An Appeal for Peaceful Polls and Compliance with the Rule of Law during the Fresh Presidential Elections in Kenya

Nairobi: 25 October 2017

The Fresh Presidential Election in the Republic of Kenya will take place tomorrow, 26 October 2017. As you are aware, the fresh election was ordered by the Supreme Court in its September 1, 2017 ruling on the presidential election petition.

The Constitution of Kenya guarantees all citizens the right to vote, or not to. We note the decision of NASA to withdraw its candidates from this election. It is their right to do so, and we respect that. In the same vein, we must respect the rights of those who want to vote. Acts or pronouncement that could obstruct citizens' right to participate must be strongly discouraged.

We recognise the steps taken by the IEBC to address the concerns raised by the Supreme Court.

We urge the security agencies to act to protect all Kenyans; and to act in accordance with the laws of Kenya in their dealings with protesters.

Our attention has been brought to the presence in Kenya of the African Elections Observation Group. This Group is not part of the African Union Election Observer Mission.

We reiterate our commitment to support the sister people of Kenya.

Thabo Mbeki.

Head of the African Union Election Observation Mission to the 2017 Fresh Presidential Election in Kenya.