

Voting Overseas

TO VOTE IN THE 2004 Election, you must be a registered voter. Your details should be on the voters' roll where you are ordinarily resident in South Africa.

1. Have you registered?

☒ YES, you qualify to vote.

☒ NO, you cannot vote.

If you are still within the Republic of South Africa, you can still register at your municipal offices **before** the election is proclaimed by the President. The President will announce the election date by mid-February 2004.

2. Do you have a Green Bar-Coded South African Identity Document?

☒ YES, then you are on the right track

☒ NO, you cannot vote.

You will need a green bar-coded South African ID or valid temporary identity certificate for voting and registration.

3. Who can vote?

CATEGORY A: South African Citizens on Government service

If you absent from the Republic on government service or a member of such a household, you can, on the special voting day, go to your nearest South African foreign mission where you can apply for a special vote. You will need to take your green bar-coded South African ID and passport. The Special Voting Officer, will consider your application form (Form VEC 1).

You will receive one ballot for National Assembly and one for the provincial legislature for the province where the head office of your government department is situated.

CATEGORY B: South African Citizens Temporarily Absent from the Republic

Are you temporarily absent –

- On holiday?
- On a business trip?
- Attending a tertiary institution?
- On an educational visit?
- Participating in an international sport event?

If you answered YES to any of the above is, then you qualify to vote.

If NO, you cannot vote. If you are overseas on a **work permit** or have **emigrated**, you cannot vote.

You will only receive a ballot for the National Assembly.

4. What do you need to do?

If you fall into Category B, you need to do the following:

STEP 1: NOTIFY THE IEC

Notify the Chief Electoral Officer of:

- (i) your intended absence from the Republic;
- (ii) your intention to vote; and
- (iii) the place where you intend to cast your vote (abroad or before you go abroad).

This must be done by delivering a notice (Form VEC 10) to the Chief Electoral Officer, either by hand, by post or by facsimile.

ADDRESS TO CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Post notifications to:

- PO Box 7943, Pretoria, 0001 South Africa

Fax notifications to:

- +27(0)12-428-5279 or
- +27(0)12-428-5566

Hand-deliver notifications at:

- Election House, 260 Walker Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria.

This must be done **within fifteen (15) days** after the President has proclaimed an election.

The Chief Electoral Officer will then check whether you are registered as a voter, and then inform the foreign mission or the presiding officer where you intend to vote, that you may apply for a special vote.

STEP 2: APPLY FOR A SPECIAL VOTE

You apply for a special vote by filling in a form (VEC 1).

- You can vote **before** going abroad on the day/s set aside for special votes. Take your green bar-coded ID or temporary identity certificate and passport along. You apply to vote in the voting district you stated on your notification (VEC 10) you submitted earlier.
- **If already abroad**, you go to the foreign mission where you indicated you wish to vote on the day/s set aside for special votes. Take your green bar-coded ID or temporary identity certificate and passport along.

The special voting day/s will be publicised by the IEC after the election has been proclaimed. If you are abroad, call your nearest Foreign Mission to find out about the special voting day.

STEP 3: CAST YOUR VOTE

The Special Voting Officer, will consider your application form (Form VEC 1). If everything is in order, you get to cast your vote immediately. Your vote will be added to all other votes cast within South Africa.