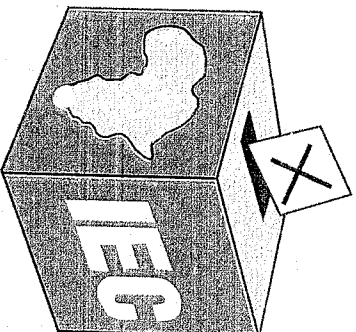


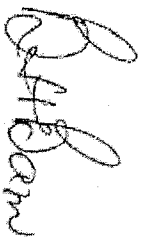
ELECTORAL COMMISSION
OF
SOUTH AFRICA



REPORT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2000

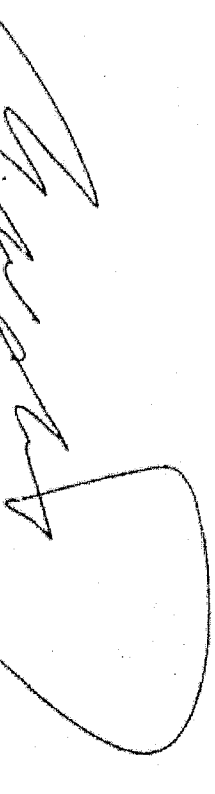
THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS

The Electoral Commissions Report and Audited Financial Statements for the financial year that ended on 31 March 2000 are hereby conveyed to you for formal submission to The National Assembly as required by section 14(1) of the Electoral Commission Act, 1996.



Chairperson

Date: 7 November 2001



Acting Chief Electoral Officer

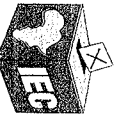
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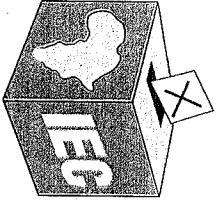
ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
IN TERMS OF SECTION 14 OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION ACT, 1996

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COMMISSION
REPORT

COMMISSION REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2000

1. Background

1.1 The Electoral Commission Act, 1996 requires the Commission, after the end of each financial year, to submit to the National Assembly -

- an audited report of all money received from sources other than money appropriated by Parliament;
- audited financial statements on income and expenditure; and
- a report in regard to the functions, activities and affairs of the Commission in respect of that financial year.

1.2 This is the submission for the financial year from 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000.

2. Functions, Activities and Affairs

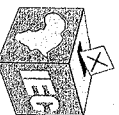
2.1 For the first three months of this financial year, all the Commission's activities and energy were focussed on the final planning and preparations for and the delivery of the 1999 national and provincial elections. The three months thereafter were spent on mopping up, cleaning up and roll-back after the elections and on national and provincial debriefing of temporary and permanent staff, political parties and observers.

2.2 These pre- and post election activities were extensively described in the Commission's report on the June 1999 elections, already submitted to Parliament. Whilst this annual report could only be drafted and submitted after the Auditor-General had brought out his report on the financial year concerned, the 1999 elections report should be read as an integral part of this report.

2.3 During the last six months of the 1999/2000 financial year, the focus of the Commission's activities moved towards the planning and preparations for the 2000 municipal general elections. These are extensively reported on in the Commission's report on those elections.

3. Monies received from other sources

All monies received from other sources towards the expenditure in connection with the exercise of the Commission's powers and the performance of its functions are reflected in the audited annual financial statements accompanying this report.



COMMISSION REPORT (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2000

4. Audited Financial Statements on Income and Expenditure

The following audited financial statements accompany this report:

Balance sheet
Income statement
Cash flow statement
Notes to the Financial Statement
Detailed income and expenditure statement
Departmental expenditure statement

5. Auditor-Generals Report

5.1 The Auditor-Generals Report on the Financial Statements is also attached.

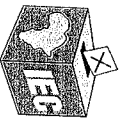
5.2 The Commission expresses its appreciation to the Auditor-General for the thorough and fair manner in which the audit was done and reported on.

5.3 By way of explanation, the following comments are submitted in respect of some paragraphs in the Auditor-Generals report.

5.3.1 Ad paragraph 2.2.1 and 2.2.2

This matter was also raised in the Auditor-General's report of the 1998/1999 financial year. At that time the Commission in its annual report commented as follows:

The taking over of R40 million from the "old" Independent Electoral Commission was accounted for and declared up front in our financial statements, reports and returns and was committed and spent in terms of the accrual basis in the 1998/1999 financial year. In September 1998 the Treasury was formally asked for approval for the transfer of surplus funds in the account of the old Independent Electoral Commission to the new Electoral Commission. In November 1998, when additional funds to the initial R500 million voted for the Commission, were made available, the Commission's understanding was that the R40 million formed part of an additional allocation of R140 million. Furthermore, although the formal request for approval of the transfer was never formally granted (in writing) it was also not formally refused (in writing). This fact confirmed the Commission's understanding of the amount of the additional allocation."



