



# National Electoral Commission (NEC)

OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown



## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 7 March 2018** – The National Electoral Commission (NEC) wishes to inform the public that every polling station in the country opened, this morning, and polling is underway. However, there were production errors in the printing of some ballot papers as indicated below.

Of the 17,745 sealed boxes of ballot papers opened, 37 were problematic. This is a small proportion, representing no more than 2% of all boxes. There is thus no cause for alarm

### **Bonthe Municipality Mayoral Election**

There are no ballot papers for the office of Mayor of Bonthe Municipality. Voters in the seven affected polling centres will not receive these ballot papers today. However, these voters are still voting for President, Member of Parliament and Councillor. The election for District Chairperson in Bonthe is not affected.

The Bonthe mayoral election will be held at a later date, when an approximate 5,500 voters will be able to participate.

### **Affected polling centres include:**

- SLC Primary School, York Island (2 polling stations)
- Community Barray, Off Victoria Road Bonthe City (1 polling station)
- Open Space, Heddle Road (2 polling stations)
- Minnie Mull Primary School, Claffin Lane, Bonthe Town (1 polling station)
- I.C.S Primary School, Bonthe Town, Baker Street (3 polling stations)
- D.E.C Primary School, Domboko, Bonthe Town (3 polling stations)
- St. Joseph Primary School, Corn Street, Bonthe Town (3 polling stations)

### **Kenema District Councillor Election (Ward 55)**

There are no councillor ballot papers for Ward 55 in the polling station boxes. There are Ward 55 councillor ballot papers in the polling centre contingency supply, but the quantity is not sufficient for the whole ward.

The election for councillor for Ward 55 in Kenema District is therefore, cancelled and will be held at a later date.

### **Affected polling centres include:**

- Gombu Market (4 polling stations)
- Open space, 9 Franklyn Kanneh St (3 polling stations)

- Living Stone Primary School, Lamin Kosia St (4 polling stations)
- KDC Primary School, Gombu Town (3 polling stations)
- New Apostolic Church, RTI Camp, W.F.P Building (4 polling stations)

***This list refers to Ward 55 only. Ward 56 polling centres in these locations are not affected.***

**Pujehan District Councilor Election**

Due to production error, there are no councillor ballot papers for Ward 353 in the polling station boxes.

The election for councillor for Ward 353 in Pujehan District is also therefore cancelled and will be held at a later date.

Affected polling centres include:

- Palava Hut, Baoma (2 polling stations)
- Palava Hut, Funyehun (1 polling station)
- Palava Hut, Kakayama (1 polling station)
- Palava Hut, Saarma Perri (1 polling station)
- Palava Hut, Mambo (1 polling station)
- Ansarul Islamic Primary School, Gendema (1 polling station)

**As a result of the invoking of the Military Aid to Civil Power (MAC-P), military personnel are now being allowed to vote in the last polling station in polling centres around areas where they have been deployed.**

Signed:

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**Mohamed N'fab Alié Conteh**  
**Chief Electoral Commissioner and Chairman**  
**National Returning Officer**

