

## Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Independent Election Commission

### Regulation on Participation of Political Parties Representatives, Media, Monitors and National and International Observers in Open Sessions of the IEC

#### **Basis**

##### **Article 1:**

This regulation has been enacted by the IEC (hereinafter referred to as the Commission) pursuant to the provisions of article 108 and considering article 20(3) of the Election Law.

#### **Objective**

##### **Article 2:**

This regulation regulates affairs related to manner of participation of representatives of political parties, elections-related civil societies, mass media, monitors and accredited national and international observers in open sessions of the IEC.

#### **Open Sessions of the IEC**

##### **Article 3:**

- (1) The IEC holds open sessions regarding determining electoral calendar, review of documents and requirements of candidates, confirming and approving number of PCs and their PSs, preparing voter's list, determining constituencies, printing and publishing of sensitive materials, counting votes and announcing of results.
- (2) Representatives of political parties, civil societies, mass media, monitors, and national and international observers who have accreditation can participate in open sessions of the Commission.

#### **Venue and date of open sessions**

##### **Article 4:**

- 1) Open sessions of the Commission are held in a place which is proper for presence of representatives of political parties, civil societies, mass media, national and international monitors and observer.
- 2) The Commission informs the individuals and entities referred to in paragraph (2) of article three of this regulation of the date, time and subject of the open session at least 24 hours before holding the session.
- 3) The Stakeholders Liaison Section is responsible for coordination of the activities related to open sessions of the Commission.

#### **The manner of participation**

##### **Article 5:**

- (1) The accredited entities can participate in open sessions of the Commission considering the rights and responsibilities listed in Election Law and Observers and Monitors Affidavit.
- (2) The accredited entity introduces head of the entity or one of its representatives, who is already registered with Commission as monitor or observer, to participate in open sessions of the Commission by sharing his/her name, last name, Accreditation Letter/ID Card Number, and contact number.
- (3) If the international monitors and observers are not familiar with the national languages, they can also introduce one translator to the Commission.
- (4) The participants should have with them their ID cards issued by the Commission.
- (5) If a large number of observers and monitors participate in the open sessions at the same time, the Commission prepares a schedule for their participation to maintain order and the provide all observers and monitors with equal opportunity to monitor and observe.
- (6) Observers and monitors do not interfere in the Commission's affairs.

### **Decision Making in Open Sessions**

#### **Article 6:**

- (1) The relevant unit prepares the documents related to the open session and presents them in open session of the Commission.
- (2) The Commission openly reviews the prepared documents and makes decisions considering the provisions of law, and the applicable regulations, procedures.
- (3) Observers and monitors present at the session can discuss and inquire the issues after the end of the session.

### **Rights and Obligations of Observer and Monitors**

#### **Article 7:**

- 1) Observers and monitors have the following rights:
  - a) Participation in open session
  - b) Access to information according to procedure of the Commission
  - c) The right to file a complaint with the relevant authorities by a monitor
  - d) Prepare a report on the open session' process
- 2) Observers and monitors have the following obligations:
  - a) Observe and comply with the provisions of laws, regulations and procedures of the Commission
  - b) Comply with the observers and monitors' affidavit
  - c) Non-interference with the Commission's work
  - d) Comply with the applicable security rules inside the Commission's compound.
- 3) In case of non-compliance with the provisions of paragraph (2) of this article, the Commission may deprive the violator of participating in the Commission's meeting.

## **Compliance with the Laws**

### **Article 8:**

No provisions of this regulation can be interpreted and construed in contradiction with the provisions of the effective laws. In case of contradiction, the provisions of the applicable laws shall prevail.

## **Enforcement**

### **Article 9:**

This regulation shall come into effect and published from the date of approval.