



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan  
Independent Election Commission

## Regulation on Registration of Candidates

Under the authority given by article (66) of the Afghan Electoral Law, this regulation has been approved by Independent Election Commission to regulate the process of candidate registration.

### **Terms**

#### **Article 1:**

The following terms have the meanings shown:

1. Commission: Independent Election Commission (IEC) established under article (156) of the Afghan Constitution.
2. Electoral Complaint Commission: Electoral Complaint Commission established under article (61) of the Electoral Law.
3. Election: Includes voters' registration, candidates' registration, electoral campaigns, voting, counting 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 (41) of the Electoral Law.
6. Preliminary List: The provisional list of candidates, whose eligibility may be challenged by agents, candidates and eligible voters or the candidates included in the list may ask for a change in the information related to them on the list.
7. Final List: The list of those eligible candidates in the preliminary role against whom all challenges had been eliminated and confirmed by the Commission and is published officially.
8. Registration of Assets: A form on which movable and immovable properties are recorded.

### **Application**

#### **Article 2**

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

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

### **The period and method of registration**

#### **Article 3:**

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 his/her decision regarding running in the election as a candidate within the specified period.
3. An applicant who is nominated for an electoral seat by a political party, he/she should submit an official document containing the party's stamp, on behalf of the political party during the nomination period.

4. Considering the election in which the applicants are running as candidates upon applying for registration, they must complete the materials stated in articles (62) and (85) of the Constitution and articles (12) and (43) of the Electoral Law and submit them to the Commission.
5. The applicants for the presidential election must submit their registrations' applications in person to the External Relations Department of the Independent Election Commission Secretariat in the capital.
6. The applicants for Parliamentary, Provincial Councils, and District Councils elections must submit their registrations' applications to the provincial offices of the IEC in their respective provinces. (Nomad applicants for Parliamentary elections may submit their applications in any provincial office of the IEC that they wish to.
7. Applying for registration at more than one constituency or for more than one election which will be held on the same day is not legally authorized. If a candidate violates this, his/her name will be omitted from the both elections and both constituencies' lists.
8. An applicant who meets the requirements of the article (3) can be considered as a candidate.
9. Registration applications will not be accepted after the end of the specified registration period.
10. The Secretariat of the Commission will approve separate procedures in order to regulate the abovementioned processes when necessary.

### **Selection of Symbol**

#### **Article 4:**

1. An independent candidate may, based on a lottery, select a symbol which will be reflected on the ballot.
2. A candidate, who is introduced by a political party, may select a symbol related to the political party. There is no limitation to a candidate who is affiliated with a political party to select a symbol determined by the Commission based on the lottery.

### **Preliminary List of Candidates**

#### **Article 5:**

- 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 (7) days as of its announcement.
- 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, may apply to the IEC headquarters and its provincial offices within (7) 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 IEC of its final decision on the issue.

## **Challenges**

### **Article 6:**

- 1) A political party's agent, a candidate and 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 (7) 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.

## **Decisions of Electoral Complaint Commission**

### **Article 7:**

- 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**

### **Article 8:**

- 1) The Independent Election Commission shall prepare and announce the final list of candidates at least (60) days before the Election Day, based on the decisions of the Electoral Complaint Commission, making necessary corrections on it, and determining the position of candidates' name on the ballot by tottery.
- 2) The Commission shall prepare the ballot papers based on the names included in the final list of candidates.

## **Withdrawal from candidacy**

### **Article 9:**

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

## **Signature of Code of Conducts of Candidates and Political Parties**

### **Article 10:**

Considering the election in which an applicant is running as candidates upon applying for registration, he/she must sign the code of conducts for candidates and political parties and submit it the Commission.

## **Enforcement**

### **Article 11:**

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