

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Independent Election Commission

Code of Conduct for Observers

This code of conduct has been established under Article 55 of the Electoral Law to manage activities of observer organizations and their representatives during various electoral phases.

Inobservance of this code of conduct shall be deemed a violation. A violation may result in imposing punishment or taking appropriate actions by the Independent Election Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission) and or the Independent Electoral Complaint Commission (hereafter referred to as the Complaint Commission).

Moreover, observer organizations shall be responsible for any violation committed by their representatives.

Under Article 55 of the Electoral Law, observers and their organizations shall have the following rights and obligations:

1. Receiving letter of accreditation by the Commission
2. Attendance in polling and counting centers and stations to observe all phases of an election including voter registration, candidate nomination, electoral campaign, polling, counting, tabulation of votes, adjudication on complaints, certification and announcement of results.
3. Access to election-related information in accordance with procedures of the Commission.
4. Preparing and publishing reports on electoral events taking into account the principle of reality.
5. International observers may prepare impartial reports on an electoral process within the period specified by the Commission and provide it to the Commission, government, the UN office and the media.
6. The international observers have the right to file their challenges and complaints with the Complaint Commission.

Under the law, (), as an observer organization in the electoral process, officially announces that the representatives and staff members of this organization, while observing an electoral process, shall respect provisions of the Constitution, the Electoral Law, other enforced laws in the country, regulations, procedures, guidelines and other documents approved by the Commission and the Complaint Commission plus this code of conduct.

1. They shall not interfere in any electoral phase illegally and unreasonably and perform their assigned duties impartially and neutrally.
2. They shall wear the ID cards issued by the IEC in a way that are visible while observing an electoral process.

3. While observing various electoral phases, they shall seriously respect temporary limitations of time and place imposed by the electoral officials to avoid crowd of observers, disorders and slowness in the process.
4. They shall neither put any special signs on their clothing nor act, nor speak in favor of any political party, coalition or candidate.
5. They shall respect secrecy of ballot and take necessary actions in this regard.
6. They shall seriously refrain from using words, statements and phrases that may cause hatred and incite irritation and prejudice and racial, tribal, linguistic, regional, factional, gender or religious discriminations.
7. They shall provide the Commission, the Complaint Commission and other stakeholders involved in the electoral process with legal and necessary cooperation.
8. They shall strictly observe the Electoral Law and all decisions approved by the Commission and the Complaint Commission.
9. They inform relevant organization of all information they receive and abstain from publishing and broadcasting the information through mass media.
10. They shall respect official and legal results announced.
11. Only the organization represented by an observer may officially express its view with regard to the electoral affairs and process.
12. While doing their assigned duties as observers, they shall avoid rumors and unrealistic prejudgments in relation to the election results and its related affairs.
13. When they observe any disorder causing disruption of electoral processes, they shall inform the Commission's officials using all possible ways.
14. They shall refrain from accepting any gift and pecuniary and non-pecuniary grants offered by any political party, candidate, agent, other observers and other electoral stakeholders.
15. They shall seek to be aware of all electoral laws and regulations, codes of conduct and procedures.
16. National observer organizations may not receive any financial resources against provisions of the enforced laws of the country.
17. National observer organizations shall inform the Commission of the number of polling centers that they are able to cover and shall be obliged to observe them during the electoral process.
18. While observing the electoral process, in addition to the abovementioned points, national and international observers shall respect national values of Afghanistan.

Organization: _____ Authorized representative: _____
Signature: _____ Venue: _____
Date: _____