

**AHMED ISSACK HASSAN, CBS**

**Address:** Pitman House, First Floor, Jakaya Kikwete Road,

P.O Box 20617-00100 Nairobi, Kenya

**Mobile:** +254-706-111114 (International roaming)

**Email:** [ahmedissack786@yahoo.com](mailto:ahmedissack786@yahoo.com),

[Ahmedissack786@gmail.com](mailto:Ahmedissack786@gmail.com)

**Nationality:** Kenyan

**Personal Website:** [www.ahmedissackhassan.com](http://www.ahmedissackhassan.com)

**ABRIDGED CV**

---

**1. Executive Summary**

- Advocate, High Court of Kenya, Commissioner for Oaths, Notary Public and a Certified Public Secretary (CPS) with over 26 years of progressive practical experience in legal practice, public service, and electoral administration - 13 years of which were in a senior leadership position. Former Managing Partner of the law firm of Ibrahim & Issack Advocates, Commissioner of the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC), Legal consultant to UNDP Somalia on the Somalia Constitution Making Project and immediate former Chairperson of the Election Commission of Kenya (IEC & IEBC). Electoral Expert credited with the establishment of an Effective and Professional Elections Management Body and Professionalizing the Conduct of Elections in Kenya; Overseeing the setting up of the Secretariat, conducting Referendum for the new constitution of Kenya, several by-elections and the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 General Elections in Kenya.
- I have a Bachelor's degree in Law (LLB) from the University of Nairobi, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from Kenya School of Law and a Diploma in Advanced Public Service Administration from the Galilee Institute of Management in Israel.
- I have served as an International Election Consultant with the UN Election Support Projects in Somalia and Afghanistan; International IDEA in Namibia and the AU Election Assistance Team in Somalia. I have extensive practical and hands-on experience in all aspects of electoral administration dealing directly with chairpersons, commissioners and senior staff of election commissions. I am available for short-term and individual consultancy contracts as an election expert in training and capacity building, leadership and change management, institutional governance, gender mainstreaming, election dispute resolution, risk mitigation in elections and stakeholder engagement.

## 2. Academic Qualifications and Training

### a) Academic qualifications

- **Master in Electoral Policy and Administration (MEPA)**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, in Italy/United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). April 2021 to date (Ongoing).
- **Diploma in Contemporary Public Administration & Management**, Galilee International Management Institute, in Israel. 21 January – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016.
- **Post Graduate Diploma in Law**, Kenya School of Law. September 1993 – August 1994.
- **Bachelor's Degree in Law (LLB)**, University of Nairobi, in Kenya. October 1989 – November 1992.

### b) Trainings

1. Five-Day Corporate Governance Training - Mombasa, Kenya (September 2013).
2. Leadership, Governance & Integrity - Kigali, Rwanda (27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020).
3. Role and challenges of Electoral Bodies to guarantee the Integrity of Elections - AWEB 2nd General Assembly - Punta Cana, Dominican Republic (18<sup>th</sup> August 2015 - 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015).
4. Leadership & Governance - Entebbe, Uganda (10<sup>th</sup> April 2014 - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014).
5. Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections - Mwanza, Tanzania (18<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014).
6. Public Administration International (PAi), London (September 2013).
7. Building Resources in Democracy, Governance, and Elections - Johannesburg, South Africa (25<sup>th</sup> November 2010 - 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010).
8. Leadership & role of professionals in Economic & Political Affairs in the 21st century - Mombasa, Kenya (8<sup>th</sup> August 2010 - 10<sup>th</sup> August 2010).
9. Corporate Governance Training for Directors & Senior managers - ICPSK - Nairobi, Kenya (18<sup>th</sup> November 2008 - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008).
10. International Organizations Seminar by the International Law Institute (ILI), Uganda in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and the Austrian Development - (6<sup>th</sup> November 2000 - 10<sup>th</sup> November 2000).

### c) UN Trainings

1. Basic Security in the Field II
2. Advanced Security in the Field
3. Safe and Secure Approaches in the Field Environment (SSAFE)
4. Preparing and Responding to Active Shooter Incidents
5. United Nations Integrated Security in Afghanistan/ Afghanistan Specific Training (AST)
6. BSAFE

### 3. Honors and Awards

1. Recipient of the **Sakarben Sheth award**, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi, Academic Year 1990/91.
2. **Certificate of Appreciation awarded** by Uwiano Platform for Peace in Kenya, UNDP Kenya and the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) for successfully facilitating the conduct of a peaceful National Referendum Process for the new Constitution in August 2010.
3. **Order of the Elder of the Burning Spear, EBS, Second Class, Civilian Division**, in December 2010 in recognition of exemplary services rendered to the nation as Chairman of the Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC) -Conferred by the President of the Republic of Kenya.
4. **C10100 Leadership Award** in November 2011 from CI01 East Africa, in appreciation of visionary leadership at the commission and foresight in embracing ICT as a transformation tool in the management of elections in Kenya.
5. **Outstanding Achievement Award** in Election Management and Conflict Resolution by the London based International Center for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) on 4th December 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Award co-shared with Dr. Afari Gyan, the then chairman of the Ghana Electoral Commission.
6. **100 Most influential people in Africa** - December 2012 New Africa magazine.
7. **Order of the Chief of the Burning Spear, CBS, First Class, Civilian Division**, in December 2017 in recognition of outstanding and distinguished services rendered to the Nation as chairperson of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Kenya (IEBC) - Conferred by the President of the Republic of Kenya

