

# PROTOCOLS FOR CONDUCTING ELECTORAL ACTIVITIES IN THE COVID-19 CONTEXT

*"Quest for Responsive Credible Elections in a Global Pandemic"*



**October, 2020**

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## FOREWORD

The COVID-19 pandemic situation has resulted to severe disruptions on multiple layers of our society. For the Commission, it has had an impact on dispensation of our mandate and in particular the conduct of impending by-elections occasioned by occurrence of vacancies in various electoral units.

The framework governing electoral processes demands of the Commission to put in place systems that ensure delivery of credible electoral results. This is often achieved through technical and administrative processes that require broad engagement and participation with the public.

The COVID-19 presents a degree of disruption to this well-defined legal architecture and demands upon the Commission to assess practicalities of conducting elections under a ‘new normal’ as governed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) Guidelines on managing the pandemic. The Commission notes in this context the need for careful navigation of the constitutional and legal parameters that govern the conduct and management of elections and have in this respect engaged constantly with MOH on what is required and what must be considered.

Indeed, our electoral activities right from the nomination and campaign processes; training of election officials and briefing of election participants up to the polling place including the production and distribution of ballot papers; voting booths; seals and other election materials needed for the election process have been affected by the measures for containing spread of the virus.

Acknowledging the risks inherent in electoral activities and striking a balance between legitimacy of the processes and the measures to be adopted amidst the pandemic outbreak, the Commission has put in place measures that reasonably minimize exposure to large groups including acquisition of the necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PEE) to address the health concerns.

Health and safety routines have been equally incorporated into election related procedures, to protect election staff and voters with tailored information packages to voters to stay informed and educate them on what is expected.

The Commission assures the electorate of its commitment to conducting free, fair, credible and transparent elections despite the restrictive measures put in place.

W.W. Chebukati  
**Chairperson**

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BVRs	Biometric Voter Registration System
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CHO	County Health Officials
CHW	Community Health Worker
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
CVR	Continuous Voter Registration
DDC	Direct Data Capture
DPO	Deputy Presiding Officer
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
IEBC	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
IEC	Information Education and Communication
KIEMS	Kenya Integrated Elections Management System
MoH	Ministry of Health
PO	Presiding Officer
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSD	Polling Station Diary
RO	Registration Officer

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## PART I – PRELIMINARY

### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The COVID-19 pandemic, which was first reported in Wuhan, China, has already spread to over 213 Countries and territories around the world. A number of infected cases have been confirmed locally and globally. Most of those infected have recovered while few succumbed to death.
- 1.2 In Kenya several counties have reported confirmed cases of the virus. The government adopted various measures to curb the spread of the virus, including maintaining social distancing, wearing face masks at all times, hand sanitization, ban on mass gathering, stay-at-home orders and night curfews.
- 1.3 The COVID-19 Pandemic and measures to manage the same have serious human, economic and social consequences especially with regard to elections. The measures adopted by the government have impact on people's rights to enjoy their fundamental human rights, including the right to vote and delivery of timely and credible elections.
- 1.4 Elections are critical building blocks for societies' political stability and a way of exercising democracy with significant resources required in terms of time, finances and human labour. The COVID-19 pandemic poses additional challenges to electoral processes and raises concerns for the holding of free, fair, transparent and peaceful elections while ensuring the safety of citizens. Only few countries have managed to conduct elections during this period of the COVID-19 pandemic. In Africa, countries that held election in this period include Burundi, Benin and Ivory Coast. Countries that postponed their elections include Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Libya, South Africa, Tunisia and Zimbabwe among others. In Kenya the Electoral Management body postponed by-elections in 6 electoral areas.
- 1.5 The global pandemic has fundamentally placed additional obligations on the Commission as it carries out its mandate by requiring it to ensure COVID-19

mitigation measures are in place to protect citizens, its employees and stakeholders. Consequently, the Commission has so far undertaken key steps to address the threat of COVID-19 through, among others, the establishment of COVID-19 crisis management committee and postponement of several by-elections.

- 1.6** The conduct of elections has the potential of engendering transmission of the deadly Corona virus to a large number of people in the electoral cycle activities including: the registration of voters, registration of candidates for elections, campaigns, partner and stakeholder engagement, voter education, electoral training, voting and management of results. Thus, successful preparations and management of elections requires the Commission and other stakeholders to put in place strategies to ensure system-wide compliance to COVID-19 prevention and management.
- 1.7** Whereas, the Commission’s mandate is to conduct and supervise elections and referenda, the mandate of managing the pandemic is with the MoH and the attendant structures put in place by both the National and County governments. It is apparent at the moment that there is a missing link between ‘public health safety concerns’ and election management in the face of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, successful management of elections requires the Commission to address itself to fixing the missing link between public health safety concerns and election management.
- 1.8** Notwithstanding milestones the IEBC has made in aligning its operations to the government of Kenya directives and Ministry of Health guidelines and measures on containment of COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to domesticate and operationalize the same within the context of delivering an electoral event.

## PART II – THE PROTOCOLS

### 2.0 Protocols for conducting Electoral activities amidst COVID-19 Pandemic

The proposed protocols contained hereunder are not conclusive. Nonetheless they guide the development of more robust and specific guidelines as the pandemic unfolds. Where COVID-19 specific containment measures are not stated, the general Ministry of Health guidelines and protocols on containment of COVID-19 shall apply. The guidelines have been categorized as general and specific guidelines.

### 2.1 Objectives

- i. The overall objective is to provide a framework for managing the COVID-19 pandemic while undertaking the key electoral cycle activities relating to the conduct of elections with an immediate focus on the impending by-elections.
- ii. Integrate the Ministry of Health guidelines in the management of COVID-19 in the conduct of the elections;
- iii. Provide a clear framework to engage and partner with stakeholders at the National, County and local levels in the conduct of elections; that will contribute to building a culture of cooperation between the public, the COVID-19 committees, the IEBC, Political Parties and candidates in promoting and ensuring public health and safety during campaigns and elections through showing of best practices in negotiated public order management;
- iv. Promote joint COVID-19 risk assessment and response during the critical times of the campaigns, the elections day and the period immediately after the release of the results; and
- v. Facilitate public participation and confidence in the election processes through robust implementation of COVID-19 prevention and management measures, monitoring and reporting.



