed instruments and checklists. REDET used the Open Data Kit (ODK Collect) software which captured the election observation instruments on an online platform and transferred them to the data centre through mobile phones. Instruments were designed to capture pre-election, election day and post-election episodes.

The approach used was meant to enable REDET to observe the 2020 General Elections in Tanzania to ascertain if they were peaceful, free and fair and reflected the general will of the citizens. In addition, it facilitated observation of the extent to which all the electoral stakeholders adhered to the provisions of the constitution, laws, rules and regulations and whether the entire conduct was free from violence, intimidation and manipulations.

As part of its accreditation mandate and also for purposes of documentation for future reference, apart from this interim statement, REDET shall prepare a comprehensive final report on the electoral processes at the end of the exercise. The report will cover what was observed in the conduct of the elections. REDET will assess the general environment in which the elections were conducted, the constitutional and legal infrastructure of the elections, provision of voter education, registration of voters, nomination of candidates, the conduct of election campaigns, participation of women and marginalized groups, election day and post-election episodes. A final verdict on the entire election will be issued based on this comprehensive observation of the election.

2.1. Recruitment, Training and Deployment of LTOs and STOs

A total of 200 Long Term Observers (LTOs) were recruited and deployed in 200 constituencies, both in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar, out of 264 constituencies, which is equivalent to 76 percent. In Zanzibar, all the 50 constituencies were observed. In Tanzania Mainland, all regions were covered. In each region a specific number of constituencies was selected based on pre-determined criteria. Training was conducted for two days from 25th to 26th September 2020 in the New Library Auditorium, University of Dar es Salaam. It was conducted by knowledgeable, experienced and qualified facilitators from REDET, NEC and the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP). Owing to the nature of the exercise and the technology used, training was conducted in an interactive manner where participants had an opportunity to practice. At the end of the training, participants were requested to assess the training process so as to provide feedback to REDET for improvement of such future ventures.

Recruited LTOs were selected based on competency to ensure that they were impartial and non-partisan. They were young and energetic with a minimum of bachelor's degree, preferably in social sciences. Track record of previous successful engagement with REDET was also taken into consideration as an added advantage. Out of the 200 LTOs, 90 (equivalent to 45 percent) were female.

All LTOs were deployed in their respective constituencies from 1st October 2020 and remained in the field up to 30th October 2020. On the voting day, LTOs were joined by 2,450 Short-Term Observers (STOs) who also received training from LTOs on the use of ODK Collect software and rules and regulations governing elections and election observation. As it was done for LTOs, STOs also filled an assessment form on the training they received.

2.2. Assessment Criteria

For the purpose of this interim statement, the LTOs and STOs were required to submit rapid assessments of the nomination, election campaigns and election-day activities (up to declaration of some results) to REDET headquarters in Dar es Salaam. These provide the trend of the electoral processes and enable the assessment of the extent to which the total electoral process can be considered "free and fair". For each of the election process the score was as follows:

- i. 80-100 percent or letter grade A: meaning an election (or electoral step) with very few shortcomings which do not affect the overall results. It is a "clean, credible, free and fair" election.
- ii. 60-79 percent or letter grade B: meaning an election (or electoral step) which is generally free and fair, but still has a few shortcomings which work against

fortunes of some stakeholders (voters, candidates, political parties, etc.). It is a “qualified credible, free and fair” election (or electoral step).

- iii. 50-59 percent or letter grade C: meaning the election (or electoral step) permits free participation of stakeholders (voters, candidates, political parties, others), but there are many instances where some political parties were disadvantaged. That is to say, the election is “free but not fair”.
- iv. 40-49 percent or letter grade D: meaning that the election process has acts of violence, intimidation, favouritism, corruption, etc. The deserving award is “unfree and unfair” certificate.
- v. 1-39 percent or letter grade E: meaning an election (or electoral step) with so many managerial problems and irregularities that most major stakeholders (voters, candidates, political parties) reject or are likely to reject the final results. It is awarded a “totally mismanaged” certificate.
- vi. 0% or letter grade F: meaning an election (or electoral step) which has failed totally in terms of management, compliance with electoral rules, code of conduct and fairness and, therefore, it does not come to normal finality. Such an election is awarded an “aborted elections” certificate.

3. LEGAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXT OF THE 2020 ELECTION

The legal framework governing general elections in the United Republic of Tanzania is derived from the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (1977). The National Elections Act (Cap 343 R.E. 2015) provides for the law regulating the election of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Parliamentary elections in the United Republic. The councillors election is regulated by the Local Authorities (Elections Act [Cap. 292 R.E. 2015]. Other laws regulating elections include the Political Parties Act (Cap. 258) of 1992, and the Election Expenses Act, No. 6 of 2010 (Cap. 278), which makes provisions for the funding of electoral processes, with a view to controlling the use of funds and prohibited practices. In addition, the legislation makes provisions for allocation, management and accountability of election funds. Elections in Zanzibar are governed by the Zanzibar Constitution (1984) and the Elections Act No. 11 of 1984 and its 2018 amendments.

A number of new laws, rules and regulations were passed which led to complaints from some quarters that they negatively impacted political activities and constrained the democratic space. They include the Media Services Act, 2016 (whose sections on seditious, criminal defamation and false news publications were found by the East African Court of Justice to restrict press freedom and freedom of expression); the Statistics Act, 2018 (with amendments removing the previously imposed criminal liability for collecting and publishing statistics which contradict those produced by the National Bureau of Statistics);

the Cyber Crime Act, 2015 (whose enforcement has raised concerns particularly on infringement of freedom of expression); the NGOs Act, 2019 (which prohibited Faith Based Organizations from participating in civic activities such as election observation); the Political Parties (Amendment) Act, 2019 (granting more discretionary powers to the Registrar of Political Parties, and instituted measures to enhance intraparty democracy including women empowerment). Moreover, the Code of Conduct for the 2020 Presidential, Parliamentary and Councillors' Elections was given the force of law under section 124A of the National Elections Act, Cap. 343.

Again, towards the Election Day NEC issued an announcement that voters would be allowed to use other forms of identification such as driving licence, the national identity card or passport in case they lost or misplaced the voter ID card. In Zanzibar, the Elections Act No 11 of 1984 was amended by Act No. 4 of 2018 to allow for advance voting for voters carrying out official elections duties (i.e. returning officer, assistant returning officer, presiding officer, police officer, member or staff of ZEC) and other voters who will be performing peace and security duties on the Election Day¹.

The legal and political context in which an election takes place is very important in determining the outcome, mood and popular perception about the elections. Several developments unfolded which had an impact on the 2020 elections.

First, defections of opposition Members of Parliament (MPs) and councillors ditched their political parties and joined CCM claiming that they were supporting "development efforts" of President John Pombe Magufuli. Once they joined CCM by-elections were organized where the same MPs stood and won in the same constituencies. Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA) lost 12 MPs in this fashion. Another outcome of this was that since each of the MPs left at a different time there was a continuous trek of by-elections which might have led to voter fatigue. Second, the Local Government elections in 2019 saw a massive number of disqualification of candidates from opposition political parties to the extent that opposition political parties withdrew from the election, leaving CCM to scoop all the seats. This set the tone for the general elections.

Second, the disintegration of the Umoja wa Katiba ya Wananchi (UKAWA) coalition formed in 2015 led to a new political party re-alignment. Opposition political parties did not succeed in the quest to establish a similar coalition for the 2020 General Elections. The conflict within the CUF eventually forced Maalim Seif and his faction to join ACT-Wazalendo. This weakened CUF very severely.

¹ Article 82 (1) & (2) of the Elections Act No. 11 of 2018 which was assented into law on 16th January, 2018. The provision applies only on General Elections and Presidential By-Elections.

Third, for the first time, the Government increased the budget of election activities and made a commitment of using internal funds to run all election activities. This was seen by many as a welcome move for preserving national sovereignty.

Fourth, for the first time voting took place on a working day which was declared a public holiday to enable all eligible voters to cast their votes without having to compromise on their prayer time as it used to be when elections were held on Sunday, and public servants were granted permission to travel to places where they had registered to vote.

Finally, the onset of the global pandemic, Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19), produced seismic effects on all the sectors of life in Tanzania, as it was across the world. It caused a moment of suspense as the possibility of postponing the elections became eminent. However, Tanzania adopted a unique approach in curbing the spreading of the pandemic. President Magufuli refused all attempts to impose a total lockdown as it was done in other African countries. People were left to continue with their activities but observing some precautions. CHADEMA on the other hand championed a total lockdown. In expressing this view CHADEMA went into self-isolation for 14 days. A few MPs from CHADEMA ignored the boycott and were expelled from the party. As finally the situation normalized without reaching alarming levels of infections, President Magufuli added credit to his leadership.

4. ASSESSMENT OF ELECTORAL PROCESSES

4.1 Electoral Boundary Delineation

NEC announced minor changes in the electoral constituencies on 23rd July 2020. This change did not involve increase of electoral constituencies but rather change of names of three constituencies: Chilonwa constituency in Chamwino, Dodoma DC was changed to Chamwino; Mtera constituency in Chamwino DC in Dodoma was changed to Mvumi and Kijitoupele constituency in West B, Urban West region in Zanzibar was changed to Pangawe. The number of constituencies and wards remained 264 and 3956, respectively, as it was in 2015. In Zanzibar, on 2nd July 2020 ZEC announced dissolution of four constituencies: Mahonda, Mtopepo, Kijitoupele and Chukwani. Following this Zanzibar has 50 constituencies, 32 in Unguja and 18 in Pemba. ZEC also changed the name of Mgogoni constituency in Wete to Pandani.

4.2 Voter Registration Process

Starting from 1st December 2019, REDET deployed its team of LTOs to cover 89 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in 16 regions of Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. NEC officially launched this exercise in Kilimanjaro region on 18 July 2019. This was pursuant to the provisions 40 (1) of Regulations for Updating of the PNVR (GN. 792 and 793 published on 28 December 2018) and 42 (1) of the Local Authorities Updating of the PNVR Regulations of 2018.

For the most part, the voter registration exercise was carried out very successfully in the 89 LGAs observed. NEC had made all the necessary logistical arrangements, including the

preparation of the schedule for staggered registration throughout the country. In most cases, registration materials and equipment were adequate and deployed in a timely manner. Recruitment, training and deployment of registration officers was done to the satisfaction of many stakeholders, including REDET.

Voter education was largely provided by NEC. Other stakeholders, including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) did not feature significantly in providing voter education. The public address vans and posters were two of the most common strategies used to disseminate voter education. These had shortcomings and in some cases it was clear that the message had not been communicated effectively. The media including newspapers, television stations and radio stations also played a significant role in the provision of voter education.

4.3 Nomination of Candidates

4.3.1 Intraparty Nominations

Intraparty nominations attract a lot of attention in Tanzania since they are the only vehicles through which contestants can reach to the people as private candidature is prohibited. Political parties therefore were required to align their internal nomination process such that they fit into the nomination schedule issued by EMBs. Two modalities were used in the process of nomination of candidates in political parties: the open, transparent and competitive modality and the opaque (or hand-picking model). However, it was observed that, especially within CCM and to some extent in CHADEMA, winning the preferential vote did not guarantee automatic nomination by the higher organs of the party. In CCM this caused tensions in some constituencies and party leaders appealed to the membership to maintain party unity.

4.3.2 Nominations by NEC and ZEC

4.4.1 Appointment of presidential candidates

The second stage on candidate nomination after obtaining endorsement of their political parties was nomination by EMBs which was final. For presidential nomination the exercise was conducted smoothly. There were only a few objections that were raised by candidates against other candidates. Two objections that captured media attention were against CCM and CUF candidates. They were lodged by the CHADEMA presidential candidate Mr. Tundu Lissu. NEC convened its appellate bodies and quashed both objections paving the way for their Dr. Magufuli's and Prof. Lipumba's nomination.