### 4. Employment History

1. **Senior Legal/Election Dispute Resolution Expert** with the AU Election Assistance Team to Somalia. Advising the Federal Election Implementation Team (FEIT), conducting the indirect elections in Somalia (FEIT) and the Election Dispute Resolution Commission (EDRC), 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 – 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
2. **Electoral Expert on the Operationalization of the Independence of Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN)** - A short term consultancy with International IDEA (August - October 2020).
3. **Legal consultant**, Garane & Somane Advocates - May 2017 to date. Consulting on major projects and election petitions.
4. **Chairperson**, Board of Directors, Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) September 2018 to date and the vice chair of the Madrid Union of WIPO. This is a Government of Kenya institution responsible for the protection and promotion of intellectual property rights in Kenya.

5. **Institutional Governance Adviser**, UN Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG)/UNDP Somalia from May 2018 to 30th June 2021. Advising the National Independent Electoral Commission of Somalia (NIEC) on strategic planning, corporate governance, gender mainstreaming, review of election laws and risk management in elections. Job category was Individual Consultant (IC).
6. **Advisor**, Cambridge Conference on Electoral Democracy in the Commonwealth from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to July 2020.
7. **International Non-voting Commissioner** of Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) OF Afghanistan under the United Nations Elections Support Project (UNESP) from May 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020. Job category was Individual Consultant (IC).
8. **International Consultant (International Advisor to IEC)**, UN Electoral Support Project (UNESP)/UNDP Afghanistan from August 2018 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 providing mentorship and best practices in election administration to the chairperson and commissioners of the Afghan Electoral Commission.
9. **Lead Consultant** to the National Independent Electoral Commission of Somalia (NIEC) in the development of their 5-year strategic plan working under the Creative Associates International Inc., a USaid funded project. (Jan, Feb, October, November 2017).
10. **Chairperson**, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) of Kenya from November 2011 to 20th January 2017.
11. **Chairperson**, Interim Independent Electoral Commission of Kenya (IIEC) from May 2009 to November 2011.
12. **Director**, Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) from December 2007 to April 2009.
13. **Managing Partner**, Law firm of Ibrahim, Issack & Company Advocates from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2004 to May 2009.
14. **Legal Consultant** to UNDP Somalia and the Independent Federal Constitution Commission (IFCC) on the Somalia Constitution-Making Project from July 2008 to May 2009.
15. **Member**, Board of Governors of Garissa High School from July 2004 to March 2011.
16. **Commissioner** in the Kiruki Commission of Inquiry into the activities of Artur Margaryan and Artur Sargsyan (the Armenian Brothers) on June to September 2006. This was a Presidential Commission of enquiry dealing with breeches of National Security by alleged foreign mercenaries.
17. **Legal Consultant** to the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (**UNPOS**) in the training of Somali Parliamentarians on Constitution and Federal Affairs in May 2006, Baidoa, Somalia.
18. **General Legal Counsel** for the **Transitional Federal Government of Somalia** between June 2006 and May 2009 and **Special Legal Adviser** to the President of

the Transitional Federal Government, the late Col. (Rtd) Abdullahi Yusuf, during his tenure in office while he was still based in Nairobi, Kenya.

19. **Commissioner**, Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC) from November 2000 to January 2006.
20. **Partner and Head of Litigation Department** in the Law firm of Ibrahim & Issack Advocates, based in Nairobi, Kenya from January 1998 to January 2004.
21. **Associate Legal Practitioner** with Mohammed Ibrahim & Associates Law firm, in Nairobi City from January 1995 to December 1997.
22. **Deputy Returning Officer** of the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) for Ijara Constituency in Garissa District of North Eastern Province in the 1997 General Elections.
23. **Presiding Officer** of the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) for Shimbirey Polling Station, Dujis Constituency in Garissa District of North Eastern Province in the 1992 General Elections.

