

## **Introduction**

The events which occurred at Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) between the 27<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 fundamentally changed the democratic and electoral history of Kenya. These events and their implications are the subject of this chapter. This chapter will also examine what factors may have led to the events at KICC. This will involve examining events and factors before, during and after the elections and announcement of presidential results on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

These events are captured in three parts;

*Part One:* relates to the period before the elections highlighting Kenya's history of elections and the emergence of ethnic and electoral tensions.

*Part Two:* Highlights specific events and factors that may have contributed to the electoral environment in which we found ourselves in 2007. This section also looks at the following issues:

- The ethnic tensions that have existed since 2005 Referendum on the proposed Kenya Constitution;
- Inadequate or inappropriate legal framework governing elections and a rich history of electoral malpractices;
- The administrative Framework of Elections and the composition of the ECK commissioners; and
- An unfair electoral system;

*Part Three:* Deals with the conduct of the media and the events that occurred at KICC from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007. This part comprises the following:

- The conduct of the media
- The Events that Occurred at KICC between 27<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007

*Part Four:* Looks at the aftermath – the first few days of January, 2008, in relation only to the conduct of the disbanded ECK – statements attributed to its members and the responses they elicited from Kenyans and especially from key stakeholders in elections.