

# Letter of Transmittal



## Commonwealth Observer Group Lesotho Parliamentary Elections 26 May 2012

31 May 2012

Dear Secretary-General

The Commonwealth Observer Group has completed its final report of its observations of Lesotho's Parliamentary Elections held on 26 May 2012 and we are pleased to submit it to you.

These elections were the third held under the Mixed Member Proportion (MMP) system. The elections were peaceful and conducted in a credible, transparent and professional manner.

It was encouraging that during the election campaign many of the key benchmarks for democratic elections were met, including freedom of assembly, association and movement.

From our observations, while we note the improvements that have been made since the 2007 Parliamentary Elections to address some shortcomings, we acknowledge that the MMP system is evolving and that further adjustments may be necessary in the future as Lesotho consolidates its democracy. We have made recommendations to this effect and trust they will be received in the constructive spirit in which they are intended.

We are pleased that, hitherto, all political parties, their supporters and other stakeholders in the Lesotho electoral process have continued to show restraint and magnanimity in upholding their pre-election commitments to peace. It is our fervent hope that the peaceful tenor of the electoral process thus far will continue to prevail as the post-election transition phase reaches its conclusion.

We wish to express our gratitude for the support provided to our Group by the Commonwealth Secretariat Staff Team.

We would like to thank you for this opportunity to observe these elections, which has been an enriching experience for our Group. We depart Lesotho with the hope that we have made a positive contribution to the democratic process in Lesotho and the Commonwealth's ongoing engagement here.

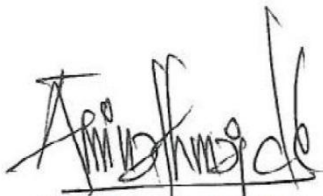
  
**Dr Bakili Muluzi**  
Chairperson



**Mr Orin Gordon**



**Mr Med S K Kaggwa**



**Ms Aminath Majdha**



**Mr Aloisious Nthenda**



**Dr Rajen Prasad MP**



**Mrs Rina Ray**