



CREDDA

Centre de Recherche sur la Démocratie et le Développement en Afrique
Faculté de Droit/ULPGL Goma

Web site: credda-ulpgl.org Email: credda@ulpgl.net

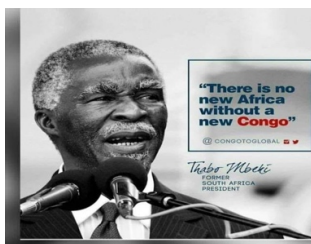
Tel: +243 995 558 663 + 243 824 174 956



DRC Bottom-Up News, N°003, December 2018

DRC presidential and legislative voting sessions, why the Constitutional Court could declare null and void the the electoral process as a whole.

Hopefully, you are following the electoral process going on in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thanks for sharing your precious time with Congolese people requesting for your advocacy to get out of the current crisis. Building on the scenario from the document in attachment, DRC Bottom Up News N° 003 of October 2018, paragraph 2, page N°2, one may develop critical thinkings about what is going on the ground within the country, in the meanwhile, waiting for the proclamation of the electoral results this coming Sunday, 6 January 2019. Two more scenario are to be added and taken into account at this stage: The "Dauphin Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary" to be declared winner while knowing that the Constitutional Court will not consider the results of the electoral commission. Or, a political leader from the opposition party (Martin Fayulu or Felix Tshisekedi) to be declared winner by the electoral commission and lacking approval from the Constitutional Court. In both cases, the Constitutional Court could consider that the electoral process was not inclusive (Beni, Butembo and Yumbi being excluded), violated the constitutional right to vote to some Congolese people (Constitution and the electoral laws) and, then, tackle the issues of irregularities observed during the elections day, 30 december 2018, at the voting stations throughout the country. In this context, the Constitutional Court could not approve the results and declare the process as a whole null and void. Thus, calling for a new electoral process. In this case, President Kabila will remain in office until the election of his successor keeping with the Constitutional Court decision of 2016. Having this in mind and the « nightmare » that one can think about, mediation will be the only way out to solve the crisis. Your comments and observations are needed to flesh out critical and constructive reflections that one can share with Congolese stakeholders and partners in the region at any given positions. An African solution is really needed at this stage. Congolese are Africans and deserve an attention or support from their brothers and sisters to boost the development of the continent as a whole. This has been highlighted by the South Africa former president Tabo Mbeki.



The less skilled the people are, the poorer the country or the geographical area becomes. Prof Dr Kennedy Kihangi Bindu

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