REINFORCING CREDIBILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF ELECTORAL PROCESSES

The Role of Electoral Stakeholders and Electoral Administrations

Mechanisms to increase collaboration between EMBs and political parties

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Impact of EMB model

- Every EMB, independent of the model, has to put in place a solid structure to interact with political parties
- Participation of political parties under the mixed model varies depending if they propose members or they appoint representatives to the EMB or supervisory body
- If political parties are part of the EMB, are all parties in? If not, how to bring in the remaining has to be addressed

Impact of EMB mandate

- If mandate of EMB includes registration of political parties, close and early relations are created
- Depending on mandate of EMB during campaign, relations need to be strong and sufficient resources allocated to the EMB

Possible actions by the EMB

- Act transparently
- Be sensitive to demands of political parties
- Treat all parties equally
- Actively promote sharing of information
- Consult parties on relevant issues

Ways of enhancing relationship

- Sometimes legal framework may already have some provisions on collaboration between EMB and political actors
- If not, possible to create mechanism (i.e. PPLC, NPPF) not only for the time during the elections, but throughout the electoral cycle
- Important to address what is the benefit of political parties in participating in these bodies
- Cooperation versus collaboration
- Invite party representatives to EMB meetings
- Ask for their feedback on specific issues

External Relations Unit

- Supports relations between EMB and stakeholders (political parties, civil society, media, international actors)
- Other stakeholders to be addressed through individual departments (i.e. Judiciary, state institutions)
- To be flexible in terms of structure during electoral cycle
- Not to be confused with Public Information Unit

Codes of Conduct

- Codes of Conduct are often being created to map out political parties' behavior during the elections
- EMB can act as facilitator in adoption of Code of Conduct
- Monitoring body essential for the implementation
- Can facilitate Alternative Dispute Resolution

