STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the Tripartite elections in Malawi

"We acknowledge the results of the first ever Tripartite elections in Malawi and congratulate His Excellency Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika on his election as President of the Republic of Malawi.

The European Union pays tribute to the citizens of Malawi, who have demonstrated their commitment to democratic elections by turning out in large numbers to cast their votes and exercise their democratic rights.

We recognize that, notwithstanding considerable challenges, the elections were conducted in an overall peaceful way.

We urge all stakeholders in the election process to raise and resolve any disputes exclusively through the proper legal channels.

The European Union Election Observation Mission will remain in Malawi to observe the completion of the election process and, in a few weeks, will submit a final report with recommendations to contribute to improvements of the electoral framework in view of future elections.

The European Union calls for unity and inclusiveness in the interest of the development of the country and calls on all parties to engage constructively to pursue the necessary reforms needed to take the country forward.

We are determined to work with President Mutharika and his Government in meeting future challenges. In line with our common values, we confirm our continuous commitment to remain one of the stronger partners in supporting Malawi's development agenda."

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