COMMISSION REPORT (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2000

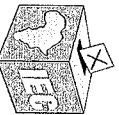
5.3.2 Ad paragraph 3.2

The transactions were accounted for in accordance with the generally accepted accounting practice; the accounting policies of the Commission and the lease agreements. The lease agreements do not provide for the Commission to be compensated for costs incurred in respect of alterations that are necessary for the Commission to conduct its business in the buildings concerned, being the buildings in which its national office and nine provincial offices are located. The expenditure incurred was not of a capital nature.

6. Overview of Funds Received and Spent

6.1

The Commission received a total of R713,5 million for the year under review by way of transfer payments from the State. Sundry income of R14,4 million, largely consisting of interest earned, was generated, bringing the total income to R727,9 million. Together with the unutilised R192,5 million from the previous financial year, the Commission thus had R920,4 million to defray the capital and operating expenditure incurred in fulfilling its objectives and related functions. All these funds have been accounted for as disclosed in the financial statements as summarised below. Equipment, furniture and vehicles to the value of R19,8 million were acquired during the year under review and accounted for as prescribed in terms of generally accepted accounting practice.

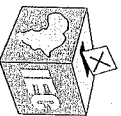


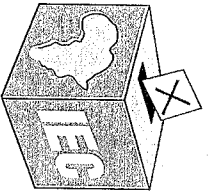
COMMISSION REPORT (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2000

6.2 The results of the Commission's operations for the year ended 31 March 2000 are summarised below:

	Total Expenditure R	Personnel Expenditure R	Administrative Expenditure R	Consumables R	Equipment R	Land and Building Rentals R	Professional and Other services R	Miscellaneous Expenditure R
Programme 1: Administration	162 115 070	18 456 540	11 662 622	2 540 456	4 583 493	6 023 837	118 746 399	101 724
Programme 2: Electoral Operations	495 972 633	201 649 112	123 777 572	34 584 053	10 966 751	10 099 425	114 894 964	757
Programme 3: Regional Offices	49 240 314	31 168 518	9 691 234	823 403	228 633	5 941 291	1 377 052	10 184
Programme 4: Auxiliary and Associated Services	54 247 660	5 991 524	18 461 712	3 722 190	20 171	122 389	25 927 875	1 798
Departmental expenditure	761 575 679	257 265 693	163 593 140	41 670 101	15 799 048	22 186 942	260 946 290	114 464
Depreciation	49 170 910							
Surplus on disposal/ scrapping of assets	(31 166)							
Interest paid	353 712							
Total Expenditure	811 069 135							
Total Income	727 918 121							
Deficit for the year	(83 151 014)							
Unutilised surplus At 31 March 1999	192 547 778							
Unutilised surplus at 31 March 2000	<u>109 396 764</u>							

6.3 A portion of the amount reflected above as an unutilised surplus relates to expenditure on items that have been capitalised in the financial statements, thereby deferring the expense to be accounted for over the economically useful life of the assets purchased. The effect of this accounting policy (number 1.2 on page 11) is that the expenditure incurred during this year of operation in procuring infrastructural assets and equipment, will be accounted for as and when the assets and equipment are being used (also refer note 2 on page 13).





REPORT OF THE
AUDITOR-GENERAL



**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2000**

1. AUDIT ASSIGNMENT

The financial statements as set out on pages 8 to 22, for the year ended 31 March 2000, have been audited in terms of section 188 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996), read with sections 3 and 5 of the Auditor-General Act, 1995 (Act No. 12 of 1995) and section 13(3) of the Electoral Commission Act, 1996 (Act No. 51 of 1996). These financial statements, the maintenance of effective control measures and compliance with relevant laws and regulations are the responsibility of the accounting authority. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and the compliance with relevant laws and regulations, applicable to financial matters, based on the audit.

2. REGULARITY AUDIT

2.1 NATURE AND SCOPE

2.1.1 Financial audit

The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards, which incorporate generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require the audit to be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes:

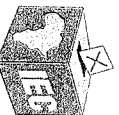
- examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements;
- assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management; and
- evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

I believe that the audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

2.1.2 Compliance audit

Furthermore, an audit includes an examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting compliance in all material respects with the relevant laws and regulations, which came to my attention and are applicable to financial matters.

I believe that the audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.





2. APPRECIATION

The assistance rendered by the staff of the Electoral Commission during the audit is sincerely appreciated.

G R WITTHÖFT
for Auditor-General

Pretoria
30/10/2001