## 5. Related Experience in Elections

1. Observed Elections as a member of the Observer Missions of the African Union (AU), Commonwealth, IGAD, COMESA, EAC, Joint NDI/IRI mission and independently to the following countries: France, India, Namibia, Ethiopia, Sweden, USA, Brazil, Guyana, Nigeria, Ghana, Tunisia, South Africa, South Korea, Canada, Australia, Djibouti, Angola, Malawi and Solomon Islands.
2. Chairperson, East Africa Community - Electoral Commissions Forum (EAC-ECF) 2010- 2012, based in Arusha, Tanzania.
3. **Member**, Executive Committee of the COMESA EMB's Forum, based in Lusaka, Zambia (2016).
4. Founding **member** and **Chairperson** of the Executive Committee of the Association of African Electoral Authorities (**AAEA**) from June 2015 to Jan 2017, based in Accra, Ghana.
5. **Member**, Steering Committee and **Chairperson** of the Commonwealth Electoral Network Steering Committee (**CEN**) based in London, 2012 to 2017.
6. **Member** of the Executive Board and **Chairperson** of the Audit and Oversight Committee of the Association of World Electoral Bodies (**AWEB**) based in Seoul, South Korea- November 2012 -2017.
7. **Head** of the **AU** Observer Mission to Nigeria's Parliamentary and Presidential Elections in Abuja, Feb — March 2011.
8. **Head** of the **EISA** Observer Mission to the Ghana General Elections in December 2012.
9. **Head** of the **IGAD** Election Observer Mission to the Djibouti Presidential Elections in April 2016.
10. **Member**, **AU** Pre-Election Assessment Mission in Ethiopia (2011) and Malawi (2019).

11. Member NDI/IRI Virtual Pre-election Assessment Mission of the Ethiopia Elections. April to May 2021.
12. Member of the Roster of Election Experts with AU, Expert Roster for Rapid Response (**ExpRes**) UNDP Crisis Bureau and External Resource Person for India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (**IIIDEM**) and International **IDEA**.

#### **6. Professional Membership**

1. Law Society of Kenya (LSK).
2. East African Law Society (EALS).
3. International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (Kenya Chapter).
4. Institute of Certified Public Secretaries of Kenya (CPS) (K).
5. Association of Professional Societies of East Africa (APSEA).
6. Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU).
7. Commonwealth Electoral Network (CEN).
8. Electoral Stakeholders Network (ESN).
9. Cambridge Conference on Electoral Democracy in the Commonwealth.
10. Member of ACE (Administration and Cost of Elections) Network.

#### **7. Research Papers and Reports Written on the Constitution-Making Process of Kenya and Somalia and other related Report and Experiences on Election Administration in Kenya which are uploaded and available at my personal website**

[www.ahmedissackhassan.com](http://www.ahmedissackhassan.com)

1. Independence of Electoral Commissions and Electoral commissioners - Reflections of a former Elections Chief.
2. Criteria for Electoral System Design.
3. Electoral System and Electoral Boundaries Delimitation for Somalia.
4. Reflections on the Electoral Management best practices and Electoral Integrity.
5. Leveraging Technology for Transparent and Credible Elections.
6. Preparation for the 2017 General Elections in Kenya.
7. Challenges Faced by Minorities & other disadvantaged groups in the Electoral Process.
8. Promoting Transparency and public Confidence through Open Election Data.
9. Election-Related Violence in Kenya.
10. Organizing a Referendum as a means to Adopt a New Constitution - Lessons from the Kenyan Experience.
11. Gender Mainstreaming in the Electoral Administration - The Kenyan Experience.
12. Mitigating Election-Related Disputes in Africa.
13. Electoral Violence-Understanding Electoral Violence and Security.
14. Review of Approaches to Counter Ethnically Divisive Electoral politics.

15. Politics of Boundaries, Elections and Representation under the constitution of Kenya 2010.
16. The Diaspora voting rights and the role of Kenyan Missions in Voter Registration.
17. Fast Tracking Election Petitions-The Kenyan Perspective.
18. The Role of Technology in Election Management in Kenya.
19. The Role of Technology in Raising Standards-Case study of Technology in Voter Registration.
20. Security Challenges in Election Management Towards Nigeria's 2011 Elections.
21. Electoral Reforms - Kenya's Recent Experiences.
22. Elections Management in Kenya - Challenges and opportunities.
23. Kenya's Electoral System and the Process in Context-Lessons Learnt for the Future in Kenya.
24. Forms of Federal and other Systems of Government in Somalia.
25. The Constitutional Management of Religious Diversity in Kenya.
26. The Legal Impediments to Development in Northern Kenya.
27. International Terrorism-A Comparative Analysis of Regional Response.
28. Refugees in Kenya and the Constitutional Review Process -The way forward.
29. Working paper for the CKRC on the Kadhi's Courts, Chief Kadhi and kadhis.
30. North Eastern Province and the Constitutional Review Process - Lessons from History.
31. Draft Constitution for a Federal Republic of Somalia.

## **8. Hobbies**

- Working with people in a multi-disciplinary and multi-racial environment.
- Passion for Election Management and Administration.
- Traveling and learning about other cultures.
- Reading Biographies, Memoirs, Leadership Books, Watching Documentaries and Comedy Shows.
- Playing volleyball and table tennis.

**9. Referees**

Available upon request