

## **ADVISORY UPDATE ON MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 DURING THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

### **Engagement between Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) on COVID-19, Incident Management Team (IMT) and Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)**

23 September 2021

#### **Background**

- A brief meeting was held between representatives from the MAC on COVID-19, IMT and IEC to discuss the recommendations in the attached advisory.

#### **Comments from the IEC**

- The mandate of the IEC applies to measures undertaken within the boundaries of the voting stations.
- The IEC indicated that the implementation of risk mitigation outside of the voting stations lies with the regulatory authorities tasked with implementing the Disaster Management Act Regulations.
- The IEC indicated that temperature screening is not used.
- The IEC generally leave the voting booths at the schools for teaching purposes in Life Orientation.
- The IEC will be using single-use cotton buds to dispense ink to the voter's thumb. These will be discarded after each use.
- The IEC indicated that hand sanitiser will not be used on exit from the voting station because it may impact on the voting print on thumb.
- The IEC indicated that the electoral officers and staff will conduct compliance monitoring (masks, distancing etc.).