

(Unofficial Translation)

**Presidential Decree on Code of Conduct for Government
Department Officials and Staff in 2014 Elections**

In order to hold transparent and fair elections and prevent government department officials and staff's interference in 2014 presidential and provincial council elections, I approve the following points taking into account the provisions of Articles 8 and 9 of the Electoral Law published in the official gazette numbered 1112, dated 08-06-2013:

Article 1:

All the government department officials and staff shall observe the following principles in the electoral process:

1. Provide the IEC with necessary assistance upon request and perform entrusted functions related to the electoral activities as soon as possible.
2. Observe impartiality while doing the duties related to the electoral activities.
3. Avoid interfering in the electoral affairs.
4. Avoid any influence on voters to manifest or reveal their votes or to urge them to vote for a specific candidate or to commit any action causing disruption of freedom, secrecy and directness of voters' votes.
5. Avoid providing governmental facilities and resources in favor of a specific candidate(s) or a political party or a coalition of political parties unless the facilities and resources are equally provided in accordance with provisions of the law.
6. Avoid introducing people to the IEC to be hired as permanent or temporary electoral staff members.
7. Avoid making use of functional position to strengthen or undermine position of a specific candidate or political party.
8. Avoid commanding and prohibiting permanent and temporary electoral staff and avoid giving gifts and presents to them.
9. Avoid entering voter registration centers and stations, polling and counting centers with armed bodyguards or while carrying weapons
10. Avoid taking part in activities related to electoral campaign at official times
11. Avoid inviting candidates to inauguration of projects or other official events

12. Keep the information that they receive while serving in the electoral process or obtain it from the IEC and avoid disseminating and providing it to candidates, political parties or a coalition of parties.

Article 2:

If government department authorities and staff members violate the principles included in the Article 1 of this decree and if there is proof and evidence for the violation, they shall be introduced to the authorized authorities for prosecution.

Article 3:

This decree shall take effect from the date of endorsement and relevant departments are responsible for implementing it.

Hamid Karzai

The President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan