



EFF NOTES THE POSTPONEMENT OF VOTER REGISTRATION

Thursday, 8 July 2021

The EFF notes the postponement of voter registration weekend to the 31th of July by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). The IEC is unashamedly pursuing its election programs, even though the review chaired by the former Deputy Chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke, has not yet completed its work into the feasibility, free and fairness of the Local Government Elections (LGEs), set to take place on the 27th of October 2021.

The IEC has also prematurely issued a new election schedule that details a fully-fledged plan and intent to conduct election activities.

We not only view this unscientific enthusiasm by the commission as a way to impress the Cyril Ramaphosa administration, which is adamant on sitting elections this year even though it will result in tragic loss of life. We equally view it as a deliberate attempt to undermine the integrity and work of the review chaired by the former Deputy Chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke.

It is such dishonestly pre-emptive actions which cast a shadow of doubt in the independence of not only the IEC itself, but also the outcomes of the review it has set up.

We want to reiterate again that, voter registration, just like the day of voting, is not a single day event. Political organizations have to embark on a series of engagements, campaigns and door to door programs, to conscientize and mobilize communities across the country towards registration, and thereafter, voting and under lockdown regulations this has been impossible.

If the IEC, wants to stubbornly persist with Local Government Elections, they must know that EFF will not remain locked, it will take them on, street by street, door to door under lockdown or no lockdown.

The EFF calls on the IEC, which is a mere extension of the ruling party, to desist and withdraw from all election activities until the finalization of the Moseneke inquiry into the free and fairness of the elections. Why waste state resources in a review panel, when you are stubbornly pursuing elections regardless?

EFF reiterates the call for the local government elections to be postponed to a later date or be synchronized with the national elections in 2024.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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