

**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission**

IEC Decision

Decision No:	20 -2014
Subject:	Manner of investigating the issues related to recount, audit and invalidation of votes as a result of audit and all other issues related to tallying results for June 14, 2014 presidential run-off election
Responsible Authority:	Independent Election Commission Secretariat
Date & Meeting Place:	June 12, 2014, IEC HQ
Present Members:	1. Dr. Ahmad Yosuf Nooristani 2. Mr. Abdulrahman Hotaki 3. Ms. Gulalai Achakzai 4. Mr. Sareer Ahmad Barmak 5. Prof. Muhammad Hussain Gurziwani 6. Mr. Aziz Bakhtiari 7. Jurist. Suliman Hamid 8. Ms. Laila Ehrari, and 9. Ms. Sharifa Zurmati Wardak

Considering Article 13 of the IEC and IECC Structural Law and Article 58 and 59 of the Electoral Law, the IEC decided as follows:

(1). Generalities:

1. For proving the balance of 600 ballot papers on the result form, in database, one extra column must be taken into consideration for the difference of ballot papers.
2. In case there is no result form in a polling station, result of the mentioned polling station must be recorded on an unused ballot paper. If all ballot papers have been used in a polling station, result of the polling station must be recorded on the back side of the used ballot paper and to be stamped and signed by the chairperson and candidates' agents and then it is to be processed.
3. In case there is no TEB in a polling center, the polling center's all stations' result forms must be dispatched in brown envelopes and before dispatching the envelopes, such being the cases, the PEO shall share the complete report with HQ and the mentioned envelopes must only be opened in the Commission's meeting for the subsequent processing.

4. In case there is inconsistency or difference between the recorded number of votes in figures and letters on a result form, if number of votes in letters is more than 600, figures are to be relied on. Otherwise, letters are to be relied on.
5. Polling stations, result forms of which are stamped and signed by the chairperson, are to be processed.
6. Polling centers and stations about which there are reports, of using force, threatening and beating electoral staff, prepared by PEOs, candidates' agents and observers, shall be presented to the Commission along with proving documents for making decision.
7. With reference to ballot boxes of those polling stations filled by using force, the report of PEO along with proving documents shall be presented to the Commission for making decision.

(2). Ballot papers in boxes related to dubious result forms, shall be recounted in the following cases:

- Result forms in which figures and letters have cross outs and in accordance with procedure not corrected with a red pen, shall be recounted. In case letters have no cross out, they shall be processed.
- In case total of votes recorded on a result form for both candidates is more than 600, the mentioned station shall be recounted.

(3). Ballot papers in boxes related to dubious result forms, shall be audited in the following cases:

- Those result forms that have neither been stamped nor signed by chairpersons + nor signed by candidates' agents, shall be audited.
- The polling stations, result forms of which have neither been stamped nor signed by chairpersons, shall be audited.
- In case the stamp and signs of chairpersons and candidates' agents on result forms have been damaged or are invisible, the polling stations shall be audited.
- In case a result form has only been stamped or only signed by the chairperson and by one candidate's agent, the polling station shall be audited.
- In case a result form has only been stamped or only signed by the chairperson and not signed by candidates' agents, the polling station shall be audited.

(4). Ballot papers in boxes related to dubious result forms shall be segregated, and recounted in the following cases:

- In case votes of more than one polling station have been recorded on one result form, votes of both polling stations shall be segregated and recounted.

(5). Ballot papers in boxes related to dubious result forms, shall be audited and recounted in the following cases:

- Those result forms that have neither been signed nor stamped by chairpersons and also nor signed by candidates' agents and at the meanwhile they have cross outs, not having been corrected with a red pen, the polling stations shall be audited and recounted.

(6). Votes of the polling stations having dubious result forms, shall be invalidated in the following cases:

- In case result of vote counting of a polling station has been recorded on white sheet.

(7). Audit check list contains the following questions:

- Is it the same type of ballot box distributed by the Commission for the present election?
- Does the ballot box have the label showing code of the polling center?
- Is the ballot box intact?
- How many seals does the ballot box cover have? And how many of them are ok?
- Can the seals be opened with pressure of a hand?
- Do the serial numbers of seals reconcile with the numbers recorded on the seals record form in the box?
- Is there a copy of the result form in ballot box?
- Are there unused, spoiled and invalid ballots in ballot box?
- Are there any marked ballot papers in the box not having been plucked from stub?
- Do back of the ballots related to candidates have confirmation stamp?
- Have the ballots been marked in accordance with the relevant procedure?

(8). As a result of audit, the standards for invalidating votes are, as follows:

- Votes of the polling stations, ballot boxes of which are not those that have been taken into consideration by IEC for 2014 presidential and provincial councils' elections, shall be invalidated.
- All marked ballot papers not plucked from stubs shall be invalidated.
- All ballot papers that have no confirmation stamp on their backs, shall be invalidated.
- In case ballot papers have not been marked in accordance with the procedure, only the mentioned ballots shall be invalidated.

Decisions of the Commission with reference to investigations and assessments done, shall be announced in presence of agents, observers and media.

Upon approving this decision, the decisions reflected in decisions No 2, 3, 5 and 8, are not applicable in presidential run-off election.

In Opposition to the Decision	Members' Names	In Agreement with the Decision
	Dr. Ahmad YosufNooristani	
	Mr. AbdulrahmanHotaki	
	Ms. GulalaiAsikzai	
	Mr. Sareer Ahmad Barmak	
	Prof. Muhammad Hussain Gurziwani	
	Mr. Aziz Bakhtiari	
	Jurist. Suliman Hamid	
	Ms. Laila Ehrari	
	SharifaZurmatiWardak	