

Order of the President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on the Non-Interference of Governmental Officials in Electoral Affairs.

Pursuant to the provisions of constitution and electoral Law, all eligible citizens including men and women have the right to participate as a candidate or voter in National Assembly, Provincial and District Council elections and vote on a free, secret and direct basis, therefore, to ensure the safety and further implementation of the desired task, and avoid the interference of governmental officials during Electoral process, the following instructions are adopted:

Article 1

All government officials, including ministers, General Directors of independent agencies and their deputies, heads of governmental offices, governors and their deputies, mayors, judges, public prosecutors and all members of defense ministry, interior ministry and national security directorate are obliged to abide by the following:

1. Not to interfere directly or indirectly in the electoral process, except as authorized by electoral law;
2. Refrain from attempting to directly or indirectly influence voting by making recommendation to voters on which candidates to vote for, requesting that voters disclose their candidate preferences, or taking any action which could influence the confidentiality of the secret ballot and the free and direct election;
3. Not to interfere in meetings, gatherings and peaceful rallies during electoral campaign;
4. Refrain from any preferential treatment or expressing explicit criticism or support of a candidate;
5. Refrain from misusing of state resources to the benefit or detriment of a candidate;
6. Refrain from the removal and defacing of posters and other propaganda means and materials of candidates; and
7. Ensure the security of voters and candidates.

Article 2

In case of any violation to the listed provisions of this order, the perpetrator shall be subject to legal sanctions.

Hamid Karzai
President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan,