



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission

Candidates' Registration Regulation

Considering the authorities given by article (56) of the Afghan Electoral Law, this regulation has been approved by Independent Election Commission to regulate the process of candidate registration.

Terms

First article:

The following terms have the meanings shown:

1. Commission: the Independent Election Commission (IEC) established under article (156) of the Afghan Constitution.
2. Electoral Complaint Commission: the Electoral Complaint Commission established under article (52) of the Electoral Law.
3. Election: Includes voters' registration, candidates' registration, electoral campaigns, voting, counting of votes and declaration of results.
4. Political party: A political party registered with Ministry of Justice.
5. Election Date: The Election Day announced by the IEC under article (33) of the Electoral Law.
6. Preliminary List of Candidates: The provisional list of candidates, whose eligibility may be challenged by political parties and candidates' agents as well as eligible voters; the candidates may ask for a change of the information relating to them on the list.
7. Final List of Candidates: The list of eligible candidates that is confirmed and published by the Commission when the challenge process and necessary corrections in the preliminary list are finished.

Second Article

Application

This regulation regulates the candidates' registration in the following elections:

1. Presidential election
2. Parliamentary election
3. Provincial councils election
4. District councils election



The period and process of registration

Third Article:

1. The Commission shall determine and publicly announce the start and end date of the candidate registration period.

2. An applicant may formally notify the Commission of the decision regarding running in the election as a candidate during the specified period.
3. Considering the election in which the applicants are running as candidates upon applying for registration, they must provide the Commission with the information specified in the article (62) and article (85) of the Constitution Law and second paragraph of article (35) of the Electoral Law.
4. The applicants for the presidential election must submit their registration applications to the External Relations Department of the Independent Election Commission Secretariat.
5. The applicants for Parliamentary Election, Provincial Councils, and District Councils must submit their registration applications to the provincial offices of the Independent Election Commission in their respective provinces.
6. No person's registration application will be accepted at more than one constituency or for more than one election which will be held on the same day.
7. An applicant who meets the requirements of this article can be considered as a candidate.
8. Registration applications will not be accepted after the end of the specified registration period.
9. The Secretariat of the Commission will approve separate procedures in order to regulate the abovementioned processes.

Preliminary List of Candidates

Fourth Article:

- 1) After the end of the candidate registration period, the Commission shall prepare the preliminary list based on the candidates' applications. The list includes the name, the exclusive number of the candidate, the photograph and the electoral symbol of each candidate.
- 2) The Commission will officially announce and display the preliminary list of candidates for period of (6) days.
- 3) The candidates may review the accuracy of the information on the list during the display period of the preliminary list.
- 4) Those candidates who wish to request correction of the information on the preliminary list or those eligible candidates whose names are not on the list for whatever reason, must apply to the Commission within (6) days after the preliminary list is announced and displayed.
- 5) If the Commission refuses a candidate's application for nomination, the Commission will officially notify the candidate of the issue and the reasons for the refusal.
- 6) The applicants, whose applications for nomination are refused by the Commission, may refer to the Electoral Complaint Commission to appeal within 7 days after receiving the notification. The Commission must officially inform the Commission of its final decision on the issue.

Challenges

Fifth Article:

- 1) A political party agent or any Afghan citizen eligible to vote may challenge the eligibility of candidates included in the preliminary list, after the list is displayed.
- 2) The challenge must be entered on a challenge form and be submitted to the Electoral Complaint Commission within (6) days after the first display of the preliminary list.



- 3) The Electoral Complaint Commission shall take the final decision on the issue after evaluating and reviewing the challenge.

Electoral Complaint Commission's Decisions
Sixth Article

- 1) The Electoral Complaint Commission shall make its decision based on the documents submitted to it regarding the eligibility or ineligibility of a candidate included in the preliminary list,
- 2) The Electoral Complaint Commission shall submit its final decision to the Commission regarding the challenges, by the end of the challenge period.

Final List of Candidates
Seventh Article:

- 1) The Independent Election Commission shall prepare and announce the final list of candidates at least (60) days before holding the vote, based on the Electoral Complaint Commission's decisions, as well as making necessary corrections on it.
- 2) The Commission shall prepare the ballot papers based on the names included in the final list of candidates.

Withdrawal of candidacy
Eight Article:

Candidates for elected seats may officially notify the Commission regarding their withdrawal before the Commission announces and issues the final list.

Enforcement
Ninth Article:

This regulation enters into force after the date of approval and would be published.

