EUROPEAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION PAKISTAN 2018

GENERAL ELECTIONS, 25 July



EU EOM statement, Islamabad, 13 July 2018

The <u>European Union Election Observation Mission</u> (EU EOM) to Pakistan has been operational in Islamabad since 24 June. It was deployed after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) welcomed the presence of an observation mission for the general elections.

Today, 13 July, the mission received accreditation for its long-term observers, allowing for their deployment in the coming days.

EU observation methodology focuses on comprehensive long-term observation, meaning LTOs are usually deployed 4-5 weeks before election day in order to cover all <u>stages of an election process</u>. In line with EU EOM methodology, the mission was ready to deploy from Europe in early June. However, due to a series of bureaucratic delays, the core team arrived only on 24 June, and the mission's 60 long-term observers (LTOs) in early July.

The short period of time between now and election day has implications on the EU EOM's ability to thoroughly assess some key aspects of the process, including the campaign environment in different parts of the country, as well as the work of the election administration at local level.

The EU EOM will continue to observe the electoral process in an independent and impartial manner. It will issue its preliminary statement on the electoral process on 27 July.

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