## 2.2 Expected Deliverables

- i. Developed election guidelines that comply with COVID-19 prevention and management measures.
- ii. Revised election Information, Education and Communication materials and training manuals that are in tandem with new guidelines, procedures or Commission policies on the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- iii. Revised composition, engagement structures and guidelines for COVID-19 stakeholder engagement at the National, County and Constituency level.

## 2.3 Expected Outcomes

- i. Compliant and responsive By-elections to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ii. Improved coordination between IEBC, COVID-19 Committees and Other Stakeholders at the National, County and Constituency levels.
- iii. Reduced risk when conducting the elections.
- iv. Sustained participation in the election thereby uphold the sanctity of the right to vote and credibility of the election during the COVID-19 period.

## 2.4 General Guidelines

The measures will apply to all the Commission electoral activities including Elections and Referendum. The proposed general guidelines include:



### 2.4.1 Use of Face Masks

All staff, stakeholders and general public shall wear facemasks while participating in electoral activities.



#### 2.4.2 Use of Alcohol Based Sanitizers

Alcohol based sanitizers placed in strategic locations shall be used by everyone participating in an electoral process.



#### 2.4.3 Avoiding Gatherings/Crowds

The Commission in collaboration with other authorities shall enforce the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health on all social and political gatherings including meetings and crowds.



#### 2.4.4 Implementation of Social and Physical Distance

A one and a half (1.5) meters physical distance shall be implemented in all places including polling/registration centres, offices, and stakeholder engagement meetings



#### 2.4.5 Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation

Frequent cleaning of all surfaces and objects shall be done as well as ensuring that indoor spaces/venues have adequate ventilation to increase air circulation.



#### **2.4.6 Preventing physical contact and minimizing sharing of general items**

Electorates are encouraged to bring and use their own items such as pens or writing materials where applicable to reduce chances of sharing



#### **2.4.7 Temperature checks**

Temperature checks shall be carried out with non-contact thermo guns to ensure that those with high temperature (more than 37.5 degrees Celsius) are advised to seek medical attention.



#### **2.4.8 Promoting healthy hygiene practices**

The Commission shall provide soap and water at all entry and exit points to promote high standards of hygiene.

#### **2.4.9 Protecting the vulnerable populations**

Persons with proven pre-existing medical conditions as well as elderly people, the disabled, lactating mothers, pregnant mothers and the sick will be given priority.

## 2.5 Specific Guidelines

These guidelines will apply to specific Commission electoral activities. The measures contained hereunder are not conclusive but guides the development of more robust and specific guidelines as the pandemic unfolds. Where COVID-19 specific containment measures are not expressly stated in this document, the general Ministry of Health guidelines on COVID-19 measures on washing hands, wearing of face masks and maintaining social and physical distancing shall apply.

The measures will be used for the conduct of Voter Registration and Elections.

### 2.5.1 Guidelines for Conducting Voter Registration

The registration of voters is a fundamental aspect of every electoral cycle. Article 82(c) mandates the Commission to carry out continuous registration of citizens as voters. Section 5(1) of Election Act 2011, requires the Commission to carry out registration of voters and revision of the Register of Voters at all times except:

- a) in case of General elections or an election,
- b) in case of by election between the date of the declaration of the vacancy of the seat concerned and the date of such by-election; or
- c) Where an election petition is filed in respect of an electoral area, between the date of the filing of the petition and the date of the by-election. Where a court determines that a by-election is to be held, a voter shall not be allowed to transfer his or her vote to the affected electoral area.

The COVID-19 pandemic has extensive impact on the Voter Registration process by disrupting the Continuous Registration of voters (CVR). The Current Biometric Voter Registration system (BVRs) involves Direct Data Capture (DDC) where applicants' biographic details and biometrics are captured at the Registration Centre. This process poses immediate health related challenges to the Voter and Registration Official. In order to safeguard the Voter and Registration Officials, the Commission will undertake the following measures and procedures:

- i. **Disinfection:** The Commission offices, meeting venues and Registration centers will be thoroughly cleaned after use and disinfected prior to opening. All surfaces, tools, linens, workstations and restrooms shall be disinfected. Additionally, all unnecessary items shall be removed from the meeting/nomination venue. The Registration Officer (RO) shall ensure that regularly touched surfaces are consistently wiped and disinfected, and that hand sanitizers are readily available to the electorates and staff.
- ii. **Registration centre lay-out:** The Registration Centre layout will be redesigned to comply with the protocols established by health authorities. Physical distancing shall be ensured through use of dispersion measures (floor Marking) at entrance and exit points to limit congestions. The rooms to be used will be spacious enough to accommodate participants and to comply with 1.5 metres social distance. Hand gloves shall be used when the work involves touching of materials such as papers.
- iii. **Use of personal protective equipment and best practices:** The RO and his team shall wear masks at all times. Where necessary, the RO and his team shall use face shields, gloves, disposable or re-washable caps, masks and neck strips while attending to voters. The Registration kits and equipment shall be disinfected regularly. Hand gloves will be used when handling potentially dangerous materials.
- iv. **Limiting people in Office:** The number of visitors per visit will be limited to bear minimum (candidate and utmost two agents). The other visitors/client will wait outside until the time when the Registration Officer is ready to serve them. E-mail and other modes of communication will be highly encouraged. The room to be used will be spacious enough to accommodate participants and comply to with 1.5 metres social distance.
- v. **Maintain social distancing:** Spacing between persons in the office shall be at least 1.5 metres at all times. The size of classes during the training will be reviewed downwards to a maximum of 20 participants. Equally open space will be used where it is more suitable.

- vi. **Temperature checks:** Temperature checks of all employees and those visiting the Commission offices will be undertaken using non-contact thermal guns at strategic places.

