



Provincial Elections

While the irregularities cited above do not in our view amount to a significant impact on the outcome of the presidential election, the same cannot be said with confidence for the provincial elections which were held at the same time and the results for which are still being tabulated. Instead of one national tally, with millions of votes separating two candidates, provincial seats may often be determined by a few hundred votes or less. In such circumstances, the standards of credibility become much tighter, and problems such as those reported in this statement can have a determinant impact upon individual races. Once again, The Carter Center urges the CEI to make available all results broken down by polling station, so that candidates can either convince themselves that the results are true or lodge a properly supported appeal. The same strong recommendation applies to the legislative elections held on July 30, although the period for appeals has passed. The impact of such transparency measures on the credibility of the presidential process has already been enormous.

The Carter Center conducts its election observation in accordance with the Declaration of Principles of International Election Observation and Code of Conduct adopted at the United Nations in 2005.

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