



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission Secretariat

Regulation on Voter Registration

This regulation is approved pursuant to the authority granted by Article 56 of the Electoral Law to the Independent Elections Commission to organize voter registration and related issues.

Terms

Article (1)

The followings definitions apply:

1. Commission: The IEC formed on the basis of Article 156 of the Constitution of Afghanistan
2. Political party: political party or coalition of political parties registered in the Ministry of Justice.
3. Voters' registration: process of issuing voter cards to be used in addition to those issued beforehand.
3. Voting card: A certified document which shall be distributed by IEC to voters by which they can exercise their voting rights. It includes new voter registration cards and cards issued by the Commission previously.
4. Challenge: Official challenge against a voter's eligibility to be a voter.
5. Complaint: Official submission of a complaint regarding an election violation or any violation of an instruction issued by IEC

Dates and Locations

Article (2)

- (1) The dates for voter registration shall be determined and publicly announced by IEC at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the operation.
- (2) To register the voters, at least one voter registration center shall be established in each district. In a city, each nahia has at least one registration center. The number of registration stations is established according to the population of the district or nahia.
- (3) IEC shall designate specific registration stations for nomads.
- (4) IEC, as far as possible shall establish mobile teams for registration of in-patients, prisoners that are not deprived from their political rights by a court order and armed forces.
- (5) Voter registration locations shall be designated and publicly announced by the IEC at least 7 days prior to their opening.
- (6) IEC shall use its best efforts to establish specific registration centers for people with disabilities and for women to access.

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Monitoring, Observing and Reporting

Article (3)

(1) Media, observers, agents of political parties and candidates who have already been accredited may be present in any voter registration facility, subject to the procedures, regulations and codes of conduct issued by the IEC.

(2) IEC shall designate a time and place to issue accreditation for political parties, agents, candidates and observer organizations. The criteria for issuing accreditation will be in a related regulation.

Registration officers

Article (4)

(1) A person working on the registration of voters shall sign the Code of Conduct of Electoral Officials and follow it strictly.

(2) IEC Secretariat must not recruit any person who has a legal obstacle.

Voter Registration Process

Article (5)

(1) The following persons who are eligible to vote pursuant to the Electoral Law and who wish to register shall present themselves at any voter registration center in the district or nahia of residence, and may apply to register in accordance with this Regulation and the procedures issued by the IEC:

- (a) previously were not registered as voters;
- (b) lost the voter's card or it was completely destroyed or their specifications are not shown clearly on it;
- (c) have moved from one constituency to another;
- (d) have recently arrived in the country;
- (e) have recently become eligible to vote.

(2) Nomads eligible to vote pursuant to the Electoral Law and who wish to register may present themselves at any voter registration center, and shall apply to register in accordance with this Regulation and the procedures issued by the IEC.

(3) The IEC shall establish separate voter registration centers for men and women. To the extent possible, female voter registration shall be conducted by female registration officers.

Voter Registration Information

Article (6)

(1) Persons wishing to register to vote during the registration process must submit the following personal information:

- (a) Name;
- (b) Father's name;
- (c) Age;
- (d) Complete home address to the extent possible;
- (e) Gender;
- (f) Where he or she wants to vote
- (g) Thumbprint.

(2) All persons wishing to register to vote must allow a registration officer to take their picture, except those women who assert reasons for not having their pictures taken.

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Voter Registration Card

Article (7)

- (1) Persons who provide all the information required by Article 6 and meet the eligibility requirements of the Electoral Law shall be registered and issued a voter registration card.
- (2) A voter registration card is only valid if it contains all the personal voter information referred to in Article 6(1) of this regulation.

Challenges during voter registration

Article (8)

- (1) Citizens eligible to vote or accredited agents of political parties who are authorized to be present at a voter registration station may challenge a person's eligibility to register as a voter, at the time of registration.
- (2) The designated supervisor of the voter registration station considers that the evidence supporting a challenge submitted as per sub article (1) of this article has merit, the designated supervisor must contact the person against whom the challenge was made and, on the basis of evidence of both sides, he has the power to decide whether to accept or reject the challenge.
- (3) If the challenger or the person challenged is not satisfied with the decision of the designated supervisor of the voter registration station, they may make a written complaint and the Commission shall make the final decision on the issue

Complaints

Article (9)

- (1) Registered voters or accredited agents of political parties may make a written complaint regarding a violation of electoral law or other document issued by the Commission or Secretariat, if not satisfied with the first stage decision about a challenge.
- (2) In the first stage, the complaint is decided by the designated supervisor at registration center.

Provisional List

Article (10)

- (1) After ending the process of voter registration, the Commission shall prepare a provisional list of voters after first allowing 14 days for correcting information and dealing with challenges. The list will be displayed in public places.
- (2) If incorrect information is listed about registered voters they may contact the responsible officer of the provincial electoral office to have it corrected.
- (3) If registered voters or citizens eligible to vote or agents of political parties accredited by the Commission for participating in the voter registration have an objection about a person on the list they may present their objections to the responsible officer of the provincial electoral office.
- (4) The supervisor of a voter registration center must report and inform the Commission of every change in the list.

Final list

Article (11)

The final lists of voters are established by the Commission after correcting information on the provisional list and dealing with the challenges to the provisional list.

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Secrecy of information

Article (12)

The Commission shall take proper measures to ensure that the information supplied during voter registration for the election process is not used for other purposes except as authorized by law.

Entry into force

Article thirteen

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

