



**EU EOM statement, 22 March 2018**

On 20 March 2018, Željana Zovko, Chief Observer of the EU EOM, presented the final report on the House of Representatives and provincial assembly elections. The EU EOM concluded in its report that the legal framework for the elections offers a good basis for the conduct of elections. Despite some shortcomings identified in the process, the EU EOM also welcomed the efforts made by the Election Commission to organise the elections within a very tight timeframe.

As it is standard practice for international election observation missions, the report offers recommendations which include the review of administrative practices, legislation and constitutions. In so doing, the EU EOM fully abided by its terms of reference and the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the authorities of Nepal. The assessment and recommendations in the EU EOM's final report are based on international and regional commitments for democratic elections to which Nepal is a signatory. The suggested recommendations were widely consulted and discussed at a roundtable on 28 December 2017.

All recommendations are offered by the EU EOM in a spirit of partnership, for the consideration of the host country. It remains up to the appreciation of the Nepalese authorities and people to decide on the terms of their Constitution and legislative framework. We look forward to further discussions with all stakeholders.

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