

EU praises Angola's efforts in parliamentary elections

LUANDA, Sept. 8 (Xinhua) -- The European Union (EU) observer mission here on Monday afternoon praises efforts made Angola's National Electoral Commission (CNE) to secure balanced parliamentary elections and overcome constraints in an impartial and practical way. Luisa Morgantini, head of the EU observer mission to monitor Angola's parliamentary elections, told reporters at a press conference that the electoral campaign was conducted in a calm and orderly way, despite some incidents including delayed opening of several hundreds of polling stations. Morgantini, also vice president of the European Parliament, said the elections were carried out peacefully, thanks to the appeals made by the 14 contesting parties and coalitions during the electoral campaigns.

Instead of releasing a preliminary declaration, she said the data gathered will be analyzed at the European Parliament, adding that the EU observer mission's report will be submitted to the Angolan government, the National Assembly and the CNE in November this year. Meanwhile, the observer mission of the Southern Africa Development Community on Saturday released a communique on the elections, considering that the elections were credible, peaceful and transparent. The Economic Community of Central Africa States and the Portuguese Speaking Community also considered the elections as free, regular and transparent. Angola's ruling party the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola has so far gained a total of 3.9 million votes, accounting for 81.62 percent, according to the latest release by the CNE