



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission

Regulation on Special Guests' Attendance at Different Electoral Processes

Legal Authority

This regulation has been approved by the Independent Election Commission (hereafter, the Commission) under authority of Article 79 of the Electoral Law.

Purpose

This regulation regulates special guests' attendance-related affairs at different electoral processes of 2014 presidential and provincial councils' elections.

Special Guests

Article 1:

Special guests are government officials, international diplomats, different UN-related organizations' staff members and all governmental and non-governmental institutions that, in person, are not beneficiaries of election, but only have a visit to an electoral process.

Candidates, candidates' agents and observer organizations cannot attend different electoral processes as special guests.

The entourage is a number of individuals accompanying special guests during their attendance at PCs and who have already obtained ID cards issued by the Commission.

Conditions

Article 2:

1. IECS, by taking into consideration the conditions mentioned in this regulation, regulates special guests' attendance-related affairs in different electoral processes in relevant procedure.
2. For this purpose, applications shall be submitted to IECS in written form at least a week before the plan taken into consideration. At least, applications shall include the following information:
 - A. Name and position of special guest,
 - B. Information about date and time of attendance,
 - C. Information about PS or PC in which the special guest is interested to attend,
 - D. Number and names of entourage (individuals accompanying the entourage), and
 - E. Number of security guards. (Assigned individuals for ensuring security for special guests and the entourage)
3. After ensuring completeness of information, IECS shall refer the issue to the Commission for ratification. The Commission may either refuse or accept the

application or, may make a decision to change the date, time, number of the entourage members and security guards.

4. IECS informs the applicant promptly of the Commission's decision.
5. If the Commission approves, based on the information given by the applicant, IECS prepares ID card and issue it to the applicant.
6. IECS shall arrange participation of at least one representative of the Commission during the attendance of special guests at VRCs, PCs, VCCs (vote counting centers) and all processes.

Rights and Responsibilities

Article

1. While bearing the issued ID cards, special guests may attend different electoral processes in accordance with the relevant procedures.
2. Special guests, the entourage and their security guards shall have the ID cards issued to them by the Commission at all times publicly visible while they are in VRCs, PCs and VCCs and all electoral processes.
3. Special guest may ask electoral officials for explanations about the process.
4. Only female special guests and their female entourage may attend stations and centers reserved for females. There is no limitation of female special guest's attendance at stations reserved for males.
5. Special guest, in anyway, shall not interfere in electoral process and disrupt it.
6. Special guest shall respect voting secrecy principle and the information recorded on VR card.
7. Special guest, during their presence at VRC, PC or VCC, shall not, in any way, take a stand for a political party or a specific candidate.
8. Special guest is responsible for his/her entourage and appointed security guards' behavior and operation.
9. Special guest's entourage and assigned security guards may enter VRCs, PCs and VCCs only if they are accompanied by him/her.
10. Special guest's assigned security guards, with reference to carrying weapons at PCs, are obliged to observe the enacted limitations.

Entry into Force

Article 4:

After this regulation is approved, it is published and entered into force.