

PARTICIPATION OF CENTRAL AFRICAN REFUGEES IN CAR'S ELECTIONS

Update 14 February 2016



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



61%
voters turn out
rate among
refugees
(1st round)

WHY 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

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.



The Constitutional Court validates the results of the Presidential Elections.
2 out of 30 candidates will compete in the second round.

6
National Election Authority requests UNHCR's assistance to facilitate the participation of refugees

12
UNHCR submits the proposed amendments to the electoral law

JUN

29
Beginning of voter registration activities in Bangui

30
National Transitional Council (CNT) votes against the refugees participation in the elections

JUL

13/14
UNHCR advocate for the participation of the refugees

20
CNT votes in favor of the participation of refugees in the upcoming elections

AUG

10
Signature of tripartite agreement Chad-CAR-UNHCR

28
Beginning of voter registration activities in Chad

SEP

29
Signature of tripartite agreement Congo Brazzaville-CAR-UNHCR

9
Resignation of the President of the National Election Authority

OCT

2
Signature of tripartite agreement Cameroon-CAR-UNHCR

7
Beginning of voter registration activities in Congo Brazzaville

NOV

8
Beginning of voter registration activities in Cameroon

9
Publication of the electoral list in Bangui

13
CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM

8
Publication of list of eligible candidates ahead of the presidential election

DEC

30
1ST ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL AND LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

JAN

25
Publication of final results of 1st round. The Constitutional Court disqualifies the results of the legislative elections due to irregularities.

28
By presidential decree, President Samba Panza nominates a new electoral council.

14th FEBRUARY
**2nd ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL
NEW 1st ROUND OF LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS**