

# **Presidential Decree on Code of Conduct for Security Forces in 2014 Run-Off Election**

## **Article 1:**

- 1) Ministries of Defense and Interior and General Directorate of National Security are obliged to take necessary measures for ensuring security of the IEC and IECC central and provincial officials, polling and counting centers, and for active participation of the public in the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014 run-off election.
- 2) The Ministries of Defense and Interior and General Directorate of National Security are obliged to cooperate with the IEC and IECC, and based on their request, assign relevant security forces to ensure security of their central and provincial offices, polling centers and stations and electoral logistical convoys.
- 3) The Ministries of Defense and Interior and General Directorate of National Security are obliged to assign female searchers to female polling centers and stations to allow for active and further participation of women in the run-off election.

## **Article 2:**

Security forces shall carry out their assigned duties with regard to ensuring security of the run-off election in accordance with the provisions of the law and in conformity with impartiality principle, and shall not support any of the candidates.

## **Article 3:**

While performing their assigned duties, the security forces shall observe human dignity and legal rights of voters, candidates, agents, observers and mass media to allow them to use their legal rights.

## **Article 4:**

While performing their assigned duties, the security forces are obliged to avoid any kind of tribal, racial, gender, regional, linguistic and religious discriminations.

**Article 5:**

The security forces shall abstain from interfering in the affairs of the run-off election and also avoid willful entry into polling and counting centers and stations. If needed, they may enter the centers after obtaining the consent of the IEC central or provincial officials.

**Article 6:**

The security forces are obliged to strictly prevent armed guards of government department staff and illegal armed persons from entering into the polling and counting centers and stations.

**Article 7:**

- 1) The security forces are obliged to keep the confidentiality of information and documents that the IEC presents to them in terms of functional requirements and use them only for achieving the agreed objectives. They are not allowed to disseminate or provide them for a specific candidate.
- 2) If the security forces receive any information that may affect electoral activities, they are obliged to provide it for the IEC central or provincial officials as soon as possible.

**Article 8:**

While executing their assigned duties, the security forces shall try to avoid collective violent acts which may result in tension, riot, and disruption of public order and the run-off election and take preventive measures.

**Article 9:**

In the whole process of the run-off election, the security forces are obliged to treat the IEC and IECC staff, voters, candidates, agents, observers, media and other persons involved in the electoral process with courtesy.

**Article 10:**

If any disorder and riot happens in various phases of the run-off election, the security forces are obliged to bring the situation under control without using violence and weapon and restore order.

**Article 11:**

When the security forces violate the principles of this decree and if it is proved based on proofs, they shall be presented to competent authorities for prosecution.

**Article 12:**

This decree shall take effect from the date it is signed.

**Hamid Karzai**

**President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**