



Resolution condemning the deteriorating conditions ahead of the presidential elections in Madagascar

The first round of the presidential election in Madagascar is scheduled for 9 November 2023, preparations are taking place; however the IDC-CDI notices that the government is currently violating several laws and regulations, thus deteriorating the conditions ahead of the election:

- Violation of freedom of assembly : the interior minister issued a note banning political gatherings that are taking place outside of an indoors and enclosed venue; the MMM took the matter to the court but the court dismissed the case on a technicality; this constitutes a violation of International pacts to which Madagascar adheres;
- Violation of parliamentary rights: outside of any legal framework, members of the Executive branch convened an illegal meeting with MPs and forced them to withdraw a motion of censure against the Prime minister; separation of powers which is an essential element of Democracy is non-existent;
- Lack of transparency in the preparation of the election: municipal elections are supposed to take place with the second round of presidential election on 20 December 2023, there is no preparation for these elections as the government and the CENI (electoral commission) are only focusing on the first round of the presidential election ;
- Violation of laws in the overhaul of the voters' list :
 - the software used by the CENI to overhaul and manage the voters' list was designed unilaterally and the request by the MMM for an independent audit on the software was ignored ;
 - Insufficient funds
 - Delay in equipment deliveries
 - Violations of regulations and procedures during the census, insufficient training for CENI staff, lack of transparency;

In summary:

The Constitution is violated by the courts and even the High constitutional court (HCC) itself because they use the fallacy of a technicality to dismiss an issue pertaining to freedom of assembly, which is an essential element of Democracy.

We strongly fear that the election will not take place in a conducive atmosphere because the CENI violates the laws and regulations in the overhaul of the voters' list, as a result, about one third of the voters are left out.

In conclusion, Madagascar is moving further away from Democracy.

In order to see a conducive atmosphere for free, transparent and democratic elections, as needed by the IDC-CDI, the MMM and the people of Madagascar,

We exhort the government of Madagascar to cease all violation of the Constitution regarding freedom of assembly and the CENI to respect all laws and regulations on the preparation of the elections.

General Assembly – Slovenia 18.05.23