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Electoral Observation Mission Begins Deployment for the General Elections in the United States

The Electoral Observation Mission of the Organization of American States (OAS) today began activities corresponding to the elections on Tuesday, November 3, in the United States.

Headed by the Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, the Mission is made up of 28 experts and observers of 13 nationalities, who will be deployed in the states of Iowa, Michigan, Georgia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The observers will follow up on issues related to electoral organization and technology, political participation of women, electoral justice, political-electoral financing, voting by mail, media and freedom of expression, and electoral districting.

During the next few days, the Mission will meet virtually and in person with electoral authorities, government officials, representatives of the Republican and Democratic parties, and other relevant stakeholders, to fully analyze the technical aspects of the process.

Likewise, the members will visit various voting centers starting this Saturday in order to observe early voting. Due to the health situation imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Mission will observe health protocols at all times, including physical distancing and the use of masks.

This is the second time that the OAS has observed an electoral process in the United States, following the general elections of 2016. After the elections, the Mission will present a preliminary report with its observations and recommendations in order to contribute to the strengthening of the electoral processes in the country.