



Joint Statement by Election Observer groups on the Results Collation Process in the 2024 Edo Governorship Election

We, the undersigned accredited civil society organizations observing the 2024 Edo governorship elections, express concern over the transparency of the collation of the election results. Reports of disruptions at ward and local government collation centers in Ikpobba/Okha, Etsako West, Egor and Oredo LGAs, including intimidation of INEC officials and attempts to collate results contrary to the provisions of the Electoral Act and INEC guidelines, raise significant concerns about the credibility of the results collation process.

We acknowledge INEC's recent statement recognizing reports of result mutilation and its commitment to investigate and remedy any proven violations.

In view of this, we urge INEC to invoke its powers under Section 65 of the Electoral Act 2022 to review any declarations and returns where results were not declared voluntarily or violated provisions of the electoral act and INEC regulations and guidelines.

We also call on security agencies to refrain from interference in the collation process and to ensure that accredited party agents, the media, and election observers are granted full access to collation centers. We wish to emphasize that the role of security agencies in the election is to safeguard the process and not to create a situation that will undermine the transparency of the process and thus impact negatively on the credibility of the outcome of the election.

Signed.

- 1. Nigerian Civil Society Situation Room**
- 2. Yiaga Africa**
- 3. Kimpact Development Initiative**
- 4. Nigerian Women Trust Fund**
- 5. ElectHER**
- 6. TAF Africa**
- 7. Centre For Democracy & Development (CDD West-Africa)**

Benin, 22nd September 2024