

Acknowledgements

We wish to record our appreciation to many persons and institutions who assisted us in a variety of ways in carrying out our mandate.

We would like to thank all the political leaders of Lesotho who were ready both before and after the election to hold discussions with us. We are also grateful to the leaders of the churches in Lesotho for their assistance.

Particular thanks are due to the Chief Electoral Officer, Mrs Joycelyn Lucas, and her staff, both in Maseru and in the districts, for always being available to us and for the invaluable co-operation which they provided at a time when they were under constant pressure.

We are also grateful for the co-operation and goodwill demonstrated towards us by local and other international monitoring groups.

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We express sincere gratitude to HM King Letsie III and to the Government for all the arrangements so willingly made to facilitate our task. Finally, we cannot end without expressing our admiration for the people of Lesotho. We were consistently impressed by the enthusiasm, tolerance and good humour of the citizens of Lesotho as they participated in their first democratic, multi-party election for more than 20 years. We were greatly heartened by their warm welcome and assistance given to us at all times as partners at this turning-point in their history.

The members of the Commonwealth Observer Group wish to express their profound gratitude to Mr Max Gaylard and his Secretariat team for the support they gave to us. We were extremely well served by staff, whose members worked very long hours, and whose work and judgment greatly enhanced the quality of what we did. The success of our mission is in no small part due to their contribution.



At a BNP rally in Leribe, Commonwealth Observer Group Chairman Lord Carlisle (right) meets party leader Rets'elisitsoe Sekhonyana



BCP supporters at the party's national rally in Ha Faso outside Maseru



A Presiding Officer carefully explaining to voters how the ballot paper should be marked



News interest in the work of the Commonwealth Group ... Observer S K Singh being interviewed by Lesotho Television outside a polling station in Mphahle's Hoek



Transparency in the voting process ... a Presiding Officer shows an empty ballot box to voters waiting in line



Waiting for the polls to open ... Commonwealth Observer Dinanath Gajadhar (left) and patient women voters



Polling gets under way at a tented station in the plains of Quthing



Determined to exercise her right to vote, this disabled woman made her way to a polling station pushed in a wheelbarrow by her daughter



Some slept ... this man had arrived hours before the polling station opened and spent some of the time catching up on his sleep



Dr Ntsu Mokhele sworn as the democratically elected Prime Minister of Lesotho on 2 April 1993