As opposed to nomination of presidential candidates, nominations of parliamentary candidates were characterized by an unprecedented level of objections raised against candidates. Many objections were of technical nature concerning accuracy of information for specific details of candidates. Surprisingly, quite a number of candidates actually had their nomination forms incorrectly filled in, and were therefore, disqualified by Returning Officers (ROs). About 616 disqualified candidates (160 and 456 parliamentary and councillorship contenders respectively) appealed to NEC headquarters against the decisions of ROs to disqualify them. NEC headquarters eventually decided on the appeals

and in some cases overturned decisions made by Returning Officers to disqualify candidates. The appeals of 67 opposition candidates for parliament and 236 by opposition candidates for councillorship were accepted by NEC. However, it took quite a long time for NEC to decide on some of the appeals, the latest ones being in some cases a few days to election day. Finally, 28 candidates (equivalent to 10 percent of all the constituencies), all from CCM, passed unopposed in the 2020 General Election in their constituencies. On councillorship nominations, a total of 870 CCM nominees (equivalent to 21.9 percent of all the 3956 wards) passed unopposed. Table 1 below summarizes REDET’s assessment of the nomination process.

Table 1: Assessment of the Nomination Process

Nature and character of nominations	Marks (%)	Grade	Frequency	Percent
Nominations had very few shortcomings which do not affect the overall outcome of the nomination process. The nomination process was clean, free and fair	80 - 100	A	88	44.0
The nomination process was generally free and fair, but still had few shortcomings which might have worked against fortunes of some candidates	60 - 79	B	85	42.5
The nomination process permitted free participation of stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters), but there were many instances of breach of nomination rules and regulations with impunity and there was favouritism that worked against fortunes of some candidates	50 - 59	C	22	10.0
Nominations were marred by numerous flaws related to non-compliance of some nomination rules, regulations and code of conduct, management problems and instances of intimidation and favouritism	40 - 49	D	5	2.5
Nominations were disrupted or mismanaged to the extent that stakeholders could not accept the nominees. It is like a student who failed an exam	1 - 39	E	1	0.5
The conduct of nominations was terrible. There was so much favouritism, foul-play and corruption to the extent that some candidates withdrew from the preferential voting process or lodged formal complaints. Nominations were an aborted process	0	F	1	0.5
Total			200	100.0

Analysis of Table 1 shows that the nomination process of 88 constituencies (44 percent) was “clean, free and fair”; in 85 constituencies (42.5 percent) it was “qualified free and

fair”; in 20 constituencies (10 percent) it was “free but not fair”; in 5 constituencies it was “unfree and unfair” it was considered “totally mismanaged in one constituency (0.5 percent) and similarly considered “aborted” in one constituency.

4.5 Assessment of Campaigns

REDET observation noted that generally election campaigns were held in a calm and peaceful environment with very few incidences of violence. CCM and CHADEMA held more frequent election campaigns than other to reach most of their campaign venues. Towards the end of the campaign period both announced use of helicopters to facilitate wide coverage at a short time. CCM presidential campaigns were divided into three teams one led by the presidential candidate, another by the running mate and the other by the Prime Minister. The main political parties impressed upon the electorates the importance of electing a complete set: the councillor, MP and president. In summary REDET noted that:

Campaign schedules

There was a mutually agreed prepared schedule for presidential campaign rallies that all political parties largely adhered to. However, some political parties were slotted in the schedule but could not be located on the ground in the said date, time and venue. Although there was a mutually agreed upon timetable at constituency level for parliamentary and councillorship rallies, on many occasions it was not adhered to. Were also cases of candidates extending campaigns beyond specified hours.

Campaign meetings

Only three political parties CCM, CHADEMA and ACT-Wazalendo launched election campaigns at the national level alongside their political party election manifestos.

Campaigns for CCM, CHADEMA and ACT-Wazalendo were anchored by the launch of election manifestos. CCM’s campaign was driven by the performance of the government under President John Pombe Magufuli which was characterized by construction of mega infrastructure projects, re-negotiation of mining contracts, accelerated provision of social services and the fight against corruption. CHADEMA’s election manifesto’s titled “Uhuru, Haki na Maendeleo” criticized CCM government performance for emphasizing development of things instead of welfare of people; championed a federal system of government, promotion of workers’ salaries, better relations with investors, adoption of new constitution and greater respect for human rights and freedoms. ACT-Wazalendo’s manifesto (Kazi na Bata) emphasized forming an inclusive government, better justice dispensation and a peopled-centred economy.

Security at election campaign meetings

Uniformed law enforcement officers were visible during presidential election campaigns. Overall REDET observed 5131 campaign meetings and only 1385 of them (27%) had uniformed police officers, however, the meetings went on peacefully.