#### ***2.5.1.1 Setting up the Registration Centre***

During the setting up of the Registration Centre, the Registration Officer shall ensure the following:

- Physical and social distancing rule is adhered to.
- Registration centre is cleaned and disinfected.
- Sufficient water and detergent at the entrance to the registration centre is provided with clear instructions on mandatory washing of hands before entry.
- Use of masks is publicized.
- Direction signs and posters are posted.
- All the necessary registration materials are in place including Personal Protective Equipment.
- Queues are clearly demarcated for easy flow of people into the registration centre.
- The 1.5 meters distance is marked showing where the applicants will line up.
- The entry and exit routes are demarcated clearly using sisal twines.
- Registration desk is prepared the in such a way that the applicant's seat is at least 1.5 meters from the registration officer's desk.
- Put on the face mask, face shields, gloves, disposable or re-washable caps

#### ***2.5.1.2 Registration Procedure***

- Receive and welcome the applicants with their face mask on;
- Check applicant's temperature using non-contact thermal guns. If the temperature is above 37.5 degrees Celsius advise the applicant to seek medical attention;
- Request the applicant to hold out and display the original national

Identification card or a valid Kenyan passport;

- Probe whether the applicant has applied for registration elsewhere;
- Issue the applicant with an application form (Form A or J) for completion;
- Assist the applicant to complete the form in case he/she is unable to read and write or there is any other justifiable reasons;
- Sanitize the finger print scanner using suitable sanitizer for the scanner as prescribed by the manufacturer;
- Capture the applicant's biometric features (Palm prints, face) and biographic/alphanumeric details into the BVR system;
- Confirm that all fields have been properly populated with applicant's information;
- Invite the applicant to verify the information captured;
- Edit and correct any errors identified by the applicant;
- Freeze the photo after the applicant has confirmed that the photo is his/hers.
- Click the 'completion icon' to complete the enrolment process;
- Retrieve duly filled Form A/J from the applicant;
- Fill the Registration Center Reference book;
- Fill the acknowledgement slip and laminate it;
- Issue a laminated voter registration acknowledgment slip to the applicant;
- Inform the applicant where he/she will vote;
- Inform the applicant on when Inspection of the voters register will be done (i.e. after the close of registration);
- Sanitize the scanner; and
- Invite the next applicant.

## 2.5.2 Guidelines for Conducting Election

### 2.5.2.1 *Pre-Election Period*

The period involves issuance of election notice, budget preparation and disbursement, receiving and processing of Independent candidate symbols, party primaries, pre-nomination meeting with stakeholders, registration of candidates, campaign period, recruitment and training of election officials, procurement of goods and services, testing of equipment. The following measures will enhance prevention of the exposure to COVID-19: -

- i. **Temperature checks:** use of a non-contact thermo gun to check the temperature of employees and those visiting the Commission offices.
- ii. **Limiting number of people in Office:** The number of visitors will limited to bear minimum (a candidate and utmost two agents per visit). The other visitors will wait outside until the time when the RO is ready to serve them. E-mail and other modes of communication will be encouraged.
- iii. **Maintaining social distancing:** Spacing between persons in the office shall be at least 1.5 meters at all times. The size of classes during the training shall be reviewed downwards to ensure adherence to social distancing.
- iv. **Use of personal protective equipment and best practices:** The RO and his team will be required to wear masks at all times. In addition, the RO and team shall also make use of face shields, gloves, disposable or re-washable caps, masks and neck strips while attending to stakeholder. The tools and equipment used during simulation exercises shall be disinfected or disposed of. Regularly cleaning of the hands with soap and water shall be done during stakeholder engagement, training and distribution of materials.
- vii. **Disinfection:** The Commission offices, meeting venues, nomination and training centers shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to reopening. All surfaces, tools, linens, workstations and rest rooms shall be disinfected. Additionally, all unnecessary items shall be removed from the meeting/nomination venue. The RO shall ensure that regularly touched



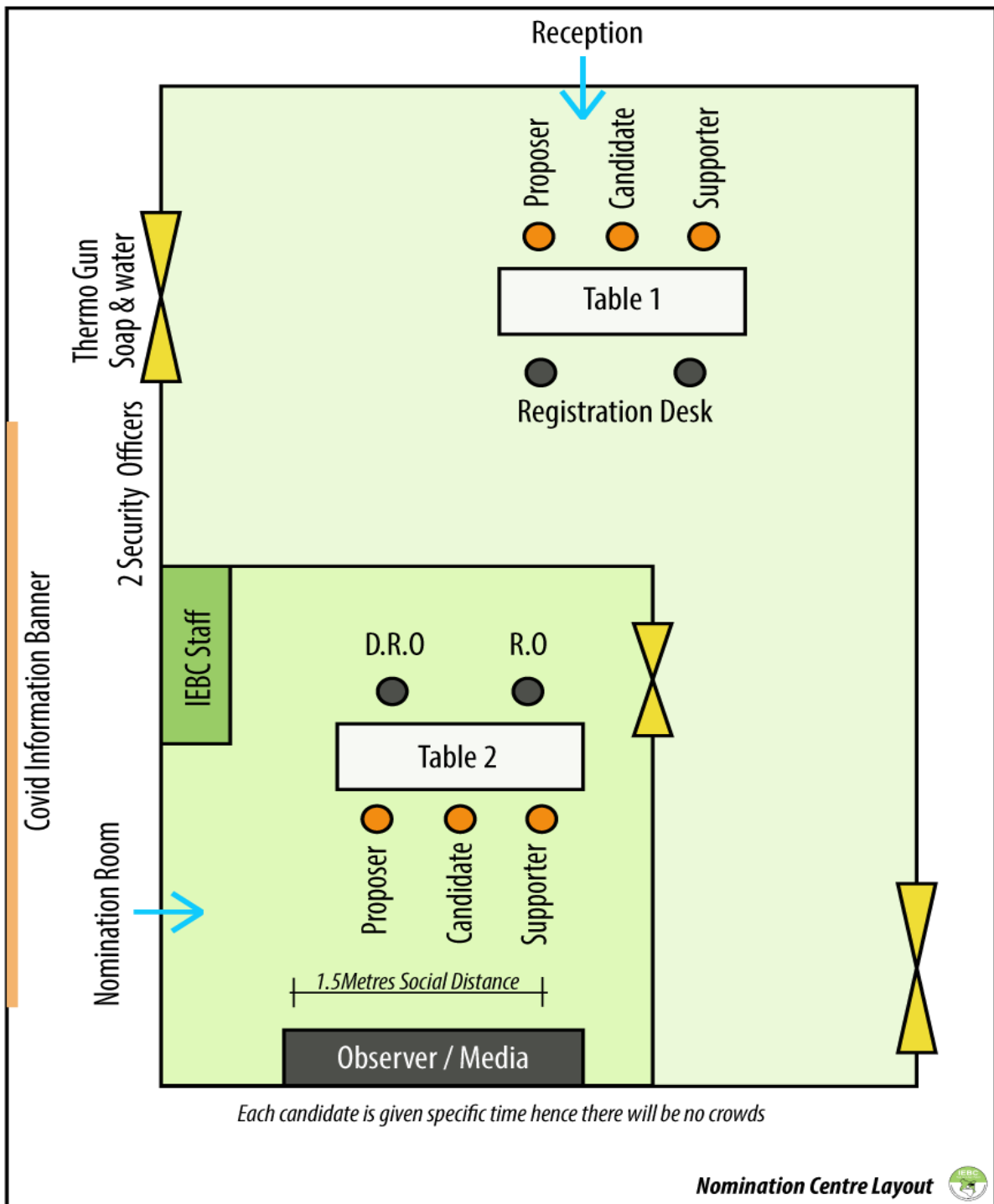
surfaces are consistently wiped and disinfected, and that hand sanitizers are readily available to the electorates and staff.

