



European Union
Delegation to the Republic of Kenya

PRESS RELEASE

NGOs in Kenya receive Sh41 million of equipment from departing EU Election Observation Mission

Today the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission to Kenya donated computers, desks, medical equipment and other supplies valued at over 41 million Kenyan Shillings (375 000 EURO) to NGOs operating within Kenya.

The goods include ICT equipment, office supplies, furniture and medical kits. These were purchased for operations of the EU Election Observation Mission during their observation of the 4th March 2013 elections. Rather than taking the equipment - much of which was procured locally - back to Europe or another observation mission, the EU decided to donate these items to local NGOs in Kenya to encourage and support them in their activities.

Twenty-seven NGOs were selected to receive equipment from the EU Observation Mission free of charge and without any conditions attached. They are Umande Trust, Groots, Muungano Trust, Youth Alive Kenya, Bunge La Mwanachi, Muungano Wa Wanavijiji, Katiba Institute, Clarion, Center for Governance and Development, Forum Syd, Diakonia, ACT Kenya, Site Enterprise Promotion, Save the Children, Trócaire Kenya, Abantu for Development, Coalition on Violence Against Women, The Performing Arts Centre, Mary Faith Children's Centre, Legal Resources Foundation, Barnoty Youth Group, Rafiki wa Maendeleo Trust, RACIDA - Rural Aid for Community Development, ICJ Kenya, AMREF, Handicap International, Oxfam.

The EU wishes to commend these organizations for their commitment and contribution towards poverty alleviation; human rights protection; promotion of the special needs of people living with disabilities; encouraging women and community empowerment; and child protection.

Ambassador Lodewijk Briët of the EU Delegation and Elena Todova, Project Manager of the EU Election Observation Mission (EOM) to Kenya, presented the material to representatives from the NGOs.

Ambassador Lodewijk Briët said,

“The European Union is committed to supporting Kenya in vital areas of work including tackling poverty, defending human rights, improving governance and strengthening democracy. With this donation we are helping the important work carried out by Kenya’s energetic civil society and NGOs that are assisting Kenyans all around the country.”

The handing over ceremony took place at the EU EOM offices in Westlands, just prior to the closure of the offices. Elena Todova, from the EU Election Observation Mission, said,

"The Observation Mission is giving equipment that is almost new and has been well cared for. We are all very happy to know that this will benefit the people of Kenya who we are reaching through the NGO community."

The EU Election Observation Mission is independent from the EU Delegation and has worked since late last year to observe and report on the elections process in Kenya. They will return to Kenya to present their final report in the coming weeks.

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"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".
The European Commission is the EU's executive body.