Isolated incidents of campaign meetings going beyond the specified time that is 6.00 pm. REDET witnessed 466 meetings, out of 5131 observed (or 9%) ending after 18.00hrs. Despite this breach, the police were generally tolerant, thus averting possible standoffs/clashes. Out of 75 observed critical incidences, 6 (7%) involved police obstructing election campaigns.

Women participation

Generally, many women attended campaign meetings. Findings show that there were very few incidences of insults and intimidation against female candidates and their supporters.

Resources

Many political parties were vividly under-resourced with the exception of CCM. This may have been due to the advantage of incumbency on the part of the ruling party, levels of preparedness of contending parties, among other reasons.

Observance of code of conduct

There were incidents of widespread use of local vernacular language in some areas especially in presidential election campaigns contrary to the provisions of the election legislation and the 2020 Electoral Code of Conduct undermining national unity and cohesion.

Although it was clearly stipulated in the regulations, suspending of election campaigns of presidential and parliamentary elections in most cases by seven days was seen to be disadvantaging the candidates. Many of the charges for which they were accused were of political nature which could have been addressed politically by political parties using the same election campaigns platforms. Only one such suspension by Mr. James Mbatia was upheld by NEC Headquarters and therefore he was allowed to continue with election campaigns.

There was an increased trend of vandalism of election campaign materials, accounting to 23 incidences out of 75 critical incidences observed (equivalent to 30.7 percent).

REDET's assessment of election campaigns is shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Assessment of Election Campaigns

Nature and character of Campaigns	Marks (%)	Grade	Frequency	Percent
Election campaigns with very few shortcomings which do not affect the outcome of the election. They were clean, free and fair campaign	80 - 100	A	90	45.0
Election campaigns which were generally free and fair but still had few shortcomings which might have worked against fortunes of some stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters)	60 - 79	B	87	43.5
Election campaigns permitted free participation of stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters) but there were instances where bigger parties or, broke rules with impunity, and there was favouritism that worked against fortunes of some candidates and their political parties	50 - 59	C	17	8.5
Election campaigns were marred by numerous shortcomings related to non-compliance of some electoral laws, regulations and electoral code of conduct, management problems, incidences of intimidation and favouritism	40 - 49	D	6	3.0
Election campaigns were disrupted or mismanaged to the extent that it was not easy to understand what happened. It like a student who has failed an exam.	1 - 39	E	0	0.0
The conduct of election campaigns was marred by acute irregularities. There were so many incidents of violence, sabotage, corruption, and provocation to such an extent that some candidates withdrew from the elections or took other measures. Election campaigns were an aborted process.	0	F	0	0.0
Total			200	100.0

The statistical data in Table 2 shows that campaigns in 90 out of 170 constituencies (45 percent) the election campaigns were “clean, free and fair”; in 87 constituencies (43.5 percent) they were “qualified free and fair”; and in 17 constituencies (8.5 percent) they “free but not fair”.

4.6 Election Day: Voting, Vote Counting and Declaration of Results

Elections were conducted on Wednesday 28th October 2020. NEC adequately prepared for the election day and almost all the required materials were present at the time of opening of the polling centres at 7.00 am except one where polling was postponed. The number of polling stations was increased and each one of them had a maximum of 450 voters and this enabled smooth voting as there were no long queues. Most polling stations were reported to be accessible by people with disabilities. By the time of close of polling at 4.00 pm there were very few people waiting to vote and thus unlike in the past voting time was not extended. Vote counting was carried out rapidly and results announced without undue delays. The presidential election results were announced on the eve of 30th October 2020. The incumbent president Dr. John Pombe Magufuli of CCM scored 12,516,252 votes; Mr. Tundu Antipas Lissu of CHADEMA scored 1,933,271 votes, Mr. Bernard Camilius Membe of ACT-Wazalendo scored 81,129 votes, Mr. Leopold Mahona of NRA scored 80,787 votes and Prof. Ibrahim Lipumba of CUF scored 72,885 votes. In all almost 14 million electorates voted. This means almost the same number of people did not vote. For parliamentary elections CCM won 258 seats, ACT-Wazalendo 4 seats, CUF 1 seat and CHADEMA 1 seat.

