

**Summary Report**  
**Verification on Preliminary Election Result**  
**Of Commune Council Election for the 4<sup>th</sup> Mandate**

The member associations and civil society organizations of the Situation Room for the 2017 Election have verified electoral result notes (form 1102) posted on the NEC's website by comparison with the electoral result notes (1102) collected by the Situation Room from 481 stations sampled randomly, with with a level of confidence of 95% and level of margin error of 4.3% The following are our significant findings:

1. The NEC has announced a permanent rate of voter turnout twice. First, on 04th June 2017, it is about 85.74% (equal to around 6,7 million voters) and second, on 05 June 2017, it is 89,52% (equal to around 7 millions voter) of registered voters. Situation Room's verification has confirmed that the rate of voter turnout is 89.9% of registered voters.
2. Situation Room observation found that ballots for 1.8% of the voters were not counted as they were considered invalid. The process of invalidating ballot papers possibly included irregularities as invalid ballot papers were found high in number and many did not meet conditions of invalidation. For instance, They occurred at station 0016 in Sam Khouy commune Steung Treng Province, Leap commune Banhtey Meanchey province and Roessey Srok commune Siem Reap province. These cases are found in polling/counting station from which preliminary electoral result have been rejected and pertain to 28 complaints by political parties for recounting out of 47 stations according to NEC as of 06 June 2017.
3. Verification on Electoral Result Note (1102):
  - 3.1. The Situation Room conducted a comparison based verification of vote results notes (form 1102) disseminated by the NEC, utilizing copies/records of the electoral result notes (form 1102) collected by Situation Room. The electoral result notes collected by the Situation Room are 88.1% the same as the electoral result notes posted on the NEC's website(it is 11.9% which is not the same). For verification of number of voter for political party<sup>1</sup>, 93.1% of Situation Room sample are as the same as electoral result note posted by NEC while 6.9% of them were found not the same. These cases include not recording the number of valid or invalid vote and unintentionally recording wrong number of vote for political party<sup>2</sup>. For verification of ballot paper number for a station<sup>3</sup>, 93.6% of Situation Room sample are as the same as NEC's figures. These result from performance errors by elctoral officials whihc made many copies of forms by hand or did not understand how to fill forms properly<sup>4</sup>. For verification of stakeholder's authorization on electoral result note (form 1102), 1.7% of the Situation Room sample is not as the same as NEC's note. They include different number of political party agents and observers' signatures<sup>5</sup>.
  - 3.2. For verification of irregularities on electoral result note (form 1102) posted on NEC's website and on electoral result note (form 1102) collected by the Situation Room, 30 electoral result notes were found to have irregularities. Recorded copies were taken for comparison-based verification with 30 electoral result notes from the same stations posted on the NEC website, and we have found

<sup>1</sup> Fourth point on electoral result note (1102)

<sup>2</sup> Only one case was found to FUNCINPEC party at station 0885 in Kampongcham

<sup>3</sup> Second point on electoral result note (1102)

<sup>4</sup> These cases were found in station 0370, 1271 at Kampong Cham, and others.

<sup>5</sup> These cases were found in station 0653 Kampong Chhnang province and station 0860 Takeo province.

that only one 1102 form looks the same as the NEC's. The incongruity between the two records include an electoral result note without vote for particular party at polling station 0155 in Ratanakiri province, recording the candidate's name instead of the political party name at polling station 0495 in Kampong Cham province, not writing down the political party name at station 0063 in Kampong Chhnang province, wrong number of valid and invalid vote resulting to fail consolidation, and adding more clarification or correction with pen correction liquid.

4. Verification of preliminary electoral result for a particular commune (form 1105):  
Political party's preliminary electoral result for a commune which is from consolidating vote in electoral result note (1102) collected by the Situation Room of relevant polling station were verified with NEC's preliminary electoral result for a commune note (1105). For instance verification of preliminary electoral results for 30 communes, only one case of different number of vote for political party was found at station 0304 in Samroungthom commune, Kien Svay district, Kandal province. Different Preliminary electoral results for commune at were found for two commune according to verification of consolidation of form 1102 collected by the Situation Room with form 1105 posted on NEC's website. Though there are a few faults in preliminary results for communes, the NEC's corrected figures are plausible.
5. Other issues:
  - 5.1. in accordance with provision 10.4.3.1 of regulation and procedure, electoral result note (1102) shall be posted in front of not only polling station but also commune election commission office. For instance It is not found posted at some polling stations, 0990 0995 0989 in Chiro I commune Tboung Khmom province, Prekpreahsdach commune Bathambong province, and 0776 in Banteaychhmar commune Banteaymeanchey province, particularly at Kampongthom, Kampongchhnang and Ratanakiri, monitors have found that almost commune election commissions (CEC) did not post electoral result note (1102) with ECE's excuse of no NEC's guideline .
  - 5.2. The NEC declaration of the preliminary electoral result occurred much later than planned and expected. Preliminary electoral result declaration on television of Kampuchea (TVK) channel of 619 communes has been reported to be vague and difficult to understand, and broadcast was discontinued after June 05th, 2017.
  - 5.3. The Situation Room recognizes the finding of 28 complaints calling for a recount because of the small margin of victory and with invalid ballot papers exceeding that margin. Recounts have altered the electoral result in 4 communes so far.

In conclusion the number of vote for political party written on the electoral result note (1102) collected by the Situation Room is 93.1% the same as number written provided on the electoral result note (1102) posted on NEC's website. The figures for number of paper ballots recorded in the results collected by the situation room are 93.6% the same as NEC's. The differences and irregularities found from verification of form 1102 will not significantly affect preliminary electoral results.

#### **Contact persons for more information •**

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