- v. **Administration:** Sick employees will be expected to stay at home. The Training of temporary staff shall include COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control measures, and reinforcement on proper sanitation, hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette, use of PPE, and other recommended protective behaviors.
- vi. **Logistical arrangement** – The RO shall ensure that the hired vehicles are spacious enough to accommodate officials and the materials.
- vii. **Voter Education** – The Commission shall ensure that the electorate are reached through mainstream media and social media throughout the electoral cycle. Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials will be developed to include the importance of abiding with the MoH protocols at all times. The IEC will also be pasted in the appropriate places before any activity outside the training venues, meetings venues and polling stations. For areas where gatherings are inevitable then the guidelines for crowd's management will be followed.
- viii. **Campaigns-** Campaigns will have to be conducted through social and main stream media. For areas where gatherings are inevitable then the guidelines for crowds' management will be followed. The guidelines will be included in the code of conduct and will be signed by all parties before start of campaigns.

#### ***2.5.2.2 Election period***

This is the election day when our officials are much involved at the polling station with voters and those providing transport services; and in counting halls and at the tallying centers where they will be involved with chief agents and their candidates. The following measures will enhance prevention of the exposure to COVID-19:

Figure 1: Nomination Centre Layout



#### **2.5.2.2.1 Pre-Poll Activities**

The Returning Officer shall ensure the following during the pre-poll period: -

- i. Disinfection of all polling stations;
- ii. Sanitizers, clean water and soap are available in all polling stations;
- iii. Polling stations have Personal Protective Equipment(PPE) i.e. face masks, hand gloves for election officials, non-contact thermos gun;
- iv. Make arrangement with County Health Officials (CHO) on standby medical personnel, i.e. Community Health Worker (CHW), for each Polling Station;
- v. Make arrangement with County Government on standby ambulances – at least one ambulance per Ward; and
- vi. Ensure that a polling station is manned by a queuing clerk who is also a CHW.
- vii. In situations where there are multiple polling stations in a registration center, the RO shall ensure that there is queuing clerk for each polling station.

#### **2.5.2.2.2 Collection of Election Materials from the Tallying Centre**

On the eve of polling, the Presiding Officer (PO) shall do the following:

- i. Collect elections materials including the personal protective equipment from the RO.
- ii. Leave the tallying center for the polling station in the company of the DPO and two security officers.

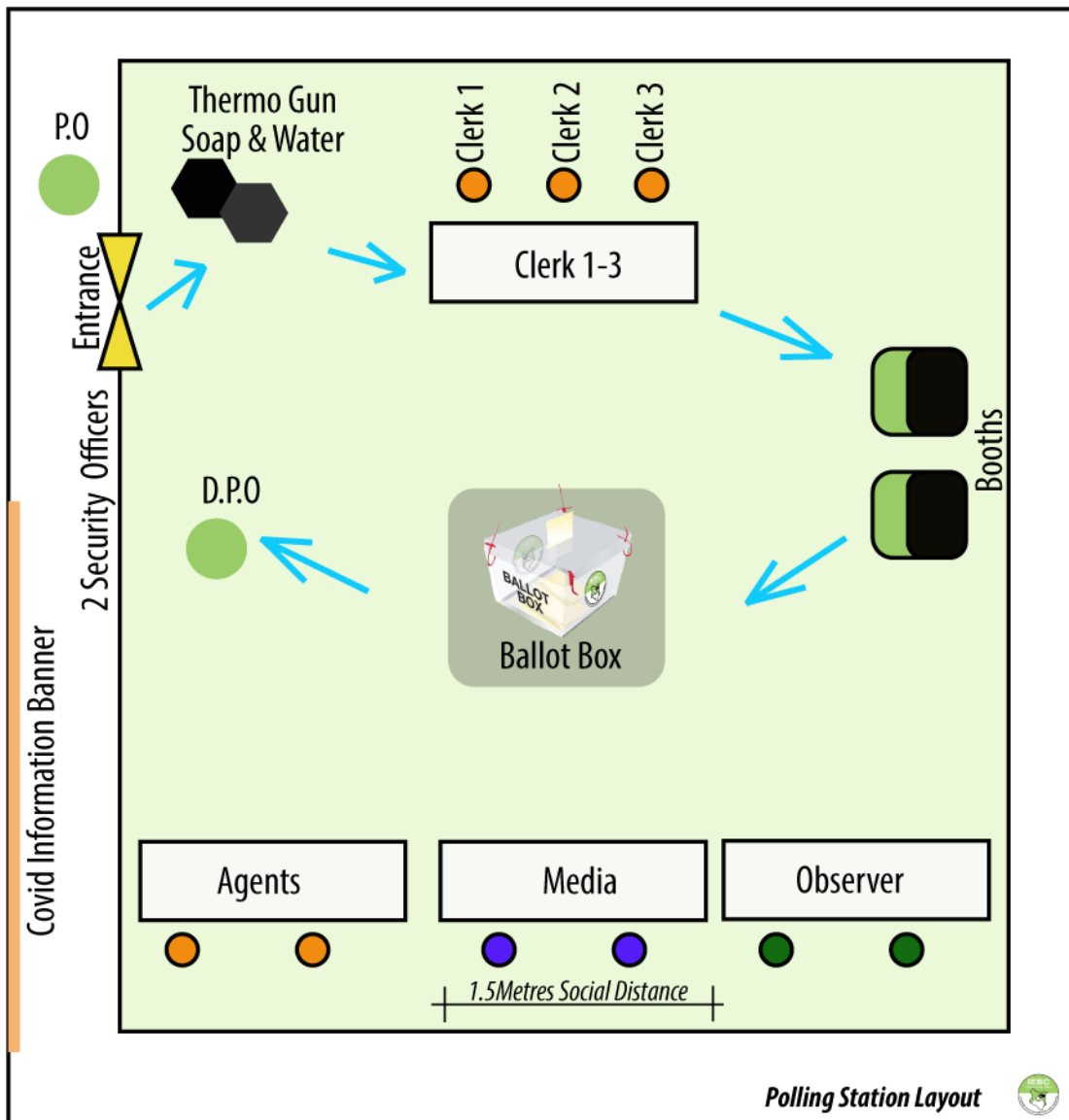
#### **2.5.2.2.3 Arrival at the Polling Station**

