

their franchise. As we believe that most of the difficulties encountered so far were of an administrative nature, given our impression of the high level of commitment on the part of officials involved, we foresee it will be possible to adjust the system so as to resolve many of the more serious problems that arose.

We would not wish to minimize the very serious deficiencies which we observed and which were reported to us. These did have a significant impact on the smooth running of the election process and resulted in the disfranchisement of some thousands of voters. However, until final official figures on the result are available, we cannot provide a specific judgement on the extent to which these unfavourable factors affected or distorted the overall results. However, if the number of votes exceed one million, it will be our conclusion that the results of the election broadly reflect the wishes of the people of El Salvador. At the time of writing, it is generally anticipated that a second round will take place in 4 - 6 weeks time.

R. G. Fairweather

F. M. Filleul

R. H. Gould

With respect to this final paragraph, the observer team will report to the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs their final judgement when the overall results have been released.