



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission**

Regulation on Accreditation of observers, reporters and agents of political parties and independent candidates

This regulation was adopted pursuant to Article 66 of the Electoral law of Afghanistan, by the IEC in order to coordinate and manage the issuance of accreditation to observers and reporters and the agents of political parties and independent candidates.

Terms

Article 1

The followings terms in this regulation mean:

1. Commission: the Independent Election Commission, (IEC) established in accordance with Article 156 of the Constitution of Afghanistan.
2. Election: all stages of an election including voter registration, election campaign, and voting.
3. Political party: political party or coalition of political parties
4. Candidate: independent candidates or coalition of independent candidates.
5. Agent: a person appointed to represent a political party or candidate at an election.
6. Observer: A person representing a national or international observer organization to observe the election process.
7. Reporter: a person who makes reports for the national or international media.
8. Identity Card or ID: recognition document issued by IEC to those persons accredited to represented political parties, candidates, observer organizations and media.

Accreditation issuance

Article 2:

1. At the start of election process the Commission will give an opportunity to political parties, candidates, election observers and media to present their application for accreditation to commission.
2. The application presented by the political parties, candidates, election observing organizations and media for accreditation must include the following information and commitment
 - Name, address, phone no and email (if any) of party's chair person.
 - Name, phone no, and email (if any) of contact person.
 - Signed copy of relevant code of conduct
 - Documents of registration with the relevant legal authorities
 - Documents that show each party's registration and all parties included in a coalition and the document that confirms the coalition issued by the Commission
 - The registration document of each candidate included in a candidate coalition, and the letter from IEC confirming the coalition of independent candidates.
 - Presenting of a letter from IEC that confirms the registration of a candidate (except for the voter registration process).

Identity Card distribution

Article 3:

Political parties, candidates, observer organizations for the election and media that are accredited in accordance with Article 2 of this regulation shall provide the following information about those people who will be their representatives during the election process

- a. Name, father's name, national ID number or passport.
- b. Signed statement that the political parties, observer organizations on election and media confirm that their representatives have completed 18 years of age, do not have membership of any security organizations and are not registered in the election as candidates.
- c. Signed statements that political parties, candidates, observers of election and media state that their representatives have studied the related code of conduct and will abide it.

Identity cards

Article 4:

1. Within 14 days after accreditation, the Commission will provide the proper ID cards for the agents, observers and reporters and give them to their related organizations.
2. The distributed ID cards may be made valid for one or more than one election process, as shown on the card.

Revocation of accreditation

Article 5:

The accreditation of agents of political parties or candidates, observers or reporters, are revocable in the following case:

- a. there is sufficient evidences of disregard of the code of conduct, or violation of the Electoral Law, regulations or procedures issued by the Commission
- b. a decision of the Electoral Complaints Commission
- c. if there is a request from the political party, observer organization or media for revocation of the accreditation.

Cancelling Identity Cards (ID Cards)

Article 6:

1. The issued ID cards can be cancelled by the Commission in the following circumstances:

- a. If the political parties, candidates, observing organizations on election and media request the cancelling of any of the ID cards of the representatives whom they have recommended,
- b. If evidence proves that an agent, observer or reporter has not acted in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations or committed an offence under the Electoral Law.
- c. Accreditation of a political party, candidate, observing organizations on elections and media or an individual who is representing them has been cancelled.

2. The commission will explain the cause of cancelling the accreditations or ID cards related to the political parties, candidate, observing organizations or media or inform their representatives.

3. Officials at voter registration, voting or counting centers or any other electoral officers who are authorized by the IEC may seize a representatives' ID card in the case of the following violations and inform the Commission promptly:

- a. under the Commission's instruction
- b. if evidence proves that the representative acted without following the relevant rules or regulations
- c. in the case of Electoral Law violations

Observers, Agents and Reporters Access

Article 7:

1. Observers, agents, reporters who have been given accreditation from the IEC, shall wear their ID cards in a visible place. They are allowed to participate in the elections processes as agents, observers and reporters.
2. Observers, agents and reporters are governed by the relevant procedures, regulations and codes of conduct.
3. Voter Registration Stations, Voting Stations and Vote Counting Centers may set time limitations to avoid security problems and unlimited presence of observers, agents and reporters in the Voter Registration, Voting and Vote Counting Stations.

No Responsibility of Commission

Article 8:

The Commission is not responsible for ensuring security, providing transportation, accommodation or other facilities for observers, agents or reporters.

Entry into Force

Article 9:

This regulation enters into force on the date it is approved and shall be published.