**PARTICIPATION OF CENTRAL AFRICAN REFUGEES IN CAR’S ELECTIONS**

Update 14 February 2016

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**UNHCR’S ROLE**

- **Advocacy:** advocated for an inclusive electoral process that takes into account CAR refugees’ vote
- **Technical expertise:** shared inputs to amend CAR’s electoral law and helped in drafting tripartite agreements between CAR’s transitional authorities, asylum countries and UNHCR.
- **Voter education:** disseminated information to CAR refugees in the 3 asylum countries, about the electoral process and the right to vote in a safe environment.
- **Logistical support:** provided support to the National Elections Authority by identifying polling stations, transporting and delivering non-sensitive electoral materials to polling sites. UNHCR staff also helped some voters (especially elderly) to go to the polling stations.

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**Why It Is Important For Refugees To Vote**

1. CAR refugees represent 10% of CAR’s population. Their participation contributes to ensuring the inclusive character of the electoral process.
2. These elections are an opportunity to restore trust and broken links between refugees and CAR authorities.
3. If refugees were not associated, this could have reinforced their feeling of exclusion and jeopardized the prospects for an enduring peace.

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**1ST ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL AND LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS**

25 January

- Publication of final results of 1st round. The Constitutional Court disqualifies the results of the legislative elections due to irregularities.

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**CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM**

13 February

- By presidential decree, President Samba Panza nominates a new electoral council.

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**2ND ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL NEW 1ST ROUND OF LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS**

14 February

- By presidential decree, President Samba Panza nominates a new electoral council.

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