On arrival at the polling station, the PO shall:

- i. Confirms availability of election materials including Personal Protective equipment;
- ii. Checks attendance of poll officials, their health condition and brief them;
- iii. Check availability of water and the soap at a strategic point near the main entrance into the compound;
- iv. Demarcate the polling station while ensuring adherence to physical distance of 1.5 meters and that the polling station has been disinfected
- v. Label and post relevant posters; and

- vi. Sets up the polling station

**Figure 2: Polling Station Layout**



#### 2.5.2.2.4 Activities before Opening of the Polling Station

Between 4.00 am and 5.59 am on the polling day, the PO shall:

- i. Ensure that hand sanitizers have been placed near the entrance;
- ii. Confirm availability, health condition and sobriety of poll officials and stakeholders;
- iii. Complete the attendance list of polling officials, polling agents, and observers on the PSD (polling and counting agents must have a signed a copy of Oath/Affirmation);

- iv. Ensure the polling officials, agents, observers and security personnel have put on face masks. In addition the PO shall ensure Polling officials have put on face shields, hand gloves and disposable or re-washable caps;
- v. Request the polling officials, agents, security and observers to sanitize their hands;
- vi. Open the KIEMS and searches for network availability;
- vii. Ensure that all polling officials including security are briefed;
- viii. Allocate duties and clearly explain what is required of them;
- ix. Dry run the polling process;
- x. Issue relevant materials to the poll officials;
- xi. Display the ballot boxes emptiness to those present to confirm their emptiness; and
- xii. Seal ballot boxes according to the procedures and record seal serial numbers in the Polling Station Diary.

#### **2.5.2.2.5 Admission of Voter into the Polling Station**

The **Queuing Clerk** shall:

- i. Welcome and check the temperature of the voter and candidates. In case of a voter with a temperature over 37.5 degrees Celsius or displaying symptoms of COVID-19, the Queuing clerk shall immediately inform the Presiding Officer;
- ii. Ensure availability of special voting booths;
- iii. Direct voters to hand washing area;
- iv. Ensure voters have face masks on at all times;
- v. Direct the voters to their respective queues;
- vi. Ensure the queues are orderly and that a social distance of 1.5 metres is maintained;
- vii. Give priority voting to special groups (disabled, expectant mothers, elderly, mothers carrying young babies e.tc.);
- viii. Inform the PO of any incidents requiring his attention.

**Clerk One** shall welcome the voter and: -

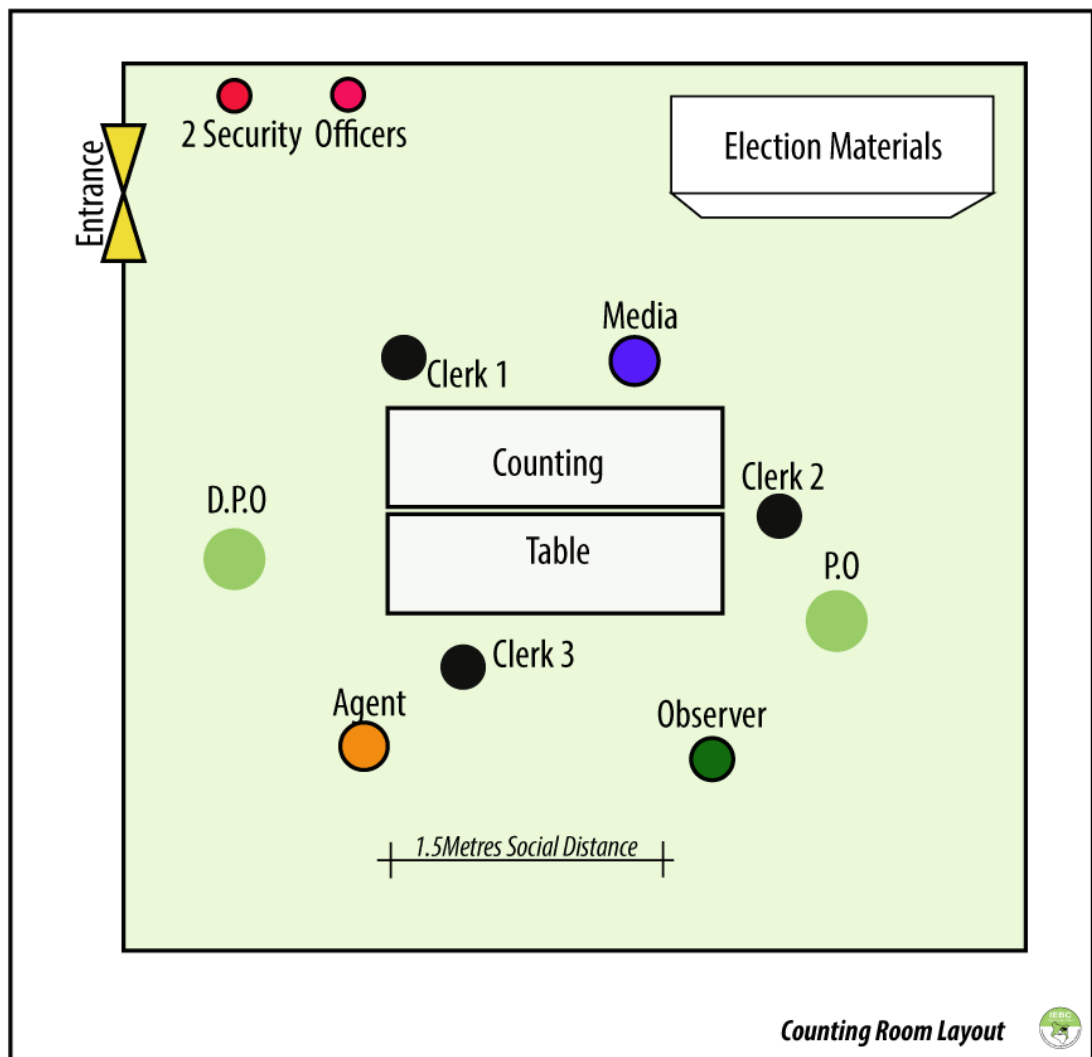
- i. Request the voter to display his identification documents;
- ii. Request the voter to sanitize his/her hands and the identification document using sanitizers;
- iii. Inspect the voters for any sign of voting;
- iv. Compare the ID/Passport with the voter's face.
- v. Request the voter to either temporarily lower or take off his mask for clear identification;
- vi. Do the verification process;
- vii. Authenticate the voter in his/her polling station; and
- viii. Sanitize his/her hands before serving the next voter.