Ninety five percent of our observers reported the presence of political party agents during vote counting. Only five percent of our observers reported that political party agents did not witness vote counting. Eighty percent of our observers reported that election results were posted at polling stations while 20 percent of our observers reported that results were not posted.

On the polling day, REDET deployed a total of 2453 STOs observers to observe the election day activities including voting, vote counting and declaration of results. Additionally, all 200 LTOs were also deployed in specific polling stations to perform a similar task.

The results of the REDET assessment of the polling day are shown in Table 3 below:

Table 3: Assessment of the Polling Day

Nature and Character of Voting and Vote Counting	Marks (%)	Grade	Frequency	Percent
The voting process had very few shortcomings which do not affect the overall results of the elections. The voting process was clean, free and fair	80 - 100	A	1674	77.3
Voting was generally free and fair but still had some shortcomings which might have worked against fortunes of some stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters)	60 - 79	B	383	17.7
The voting process permitted free participation of stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters) but there were many instances where bigger parties or, especially, the ruling party broke rules with impunity, and there was favouritism that worked against fortunes of some candidates and their political parties	50 - 59	C	64	3.0
Voting was marred by numerous flaws related to non-compliance of some electoral laws, regulations and code of conduct, management problems and instances of intimidation of favouritism	40 - 49	D	21	1.0
Voting was disrupted or mismanaged to the extent that it is not possible to understand what happened. It is like a student who has failed an exam	1 - 39	E	19	0.9
The conduct of voting was very terrible. There were so many incidences of violence, corruption and provocation to such an extent that some candidates withdrew from the election or took other measures. The polling day was an aborted process	0	F	4	0.1
Total			2165	100.0

As shown in Table 3, more than two thirds of STOs and LTOs rated the conduct of the election as majority of STOs and LTOs as a "clean, free and fair"; 383 observers (or 17 percent rate it is "qualified free and fair" 64 observers (or 3.0 percent) found it to be "free but not fair"; 21 observers (or one percent) awarded it "unfree and unfair" certificate. Only in 4 polling stations the process was assigned the lowest mark, as a result of incidences of violence.

4.7 Overall Assessment of the 2020 General Elections

Having observed the pre-election, election day and post-election processes, REDET wishes to provide an informed, candid and objective verdict on the overall Tanzania 2020 general election. Table 4 below captures LTOs' overall assessment of the general elections.

Table 4: Overall Assessment of the Election Processes

Overall Assessment of 2020 Election	Marks & grades	Frequency	Percentage
The elections had very few irregularities which did not at all affect the overall results of the elections. Overall, the elections were clean, free and fair.	A (80-100%)	89	44.5
The elections were generally free and fair but still had a few irregularities which in their totality did not affect in any meaningful way the final outcomes of the election and did not work against the fortunes of stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters).	B (60-79%)	81	40.5
The elections permitted free participation of stakeholders (political parties, candidates and voters) but there were many instances where bigger parties broke rules with impunity, and there was favouritism that worked against fortunes of some candidates and their political parties.	C (50-59%)	20	10.0
The elections were marred by numerous flaws related to non-compliance of some electoral laws, regulations and code of conduct, management problems and instances of intimidation and favouritism.	D (40-49%)	7	3.5
The elections were disrupted or mismanaged to the extent that it is not possible to understand what happened. It is like a student who has failed an exam.	E (1-39%)	3	1.5
The elections were marred by severe irregularities. There were so many incidences of violence, corruption and provocation to such an extent that some candidates decided to withdraw from the election or took other measures. The entire election was an aborted process.	F (0%)	0	0
Total		200	100

As shown in Table 4, 85 percent of the LTOs were of the view that elections were clean, free and fair with few shortcomings.

5. CONCLUSION

The 2020 General Elections were very well managed by NEC and ZEC to make them credible. The electorate was afforded an opportunity to freely participate in the various election processes from the updating of the PNVR to casting the vote on the election day, vote counting and announcement of results. REDET commends the EMBs, political parties and their candidates and all electoral stakeholders and the Tanzanian public for this very significant achievement. Based on this observation, REDET awards the Tanzania 2020 Elections a “**Qualified Free and Fair**” certificate.