#### **2.5.2.2.6 Closing and Counting**

The PO shall adhere to the following procedures before counting: -

- i. Allow a 15 minutes break for transitioning from polling to counting process;
- ii. Brief agents on what constitutes a valid vote, rejected ballot, rejection objected to, and disputed vote as per the law;
- iii. Ensure disinfection of polling station and rearrange the room for counting;
- iv. Assign duties to DPO and Clerks; and
- v. Announce commencement of counting process.

Figure 3: Counting Room Layout



#### 2.5.2.2.7 Delivery of Result to the Tallying Centre

The PO shall ensure safety of personnel during delivery of materials.

#### 2.5.2.2.8 Tallying and Declaration of Results

The RO shall ensure that only accredited agents, observers, media, tallying centre security and presiding officers access the tallying Center.

The number of POs to be allowed in the tallying centre at a go should be limited to avoid overcrowding. The proposed tallying centre lay-out is as shown below: -

Figure 4: Tallying Centre Layout

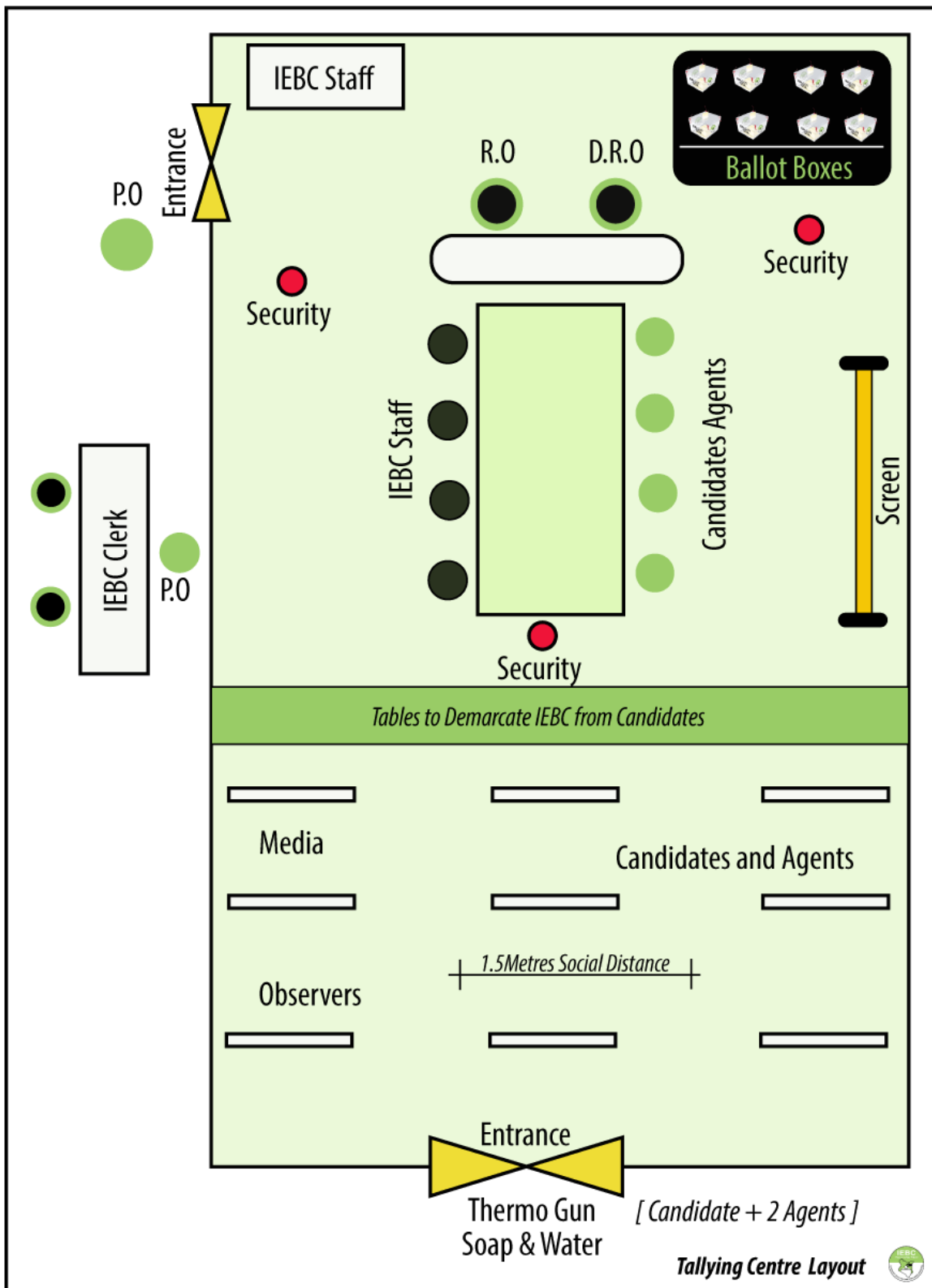




Figure 5: Registration Centre / Polling Station

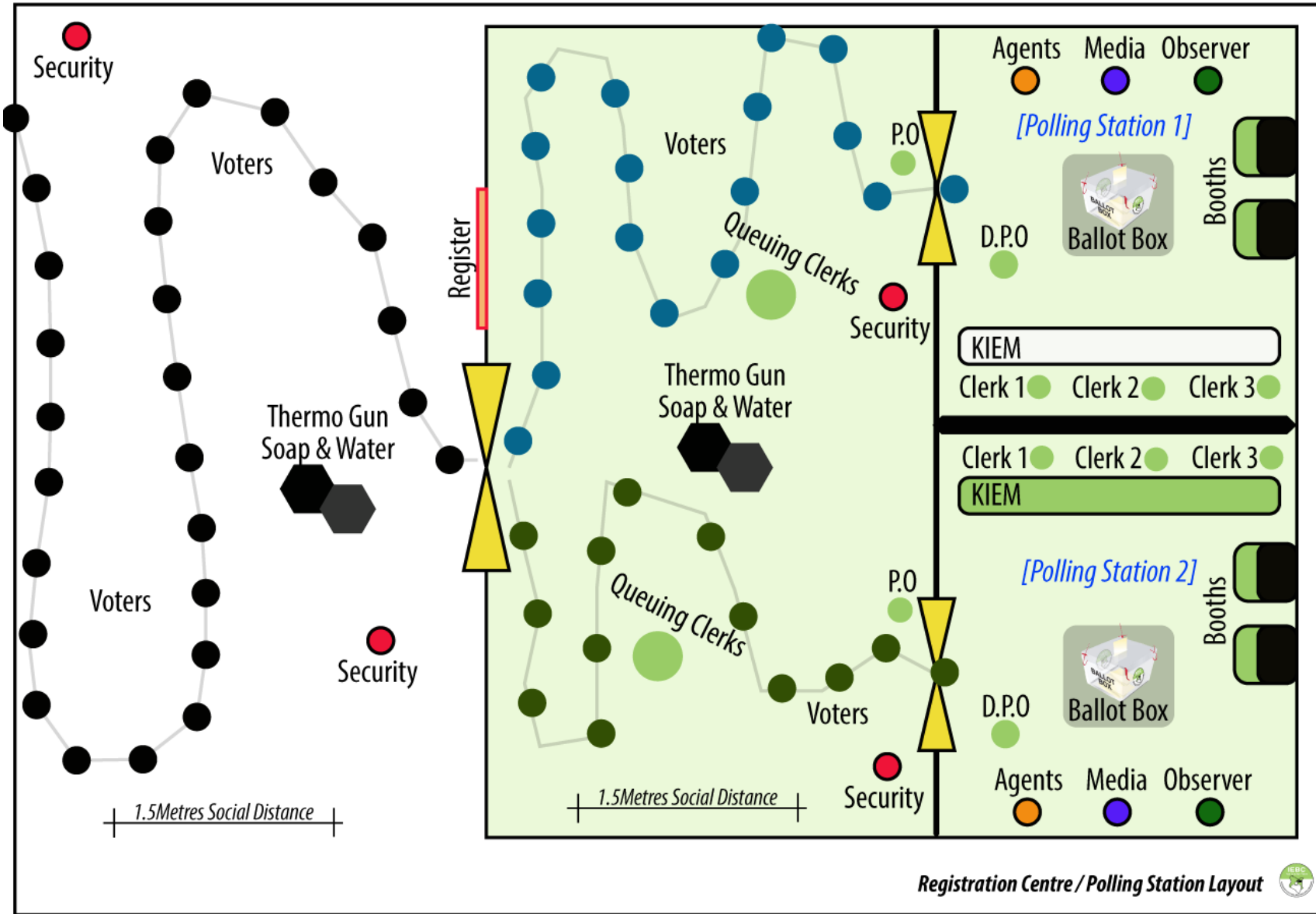
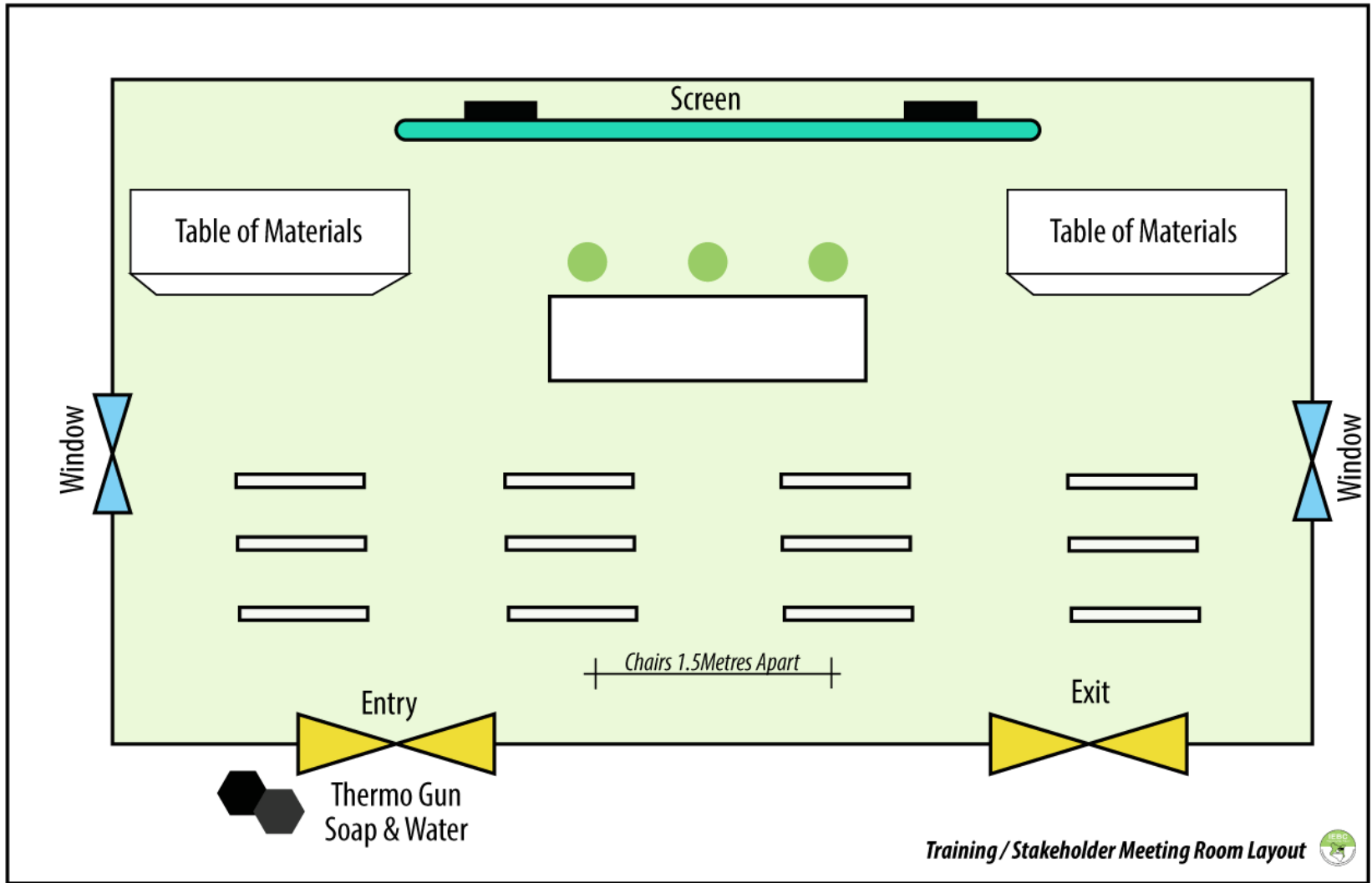


Figure 6: Training / Stakeholder Meeting Room



### 2.5.3 Post-Election period

In this period, materials are collected and stored in the warehouses of the constituencies or the county. Candidates and voters are allowed to present their grievances to court and litigations heard.

Measures to prevent exposure to COVID-19 in this period will be taken as stated in the preliminaries where few people or crowds are involved.

## PART III – RISK MANAGEMENT

### 3.0 Risk Management Culture

The Commission has a well-developed risk management culture and conducts risk assessment before implementing any electoral activity. The process involves identification, evaluation and measures to minimize the risks to acceptable levels. This process helps to maximize the realization of free, fair and credible electoral processes.

Since the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic, the Commission established an ad-hoc committee to continuously assess risks associated with COVID-19 and to advise on mitigation measures as well emerging trends in line with the protocols established by the Ministry of Health.

### 3.1 Risk Identification

The Commission has identified the following risks related to the COVID-19 pandemic: -

- i. **Infection by COVID-19:** The risk that voters, candidates and electoral officials will be infected by COVID-19 before, during or after the election.
- ii. **Violation of Curfew Directives:** The risk that electoral officials, voters or candidates are delayed during voting, counting beyond curfew hours.
- iii. **Low Turnout of Voters and Officials:** The risk that only a few voters and election officials (temporary) will participate in the by-elections due to fear of COVID-19.
- iv. **Violation of MoH Guidelines:** The risk that candidates will not adhere to the MoH guidelines during campaigns thereby scaling up the spread of COVID-19.
- v. **Possible influence of Voters by Officials:** The Risk that County Government officials will influence voters as they offer technical support during elections.

### 3.2 Risk Mitigation

The following mitigation measures shall be put in place to minimize the occurrence and impact of the identified risks: -

- i. Enforce MoH guidelines.
- ii. Voter education and sensitization of officials and stakeholder on importance of adhering to the set protocols.
- iii. Emergencies preparedness.
- iv. Fast track counting process.
- v. Seek curfew exemption from the Ministry of Interior for Tallying Centre.
- vi. Share the code of conduct with stakeholders.
- vii. Oath of secrecy.
- viii. Head hunt previous election officials.
- ix. Have frequent joint meetings with stakeholders while observing the laid down protocols.
- x. Work with the Ministry of Interior & National Coordination for enforcement.

## **PART IV – IMPLEMENTATION**

### **4.0 Committee on COVID-19**

The Commission has established a committee to continuously assess risks associated with COVID-19 pandemic to its activities and to advise on mitigation measures in line with the protocols established by the Ministry of Health. The committee also advises the Commission on emerging trends as well as monitoring and reporting implementation progress.

### **4.1 Inter-Agency Collaboration**

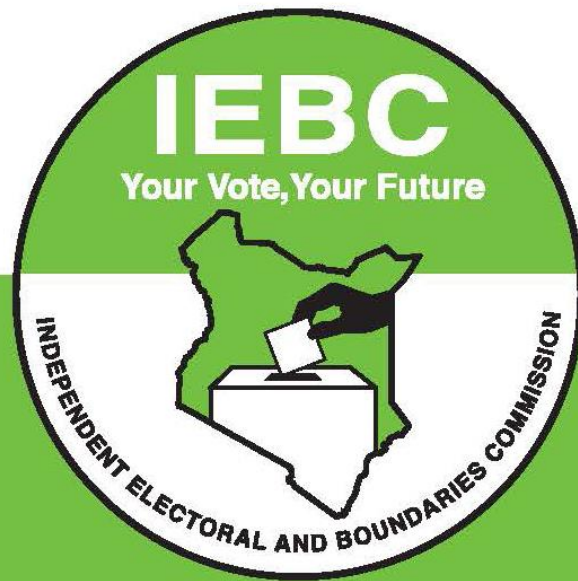
The success of electoral activities in the COVID-19 situation depends on the existing Commission structure at the National, County and Constituency level. Success can only be guaranteed through collaboration with other government agencies. The guidelines will be shared with key actors in the electoral processes including Office of Registrar of Political Parties, Political Parties, Ministry of Health, Election Observers groups, Security Agencies, Media Agencies, Suppliers and Service Providers, Voter education providers, FBOs, CBOs, Media and Development partners to inspire public confidence.

### **4.2 Monitoring Implementation of the Guidelines and Compliance**

The Commission shall be responsible for ensuring that the guidelines outlined are implemented and adhered to.

### **4.3 Review and Update of the Guidelines**

The Commission shall update and review these guidelines from time to time based on prevailing circumstances.



# Your Vote, Your Future

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